media immersion 2007

New student participants of Media Immersion 2007 work on content for The Vanderbilt Hustler and InsideVandy in the converged media newsroom.

GETTING THEIR FEET WET

Media Immersion program welcomes 43 freshmen to student media

The avalanche of newspaper, online and television stories that greeted upperclass students returning to campus this fall was created by an unlikely source. Before ever attending a class at Vanderbilt, 43 freshman participants in VSC's new Media Immersion program covered stories ranging from early football and band practice to arts, music and volunteerism in the community, to music and entertainment venues near campus.

Dozens of stories and multimedia packages were posted on InsideVandy.com by the students.

Readership Program poses threat to student media

The test phase of a controversial corporate readership program started bringing commercial newspapers to campus in January as part of a pilot program.

The test phase of a controversial corporate readership program was launched at Vanderbilt in January after nearly 10 years of failed efforts to bring the program to campus.

The program, which began in 1997 at Penn State University, currently exists on hundreds of college campuses. Schools pay Gannett in ranges from $20,000 to $85,000 each year for the program. Gannett owns 85 daily newspapers, including USA Today and Nashville's The Tennessean, and 23 television stations.

"While encouraging students to read newspapers is laudable, the unintended consequence of this program could put The Hustler in jeopardy," said Director of Student Media Chris Carroll.

The program could bring a decline in the student paper's advertising revenue, Carroll said. The Vanderbilt Hustler receives no fees or subsidies from the university and oper-
expanding the tunnel

a director's note...

Student Media Hall of Fame

by Chris Carroll, Director of Student Media

Let’s agree to put humility aside for a moment and just admit it: Vanderbilt stu-
dent media alumni make up an impres-
sive group. Many of you have reached the pin-
nacles of your professions. Many of you con-
tribute to society in ways that have resulted in well-deserved fame.

You represent some of the best this coun-
try offers in areas such as media, politics, literature, medicine, law, science and the arts.

It’s time we honor some of you and your achievements with the cre-
ation of a Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame.

I’d like to ask for your help to make this new recognition a reality.

First, I want to hear whom you think ought to be considered for inclusion as the inaugural inductees. Give it some thought, though I suspect some names will immediately come to mind. Please take a moment and send those names to me, ideally with a note supporting your nomination. My email address appears at the bottom of this column. You may find the mailing address and phone number in the masthead below.

Next, I’m hopeful that some of you will agree to serve on our Hall of Fame selection committee. Please let me know if helping us identify worthy distinguished alumni is of interest to you. I’m sure this will be challenging but rewarding work.

We’re eager to get started, so please let me know your nomi-
nees and selection committee interest by April 4.

One of the greatest things about working here is meeting our alumni and hearing their stories. The alumni updates section of each edition of Tunnel Vision seems to reveal yet another former student’s incredible achievements.

I confess I’m particularly proud of those students who passed through our world during my time here. It’s been a great privilege, though, to come to know and respect some of the talented people who came before, like the amazing Neil Shene whose column appears on the next page.

I’m reminded of how lucky we are to have such accomplished alumni at times like this past December when Buster Olney took a break from the Major League Baseball winter meetings being held in Nashville to stop by Vandy student media to visit.

After leaving our offices, he took a walk across campus to look around. I learned later that the campus was looking back, but at a very different Olney from the 1984 Vanderbilt freshman from a Vermont dairy farm. I heard that day from people who spotted the ESPN star and wanted his contact info.

Regardless of when you were here, we proudly and selflessly claim each of you as our own, rattling off your names to recruit new students and inspire excellence from the current staff. A presenta-
tion I made this fall to the university’s Faculty Senate was held in Nashville to stop by Vandy student media to visit.

I’d found a group that not only accepted me but wanted me there. In essence, the group experience was my favorite aspect of the program,” one fresh-
man participant said.

Since the program’s conclusion, as many as three-quarters of the new student participants have become regular contributors and staff members of VSC organizations.

The MI:07 participants were competitively select-
ed from a pool of applicants drawn from the entire incoming freshman class. The students selected represented 19 states, public/private/home school educations, international origins, and experience ranging from award-winning journalism to self-
produced rap music.

During the three-day program, MI:07 students contacted more than 80 sources and produced dozens of written stories, photographs, audio reports, video stories, and multimedia stories. The students were equipped with 10 digital video cameras, 12 digital still cameras, 16 digital audio recorders and were given access to more than 25 computer workstations outfitted with multimedia editing software.

“With the chance to be able to gain hands on experience in college media,” another freshman participant said. “Additionally, I also enjoyed that Media Immersion prepares us for a career in jour-

FRESHMEN PRODUCE MEDIA FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

media immersion, continued from page 1

Nashville, a dinner cruise on the General Jackson showboat, and a private screening of "ML the President’s Men” at the Belcourt Theatre.

Based upon evaluations from participants, VSC’s new Media Immersion training program was a suc-
cess.

“From the first day at Media Immersion, I felt I’d found a group that not only accepted me but wanted me there. In essence, the group experience was my favorite aspect of the program,” one fresh-
man participant said.

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The MI:07 participants were competitively select-
ed from a pool of applicants drawn from the entire incoming freshman class. The students selected...
mates exclusively from advertising sales. “With the freshman on campus, Cannett brings a local full-time sales staff that out-numbers us 100 to one,” Carroll said. “And frankly, Cannett has a history of competitive practices that include creating niche publications and setting ads under value as a way to dominate markets and crush competition.”

A decision on whether the Readership Program will be implemented permanently on campus is expected in late February. The program, sponsored by the Vanderbilt Student Government, would use a combination of student and university funds to pay for the newspapers, according to administrators.

The funding plan for the program is the primary objection raised by those who support Vanderbilt’s student media.

“The program as planned is insulting to the students who invest hundreds of hours each week providing this community a free student newspaper,” Carroll said. “How can the university and student government reconcile spending thousands of dollars supporting the nation’s largest newspaper company while allocating absolutely nothing to the very students they represent?”

Proposals offered to Vanderbilt’s administration by representatives of the Readership Program were rejected in 1999 and 2001 because of the potential damage to The Hustler. Cannett representatives returned to campus again in both late 2001 and in 2002 each time meeting directly with student government leaders and bypassing the university’s administration.

These attempts to bring the program to campus also failed largely because of objections from student media. One of these attempts was described in a February 2002 Wall Street Journal story titled “Student Papers are Busting Cannett’s Push onto Campuses.”

Evidence of harm to student newspapers on campuses with the Readership Program includes Penn State University where the program began.

Jerry Lynn Hamilton, general manager of the student-run Daily Collegian said in a 2001 report, “At a time when we should have seen major circulation increases, our circulation is down 9.04 percent.”

“There could be other explanations, but based on the best information I have, I attribute the decline to the Penn State Newspaper Readership Program,” he said.

“Increasing newspaper readership is a good thing. Doing it at the expense of a good college newspaper is a bad thing.”

MSNBC host recounts Vandy days

Willie Geist keeps students laughing with tales from his adventures in television.

Willie Geist (BA, 1997), former Hustler editor who now works as a co-host and regular commentator on MSNBC, visited campus on Dec. 7. During the visit, student journalists met with Geist to bear him talk about journalism and his career path from Vanderbilt to CNN/SPORTS Illustrated, Fox Sports Net, producing MSNBC’s “The Situation with Tucker Carlson,” and now serving as co-host of MSNBC’s “Morning Joe” and a regular commentator on “Tucker.” Geist discussed the interesting, challenging and amusing aspects of his current job, and one highlight was his colorful story about covering The U.S. Air Guitar Championships.

The day I walked into the newsroom of Congressional Quarterly to be its executive editor, five steps from my office was a familiar face from my college days: Dave Rapp.

Dave was the executive editor on The Hustler staff my senior year, 1972-73, and he had been helping me in winning the Grantland Rice Scholarship our freshman year. Now – ha! – he was going to be working for me these 14 years later! Dave covered agriculture policy for the CQ Flagship magazine, the CQ Weekly.

Dave had enormous talent. As CQ found its footing in electronic publishing in those days, he had been in the vanguard of that evolution. Dave was also one of America On-line. By the time I left CQ to be employed by the Publishers Weekly, Dave was leading a transition to the web ahead of our biggest competitors, owned by the much larger Washington Post Company and Leits-Neuss.

A lot of talented people are going through the halls of Alumni Hall in the early 1970s. Bob Thompson had been the editor of my high school paper in Macon, Ga., two years before I was, and he preceded me by two years as editor of The Hustler. Bob was about the smartest guy I knew in high school and was a big reason I went to Vanderbilt. He now holds a chair as a professor at Vanderbilt Law School.

Clay Harrison, the editor between Bob and me, was a force of nature. I don’t think there has ever been a college editor who so thoroughly energized a staff with ideas and ambition for the paper. He has had a long career as an editor at the Financial Times in London.

For Bob and me and my Hustler, Dave was not just a student newspaper but a university newspaper. We stood for racial equality and ending the Vietnam War, explored university finances and challenged not only the mediocre foot- and basketball performance but also Vanderbilt’s seemingly smug expansion southward to Blakemore Avenue, using eminent domain to force people to sell their homes. Fannie Mae Dees was one who fought Vanderbilt unsuccessfully. Surely that little park off 21st Avenue was small comfort to her.

Vanderbilt had no journalism program, but we taught each other. We shared a curiosity about the university and about what was going on in the world, and we encouraged each other on the tougher stories. We loved it. The standout journalists from the staff my senior year, besides Dave, included Skip Bayless, now of ESPN, who wrote sports columns; sports editors Ilw Muchnick, who wrote books on wrestling, and John Bloom, later famous as redneck-columnist “Joe Bob Briggs” with his own TV show; and arts editor Dan Bischoff, now arts critic at the Newark Star Ledger, and Mary Elson, who succeeded me as editor, now managing editor of the Tribune Media Services’ syndicate in Chicago. Russ Blain, our business manager who somehow found the money for what we did, is applying those skills as a bankruptcy lawyer in Tampa.

I went to law school and loved it, but immediately returned to journal- ism, covering legal issues and state government for the St. Petersburg Times. I became editor of its afternoon paper in 1984 (and closed it down in 1986), editor and then publisher at CQ for 10 years, and then head of editorial at an Internet company in Boston.

In 1999, after moving to Tallahassee, I helped my friend Peter Zollman start a consulting company called Classified Intelligence to advise publishers about online classified advertising (still going strong, with clients around the world). I also became an investor and sometime-employee at an alt-weekly chain, Creative Loafing, with newspapers and websites in Chicago, Washington, Atlanta, Charlotte and the Tampa Bay area.

Now, in addition to those two interests, I write a column on state govern- ment for the Florida Press Association, executive editor, and contribute to the new website PolitiFact.com, teach journalism and newsroom management (sometimes in cool places, like Beirut, South Africa and Eritrea), and manage personal and family investments. I have returned twice in recent years as a sort of “editor in residence” for a few days to work with the student writers and editors at Vanderbilt.

On March 16, 1973, we published the Vanderbilt Centennial edition of The Hustler, now yellow and tattered. My brother Dave covered sports, and my sister Helen covered the newsroom of The Hustler.

The day I walked into the newsroom of Congressional Quarterly to be its executive editor, five steps from my office was a familiar face from my college days: Dave Rapp.

Visit Chris gives special meaning to the line from Vanderbilt’s Fugitive: “Old paths may change, new faces light old walk. Morning will still be golden in these halls.”
A glimpse into a few lives that helped shape student life at Vandy

1946

1948
Alice Ann Vaughn Barger B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Barger lives in Nashville, TN, and said: It is flattering to be included in this annual gathering of students. My name was in the first issue of The Editor of The Hustler in 1947 and 1948. Everyone was well fed, and I happened to be active in the Mexican Revolution. One of them said: My wife and I took a longish drive in the mountains this past October. Three people who worked for me during my tenure were killed, and I was greatly estranged and caught up with each other’s lives. I did enjoy meeting the undergraduate staff. I marveled at how they could get three or (as it is four?) issues out every week. We all had to do it for two weeks per year, and they were under stiffer deadlines. The paper is in good hands—and also very intelligent and interesting, I think. Yes, we are all still racing. I am not very, very old, but one other title is beyond this late month and yet another will arrive in midsummer. I am aware of the student association that is in charge. My apologies are being heard to the biblical admonition to go forth and multiply. We continue to enjoy our bayfront life-style here in southwest Florida, rendering prayerful thanks for the absence of hurricanes past these past two seasons and hoping for more of the same. I continue to commute to Nashville once a month to tend to business interests and, as a bonus, your two children and grandchildren there.

1955
Ormonde Plater B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Plater lives in New Orleans, LA, and said: PhilD in English at Tulane University in 1959. Became the third chairman of the President’s Committee in 1957. Archdeacon of the Diocese of Louisiana in 1956-57. Married to Kay Treasday, three children, four grandchildren.

1956
Sheldon Hackney B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Hackney lives in Philadelphia, PA, and said: I am an impostor. I was some sort of sports editor on The Hustler (or associate or something). But I was in the party columns tallies and info came in easily. For many years the word SIOC/ESC became a “no” to me. No longer a living, breathing, Lifestyles, People etc. Recently the word has again gained respectability and is seen in the news. Charlie Stockwell was my editor and could fill your files with unmatchable experiences enjoyed in the past 30 years.

1959

1963

1965
Larry Creemore B.A., B.A. (The Hustler, Spectrum) Creemore lives in Minnetonka Beach, FL, and said: After spending 33 years in a family business in Tennessee, Creemore and I sold my toy store and I moved to Northwest Florida in 2003. I am currently President of 2GC Financial Group, a finance company that I founded in 2003. In 2009, 2GC Financial Group was honored as Alabama’s #1 High School Football Media. We have four daughters, two of whom are married and have children.

1967
Larry Creemore B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Creemore lives in Minnetonka Beach, FL, and said: After spending 33 years in a family business in Tennessee, Creemore and I sold my toy store and I moved to Northwest Florida in 2003. I am currently President of 2GC Financial Group, a finance company that I founded in 2003. In 2009, 2GC Financial Group was honored as Alabama’s #1 High School Football Media. We have four daughters, two of whom are married and have children.

1968
David Douglas Spraul B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Spraul lives in Houston, TX, and said: Small investor and lay preacher.

Karen who works for Actors’ Equity in New York City and Allison who is working towards a Ph.D. in psychology at Stanford.

Peggy Jo Shaw B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Shaw lives in Decatur, GA, and said: Peggy Shaw’s new book on Dr. Martin Luther King. “Voices. Reflections of an American Icon in Words and Songs,” was presented recently at The Tennessee Center in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 13. The program, born-jukebox star, was hosted by Ben Vereen. The book, published by Dalmatian Press, arrived in major trade stores in December 2007 and includes interviews with novices such as Nikki Giovanni, Dorothy Height, John Lithgow, Peter Yarrow, and Peter, Paul & Mary. Howell Raines and Gene Patterson. Neil Skene, Vanderbilt ’73, helped to edit “Voices” (1973)

From Anaxi-St John

Louis Michael Anzek-St John B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Anzek-St John lives in Alah, AL, and said: I am the husband of Anzek. St John (AJS), Owner of WAXM-FM Anahim/Huntsville Alabama celebrated a “Decade of Fun” serving as North Alabama’s only Fat Old Man Station for ten years. The FUN RADIO SPORTS TEAM broadcast University of Alabama Basketball, Football and Baseball to the ALHSA State Network with a network broadcast to six high schools. Since 2002, I have produced and hosted a short program on WXXI, Rochester NY’s NPR outlet. Since 2002, I have produced and hosted a short program on WXXI, Rochester NY’s NPR outlet.

From Sullivan

David R. Miller B.A., B.A. (Virus magazine) Miller lives in Springfield, IL, and said: I direct research for the Illinois legislature’s main research agency—where I’ve been for 29 of the 30 years since law school! I also edit my local church’s quarterly magazine, and took a short-term mission trip to Africa in ’88. Otherwise, most people would consider my life boring.

From Johnson

John Seigenthaler, and Pulitzer Prize-winners Ben Baker lives in Rochester, NY, and said: After 25 years in restaurant management, I completed Rutgers Law School. Having become a lawyer, I am continuing my career in public service, serving as the Leadership Chief of Staff for the Senate Republican Conference and most recently, the Senate Republican’s communications operation. I also manage the Senate’s radio, internet, graphics, and also the “message of the day” from the Senate floor. Now returned to the private sector, among other things, I am the CEO of the Congressional Media Group here in Washington (www.cmgrtie.org). I am also creating “Politics on Film: The Washington Political Film Festival” (launch in Spring of 2009), and serve as the CEO of the organizing corporate entity.

From Sullivan

James B. Sullivan B.A., B.S. (Virus magazine) Sullivan lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I retired from public service service in 2005. I have just started a new job as Program Manager at the University of Houston’s Storytelling Theatre, to bring nationally renowned speakers to Houston. Publicity photo of Ben Johnson, CEO of Congressional Media Group, LLC, which in 2002, during that time he was responsible for the Senate’s communications operation: television, radio, internet, graphics, and also the “message of the day” from the Senate floor. Now returned to the private sector, among other things, I am the CEO of the Congressional Media Group here in Washington. (www.cmgrtie.org). I am also creating “Politics on Film: The Washington Political Film Festival” (launch in Spring of 2009), and serve as the CEO of the organizing corporate entity.

From Johnson

Chadman B.A., B.A. (The Hustler) Johnson lives in Washington, DC, and said: I have spent much of my career in public service. Currently, I am the Leadership Chief of Staff for the Senate Republican Conference and most recently, the Senate Republican’s communications operation. I also manage the Senate’s radio, internet, graphics, and also the “message of the day” from the Senate floor. Now returned to the private sector, among other things, I am the CEO of the Congressional Media Group here in Washington (www.cmgrtie.org). I am also creating “Politics on Film: The Washington Political Film Festival” (launch in Spring of 2009), and serve as the CEO of the organizing corporate entity.
1980

Lisa Weightman Boren

Lisa Weightman Boren lives in Lafayette, LA, and said: Greetings from Katherine Powell Hill. I spent the last year in Mexico City, where I worked as a consultant for a company in the health care industry. I am now back home, and I plan to start a new job in the fall.

1980

Fred Breach

Fred Breach (B.S., 1979) lives in Nashville, TN, and said: The new year has started off well, and I am looking forward to the coming year. I am working with a group of young professionals on a new project, and I am excited about the potential.

1980

Greer Griffis

Greer Griffis: Just me, greer Griffis. No news, as always, but I am ready for the next year of adventures and new challenges.

1980

Carolyn B. Hill

Carolyn B. Hill lives in Lafayette, LA, and said: Congratulations to all of our Vanderbilt alumni on your continued success and for your contributions to society.

1980

John E. Hatcher

John E. Hatcher, B.A., 1979, is a partner in the law firm of Bond, Killian, VanSickle & Evans, PC, in Nashville. He has been involved in many high-profile cases, and he is known for his dedication to his clients.

1980

Jim Hatcher

Jim Hatcher, B.A., 1979, lives in Nashville and is the president of the Nashville chapter of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association. He is a long-time supporter of the University and its programs.

1980

Tony A. Trujillo, Jr., B.A., B.S., 1979

Tony A. Trujillo, Jr., B.A., 1979 (VSc), and B.S., 1980 (VSc) lives in Houston, TX, and said: After graduating from Vanderbilt in 1979, I attended Washington & Lee University and then worked in various capacities at the University of Houston. In 1982, I founded a company that provides satellite communications services to businesses and government agencies. I have been involved in various philanthropic activities over the years, and I am proud to support the University and its students.

1980

Alice Baker Griffiths

Alice Baker Griffiths lives in Westchester, NY, and said: After many years away from Vanderbilt, I am now back in Tennessee and working as a consultant for a company in the education sector. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead.

1980

Robert A. Hutchinson, B.S., B.S., 1981

Robert A. Hutchinson, B.S., 1981 (Commodore yearbook) lives in Boulder, CO, and said: I am currently working as a software engineer at a company that specializes in developing educational software. I am excited about the work I am doing and the opportunities it presents.

1981

Philip Tate, B.A., B.S., 1981

Philip Tate, B.A., 1981 (WRVU, Commodore yearbook) lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1981 with a degree in business administration and a minor in economics. I have worked in various capacities at a number of companies, and I am currently the CEO of a start-up company.

1981

Bill Carrallotta at Yosemite National Park.

1982

Yuki Hirayama

Yuki Hirayama lives in Austin, TX, and said: I am currently working as a software engineer at a company that specializes in developing mobile applications. I am excited about the work I am doing and the opportunities it presents.

1982

Tate, APR, vice president/ management supervisor with Charlotte advertis- ing and public relations companies. Tate was born in Columbia, SC, and received a B.A. in political science from Vanderbilt University in 1983. He has been with the firm since 1983 and serves as the firm's managing partner. Tate is involved in a number of local organizations, including the Nashville Symphony and the Vanderbilt Alumni Association.

1982

Bill Carrozzella at Yosemite National Park.

1983

Harry Campbell

Harry Campbell, B.A., 1983 (The Hustler, WRVU) lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I have my own advertising and design company, and I am currently working on a number of projects.

1983

Bane

Tate, APR, vice president/ management supervisor with Charlotte advertis- ing and public relations companies. Tate was born in Columbia, SC, and received a B.A. in political science from Vanderbilt University in 1983. He has been with the firm since 1983 and serves as the firm's managing partner. Tate is involved in a number of local organizations, including the Nashville Symphony and the Vanderbilt Alumni Association.

1983

Bill Carrozzella at Yosemite National Park.

1984

Lynne Riggs Anderson

Lynne Riggs Anderson lives in Hilton Head Island, SC, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1984 with a degree in business administration. I have worked in various capacities at a number of companies, and I am currently the CEO of a start-up company.

1984

David Livert

David Livert, B.A., M.S., 1984 (The Vanderbilt Review) lives in Evans, PA, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1984 with a degree in education. I have worked in various capacities at a number of schools, and I am currently the principal of a school.

1985

David Groce

David Groce, Irv, Lizanne and Marianne Vanness - Christmas '07.

1985

Marianne Savalli Vanness

Marianne Savalli Vanness, B.S., 1985 (WRVU, Commodore yearbook) lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1985 with a degree in business administration. I have worked in various capacities at a number of companies, and I am currently the CEO of a start-up company.

1985

Garrett Sammartino

Garrett Sammartino lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1985 with a degree in management and human resources. I have worked in various capacities at a number of companies, and I am currently the CEO of a start-up company.

1985

Dore2Dore.com Visit Find your friends — not sure which one sheds the most hair! Best of luck to you all!

1985

Valerie E. Vann

Valerie E. Vann lives in Austin, TX, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1985 with a degree in political science. I have worked in various capacities at a number of companies, and I am currently the CEO of a start-up company.

1985

Chris Vann

Chris Vann lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1985 with a degree in business administration. I have worked in various capacities at a number of companies, and I am currently the CEO of a start-up company.

1985

Bill Carrozzella at Yosemite National Park.

1986

Bill Carrozzella at Yosemite National Park.
FORMER STAFF MEMBERS OF THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

met on Oct. 12 at The Flying Saucer downtown, behind the Union Station Hotel, for a reunion to celebrate decades of participation in Vanderbilt’s student newspaper. Attendees included local alumni and those who were in town for Homecoming and class reunions, and many alumni brought family and friends to the informal get-together. The Hustler Reunion was co-sponsored by Vanderbilt Student Communications and Alumni Relations.

Anna Lee (Voss) Wahls, Meredith Berger, Alex Kwak, Emily Faye Abbott, Holly Matlock, Paige (Orr) Clancy and Neil Skene.

Larry Daughtrey, Chuck Nord, Lucius Carroll.


Anna Lee (Voss) Wahls, Meredith Berger, Alex Kwak, Dave Abbott, Holly Matlock.

David Anthony, Lena Basha, Sam Torabi, Neema Salimi.

photos by Hunter Adkisson and Lauren Fondriest.
alumni updates...

Help us identify Student Media alumni
Please take a moment to email paige.clancy@van
derbilt.edu with a list of names and approximate Class Years of alumni who worked in Student Media at Vanderbilt. The university maintains a great alumni database at www.fox@Dnc.com, and we want to add information to identify which alumni were involved with Student Media.

1985

Kara Black in B.S., 1985 (W R V U). (Greatest years- Black lives in St. Petersburg, FL, and said: After 25 years in Nashville, I took the plunge and moved to the "Great White North," where I work for Ivoclar Vivadent as a dental sales representative in the "Great White North," and now live with my two cats, Joseph and Mamesso.

Kara Black moved to the "Great White North," where I work for Ivoclar Vivadent as a dental sales representative in the "Great White North," and now live with my two cats, Joseph and Mamesso.

Scott Rodes in B.S., 1985 (WRVU). Rodes lives in Cincinnati, OH, and said: I'm again billing customers, though this time using a commercial database. Several careers later (after computer scientist, business owner, etc.) I'm working with ads and created a billing database program. Isn't it interesting how things go around? As a part of the Iggy Pop interview (1986?) with all its technical difficulties. Hope today's radio staff- ers are having as much fun!

Robert William Aulsebrook in B.A., 1986 (WRVU). Aulsebrook lives in London, UK, and said: My wife Lisa (1986) and I have resided in London for the past 14 years. We had our first child (Sophia) in May 2006 and are expecting our second child this May. I was recently promoted to partner at my law firm, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld.

Elliott New in B.E., 1986 (W R V U). New lives in Columbia, SC, and said: Elliott enjoyed doing the Sunday Night Blues radio show on WRVU from 1983 through 1986. For the last 15 years, he has been continuing to spread the Blues with his band, Elliott And The Untouchables. The band has performed at clubs and festivals across the US and made appearances in Canada and Ireland. (www.ElliottAndTheUntouchables.com) The band has released 5 CDs and is still going strong. By day, Elliott stars bau as an engineering man- ager at Intel. He and his wife Kathy enjoy spend- ing time with their two boys. In 2006, Elliott also started performing at a new contemporary service at his church.

1986

Karen Abrams in B.E., 1986 (The Houston, WRVU). Abrams lives in Raleigh, NC, and said: Isn't it interesting how things go around? As an undergrad working on the Hustler, I worked with ads and created a billing database program. Isn't it interesting how things go around? As a part of the Iggy Pop interview (1986?) with all its technical difficulties. Hope today's radio staff- ers are having as much fun!

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1987

From Robert Boniface.

John Paschal in B.A., 1987 (WRVU) Paschal lives in Fort Collins, CO.

Elizabeth Betsy Pearce in B.S., 1987 (WRVU) Pearce lives in Richmond, VA, and said: Paul Pearce and I got married in 1990 and moved from Nashville to Richmond, VA, in 2002. Paul worked as a family therapist in Nashville, and then joined up with a healthcare company whose headquarters are in Richmond, which is why we moved. I worked in Nashville as a teacher, then as a parenting educator, and now serve as director of a parent education agency in Richmond. We have three daughters, ages 14, 11, and 1 year. Recently, I was interviewed by a small, local independent radio station in Richmond (WRB) to promote the nonprofit work I do with. I was reminded of my days at WRVU when the interview took place in a room with a second-hand (fourth-hand?) mic that was connected through an extensive window into the main studio room. Memories of turn- tables that didn't turn, mikes that needed lots of duct tape, and the red, green and blue bins are still fresh on my mind. I haven't seen the WRVU space in about 15 years, but remember well being a part of the Iggy Pop interview (1986?) with all its technical difficulties. Hope today's radio staff- ers are having as much fun!

Kirk Porter in B.A., 1987 (WRVU) Porter lives in Nashville, TN, and said: My wife and I returned to Nashville in 2002 after spending 7 years and having three boys in St. Louis – it was good to be back. Professionally, I am covering the for-profit healthcare sector with Bank of America/Banc of America Securities; the personal side is focused on the family and keep- ing up with friends including a number of tunnel rats. For those of you wanting a blast from the past, I recommend the following websites: http://www.nashville80srock.net/ has a great col- lection of local music, downloads, and vid- eos from the 1980s. http://www.nashvillescene. com/Stories/Cover_Story/2006/08/10/Never_in_ Huntsville/ has a great article in the Nashville Scene covering the Nashville music scene in the '80s.
From Moldenhauer: My husband and I are on our honeymoon now.

Robin Roy Moldenhauer • B.A., M.B.A., 1993 (VU) Moldenhauer lives in Chattanooga, TN, and said: “I’m back in my hometown of Chattanooga, TN and loving it! I have two amazing boys (2 and 3) and in my free time I do some freelance writing. I moved back to Chattanooga after living in Nashville for 9 years, followed by 9 more years in New York City. I love taking the kids to the Art Museum, which is a short train ride from our home.

From Bill Lovett: My wife Lisa Lovett and myself, New York City is a great place anytime but it’s quite beautiful in the spring. I love the blossoms on the cherry trees and my favorite place this year is the one that this year’s Rockefeller tree was from. The tree that was just in the yard, and again in NY all dyed coral.

Bill Lovett • B.E., 1988 (Commadore part- s) Lovett lives in Shackin, CT, and said: “My engineering degree has opened many doors and recently propelled me into a Directors position with Renvolmer after 18 years of progres- sive roles at Honeywell (formally known as Alliant). My career has found me living in Florida for 5 years, followed by 9 more years in Kansas City, and the last 2 years in Connecticut. The picture is my wife Linda and I in New York City which is a short train ride from our home.

From McGowan: This is a picture of me in Naples, Florida, on Easter Weekend, after I turned 40!

Amy Ellen McGowan • B.S., 1989 (The Vander- bilt Review) McGowan lives in Jupiter, Fl., and said: “After graduat- ing Vandy, I moved back to the Palm Beach area, to manage my family busi- ness, McGowan Displays, Inc. I am now the owner of the successful business of 27 years. We specialize in golf shop custom wood fixtures. Personally, I am engaged to be married (for the second time) to a wonderful man, Robert Stubbins. Jr. We’ve been together for 11 years now, so I guess it’s about time to bite the proverbial bullet! Jr. We’ll be married in Palm Beach on October 18, 2010.”

Michael Brent Moore • B.S., M.S.D., 1989 (Hustler, Versus magazine) Moore lives in Denver, CO, and said: “After undergraduate studies at VU, I went on to medical school at Vanderbilt. After my residency, I embarked on a career in Dental Public Health in which I have been pursuing for 15 years. It’s time for a change and I would welcome hearing from any old friends or associates.”

1990

From Devane: I am a government advisor about the Republic of South Africa and the KGB effort to take over control of what they called “the mineral treasure house” in southern Africa. I helped many of these people, including the State President (who liked to sing “Dixie”), and often had lunch with the mayor of Soweto, the head of Inkatha, or other black (non Commu- nist) leaders. I was permitted to observe RSA military operations against KGB- backed forces in Angola.

George Bevington the teacher shown here with image of the statue he donated to the University of Texas, a remnant of QRB’s former life in Kutzt Lumpur, appears in the background.

George Lawton Bevington • B.A., 1990 (Versus magazine) Bevington lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: “After a few years in the business world, including five years hanging out in Asia, I’ve returned to Atlanta to take up the helm of a high school English teacher at a ginnical per school. It is a fut fun job and I highly recom- mend it for anyone who’s tired of the rain.

Maggie DeVane • B.A., 1990 (Versus maga- zine, future company special- ized in gift items) DeVane worked at Denver, CO and said: “I have been working at the Denver Center for Performing Arts in the bil- ligation center for injured eagles—eagles, owls, hawks, etc.—as the Interior Center Coordinator. We were recently featured in the Florida Section of Southern Living Magazine.”

Michael Brent Moore • B.S., M.S.D., 1989 (Hustler, Versus magazine) Moore lives in Denver, CO, and said: “After undergraduate studies at VU, I went on to medical school at Vanderbilt. After my residency, I embarked on a career in Dental Public Health in which I have been pursuing for 15 years. It’s time for a change and I would welcome hearing from any old friends or associates.”

Lucy Lenon Hall • B.A. (The Hustler) Hall lives in Madison, MS, and said: “1998 marked the 100th year of the Vanderbilt Hustler and the year all staff members received a coffee mug along with the paper’s logo. I’ve kept that mug all these years, enjoying the memories it holds for me. In 2008, my husband and I was married and my rebellious streak was a bit wider. My love to all the grown-up Vanderbilt communication people. My admiration to all the un-grown-up ones.

Laurie Houston • B.A., 1991 (Versus maga- zine, future company specialized in gift items) Houston lives in Knoxville, TN and said: “I am currently the production coordinator for “Captured”, a new documentary series on CNN. We’ve been shooting for over a year now and the show will be on in early 2011.”

Marc Everest Hill • B.S., B.S., 1993 (WTV) Hill lives in Nashville with his wife and two daughters. He has taken a new position as Chief Education Officer for the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. He continues to do a weekly radio show that’s heard all over the country. I am married to her 9 year-old son Raymond.

Marnie Lambert Zrike • B.A., 1991 (Marnie Lambert Zrike) Zrike lives in Houston, TX, and said: “The past two years have been a bit nutty for me—first moving to Houston after 5 years on the east coast and returning to full-time work after 7 years at home with my son. Fortunately I landed in a fast-paced, very entrepreneurial company that lets me think on my feet. We’re doing the sports section [I spelled Steve’s last name phonetically because it’s been years since I saw it in print and I recall, spelling it correctly it requires you to use about 12 conson- nants in a row with 2 or 3 vowels at the end and thus violate all of the rules of English].”

Robin Roy Moldenhauer • B.A., M.B.A., 1993 (VU) Moldenhauer lives in Chattanooga, TN, and said: “I’m back in my hometown of Chattanooga, TN and loving it! I have two amazing boys (2 and 3) and in my free time I do some freelance writing. I moved back to Chattanooga after living in Nashville for 9 years, followed by 9 more years in New York City. I love taking the kids to the Art Museum, which is a short train ride from our home.”

Charles W. Stockell • B.A., 1948, L’1950 Beaufort, SC

Fellow Hustler Alumni,

I was the editor-in-chief from the fall of 1946 to summer 1948. My wife, Lee McCrory Stockell ’46 ’50 (WRVU, VTV) Stockell is my partner. I remember that we put out a “fake” Hustler on April Fools’ Day portraying fighting between two on-campus factions. The faculty advisor did not think it was funny and tried to expel me, but the vice chancellor said it was the best student paper he had ever seen.

Lee and I got married, and I spent a couple of years as a Special Assistant to the US Army Cemetery in San Francisco. Korea came along and as I had had four Purple Hearts from WWII, they insisted that I go back in and help with that war. Instead I spent a year in the State Department as an intelligence specialist and then three years with the 20 others from the military, CIA, State, etc. in a Ph.D. program run by 20 recent defectors who had been generals in the Soviet KGB, ambassadors, the District Attorney of Leningrad and the party chief in Guizhun. When we graduated, we were sent to Moscow as an assistant attaché. There I found the Army staff were the only ones who traveled in the USSR. We gone the first 6 days out of 7, often shot at, our car sabotaged, fistsights and other “diplomatic” activities. Eventually I was expelled by Russia as “persona non grata.”

I spent the next 15 years running the Soviet intelligence offices in Europe, the Pentagon, at SAC, headquarters, and in Laos and Thailand. I helped to write the National Intelligence estimates for the President and the military chairman. I was a professor at the Army War College when I retired, and my son, Duncan, was born that year.

While in the military and for 30 years afterward, we traveled the world hunting and fishing. Seven African safaris, a dozen trips to Argentina, and at least 15 in Mexico, plus successful lion, tiger, jaguar, Cape buffalo,izzly, goat hounds and fishing in 71 different nations. I labored in the corporate world, a number of international magazines, publishing an international magazine about this area, and becoming a Professor of Russian Studies at LUSC.

I also became a government advisor about the Republic of South Africa and the KGB effort to take over control of what they called “the mineral treasure house” in southern Africa. I knew many of the people involved in the RSA government, including the State President (who liked to sing “Dixie”), and often had lunch with the mayor of Soweto, the head of Inkatha, or other black (non Communist) leaders. I was permitted to observe RSA military operations against KGB-backed forces in Angola.

Now I am 85 and with the usual infirmities of that age. We still fish a bit and keep a supply of quail and deer in the freezer. Let’s tend to the yard work and runs committees all over town. It is a good life.

Si vis pacem, para bellum! (Tactica “If you wish for peace, prepare for war!”

Charles W. Stockell

Columbus, GA retired

8
Beth Sturgeon Northup • B.A., 1993 (Virus magazine) Northup lives in Louisville, KY, and said: I am doing marketing and sales for a real estate development company. I also manage an established Vanderbilt alumnus, Robert David Northup (MA. 1999) and we have two children—Meagham (4 years old) and Joshua (1 year old).

Sheryl Woosley Rogers • B.S., 1993 (The Vanderbilt Review) Rogers lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I am a registered nurse and work at the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital as director of nurses of the Division of Middle Tennessee (www.vanderbiltchildrens.com/books/kodimbehr). I am part of Dolly Parton's Imagine Forest and we provide a free book once a month to all children in the area (ages 0-5). It's a wonderful program, and I have a 2-year-old son who loves getting a new book in the mail each month. So, I don't know Dolly and don't get to meet her ever.

Zack McMillin • B.A., 1994 (The Hustler, Versus magazine, The Vanderbilt Review, USC Board) McMillin lives in Memphis, TN, and said: After nine wonderful months in Ann Arbor, Mich., in the Knight-Writer Fellowship, we returned to Memphis and the "real world" this summer. We made some Big Ten memories in some新版(的回顾)as the Practical Psychology of the Princeton Review, Slightly Amusing)

Paige Mullens Couch • B.A., 1994 (The Hustler, VUSC, WHKU, VSWLing) Couch lives in Hickory, NC, and said: Hey everybody! Still working in Hickoryville, KY, as a clinical psychologist. I have a son, Andrew(2), and a husband, Matt. I'm also in the band, Ramy. I am an active member of our local Republican Party and an adjunct professor at Bluffton University!

Janie Green • B.A., 1994 (WRVU) Green lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I'm currently in medical school in Nashville and will open a retail store, Monkee's in Nashville in January 2008. Rob Cohen moved to Nashville to start a new company, Dore2Dore.com, and he graduates this summer. I'm thrilled to be going home to Portland. Things are going well really well!

Langdon Shoep • B.A., 1994 (The Hustler, Versus magazine) Shoep lives in Lexington, KY, and said: I am currently in the advertising business selling a logo family and I am in our second year of business as owners of a logo business. I am also teaching art history courses at the Blanton Museum of Art in Lexington, KY. I am currently at a logo company and I am in our second year of business as owners of a logo business. I am also teaching art history courses at the Blanton Museum of Art in Lexington, KY.

Amalie Walker • B.A., 1994 (Virus magazine) Walker lives in Brooklyn, NY, and said: I own Casual Builder Design, a web design and development company in NYC. I enjoyed the reunion last fall and hope to stay in touch with you all.

Beka Browning • B.A., 1998 (Cameron Yearbook) Browning lives in New York, NY, and said: I am now working as Art Director for Scholastic Book Clubs Online.

Anton Heis • B.A., 1998 (WVU) Heis lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Currently working in "whats new in marketing" as a logo company.

Amiey Morrow • B.S., 1998 (The Hustler, Versus magazine) Morrow lives in Memphis, TN, and said: I'm currently in medical school in Memphis at the University of Tennessee with a graduation date of 2010.

Matt McElhone • B.S., 1999 (Versus magazine) McElhone lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: I'm still at Stanford, collecting data for my dissertation until July 2008. My husband and I will be moving back to Portland, Oregon in June so he can study environmental law at Lewis & Clark. We are utterly thrilled to be going home to Portland! Things are going really well!

Karly Randolph Pitman • B.S., 1997 (Versus magazine) Pitman lives in the area (ages 0-5). It's a wonderful program, and I have a 2-year-old son who loves getting a new book in the mail each month. So, I don't know Dolly and don't get to meet her ever.

Mark Aaron James • B.S., 1992 (The Hustler, Versus magazine, TV, The Vanderbilt Review) James is a 3-year-old boy and is in second grade. His favorite things are his red cups and his blue t-shirt. He is also a part of the Blue Ribbons band and is currently in second grade. He is very active in community theater, education and beautiful wife and I live in Arlington, VA, and

Patrick Scott Pitman • B.S., 1996 (The Hustler, Versus magazine) Pitman lives in Lexington, KY, and said: I worked as one of the editors of Versus when the newspaper was launched under my authorship while a student. Today I'm the founder and co-owner with early compartmentalist (30 years old) and still married to my husband! I am now moving to Nashville to start my own company and I am in our second year of business as owners of a logo business. I am also teaching art history courses at the Blanton Museum of Art in Lexington, KY.

Kendra Sibley • B.A., 2000 (Versus magazine) Sibley lives in the San Francisco area and said: I am still writing in my logo family and I am currently in the advertising business selling a logo family and I am in our second year of business as owners of a logo business. I am also teaching art history courses at the Blanton Museum of Art in Lexington, KY.

Heather Elert • B.A., 2001 (Versus magazine) Elert lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I am currently in medical school in Nashville and will open a retail store, Monkee's in Nashville in January 2008. Rob Cohen moved to Nashville to start a new company, Dore2Dore.com, and he graduates this summer. I'm thrilled to be going home to Portland. Things are going well really well!

Sara Oswalt Leete • B.S., 1999 (Versus magazine) Leete lives in San Francisco, CA, and said: I am still at Stanford, collecting data for my dissertation until July 2008. My husband and I will be moving back to Portland, Oregon in June so he can study environmental law at Lewis & Clark. We are utterly thrilled to be going home to Portland! Things are going really well!

Laurence Robert Northup B.S., 1993 (The Hustler, Versus magazine) Northup lives in New York, NY, and said: I am currently in medical school in Nashville and will open a retail store, Monkee's in Nashville in January 2008. Rob Cohen moved to Nashville to start a new company, Dore2Dore.com, and he graduates this summer. I'm thrilled to be going home to Portland. Things are going well really well!

Clawsonia from left: Laura Cremerov, Ashley Barnes, Jake Cremerov, Ellis Aaron.

Laura Cremerov • B.S., 1993 (The Hustler) Cremerov lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I'm engaged to Ashley Barnes, whom I first met when I interviewed her for the Commodore yearbook in the early 1990s. We didn't keep in touch after school, but we reconnected on Facebook last year and quickly fell in love! Ashley is moving to Nashville this summer to join me and my two children, Ellis [3] and Jacob [2]. I'm the director of digital media at Hammock Inc. in Nashville [www.hammock.com]. Ashley is looking for a job in a high school English teacher. Best to everyone...to hope we can find old friends at Reunion this fall.

Jay Graves • B.A., 1989 (The Hustler) Graves lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I'm currently in medical school in Nashville and will open a retail store, Monkee's in Nashville in January 2008. Rob Cohen moved to Nashville to start a new company, Dore2Dore.com, and he graduates this summer. I'm thrilled to be going home to Portland. Things are going well really well!

Rachel Shoop • B.A., 1996 (The Hustler, Versus magazine) Shoop lives in Lexington, KY, and said: I am currently in the advertising business selling a logo family and I am in our second year of business as owners of a logo business. I am also teaching art history courses at the Blanton Museum of Art in Lexington, KY.

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alumni updates…

2002

Wan Yi Chan

B.A., 2003

as their Manager of Web Communications.

Hannah Willmann + B.A., 2003

The Hustler) Willmann lives in Saint Louis, MO, and said: After graduating from law school and passing the bar, I am currently working at a Saint Louis firm. My practice focuses on immigration law and I was recently able to participate in two federal lawsuits that allowed 85 elderly, disabled Bosnian refugees to earn their U.S. citizenship. I currently live in Saint Louis and enjoy watching the Vandy basketball teams beat as many colleges as possible.

2004

Alex Arnott + B.S., 2004

(The Hustler) Arnott lives in Atlanta, GA, and said: I am currently living in Atlanta with a former Vanderbilt roommate of mine. For the past 2 years I have been working full time in commercial real estate with an Atlanta-based investment company and have really been enjoying it. As this is my first Tunnel Vision update, I’ll give TV related news. A year ago, I won a radio DJ contest with WNNX 99x in Atlanta and was given an iMac and a one-time 3-hour Saturday time slot as a prize. The iMac went on eBay and I won on the go! Though it didn’t lead to a job there, (Atlanta is a difficult market to break into), I know it and I wouldn’t have come even close without my 5-year tenure at WVU (4 years as a student, one as an alum). One of my current side hobbies has been learning digital photography for some extra cash. Again—something I have to thank Vandy for the skills to do this with, time on The Hustler and The Commodore staff…in the next few months I will be looking to buy a house as my roommate will be getting married and kicking me out on the street. All is well in my life.

2006

Josie Khoucha + B.A., 2006

(The Hustler) Khoucha lives in New York, NY, and said: I was recently awarded a Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship for a research project at the University of Illinois at Chicago. As a result I will be marrying Julie Medina on August 16, 2008 in Lyme, CT.

Roll Show interviews New York Mets All-Star Dailig Wright

Robert Lawrence Shaw + B.A., 2006

(The Hustler) Shaw lives in Tallahassee, FL, and said: I am now the Sports Director and Sports Anchor of WTVY. The CBS television affiliate in Tallahassee, FL. I have also created a website with photos of fellow Vanderbilt alumni Fantasyfanatics.com, which has content published in Sportsillustrated.com and Sports Illustrated on ESPN affiliate throughout the nation including Houston, TX, New Orleans, LA, and Indianapolis, IN.

Tim Bowles + B.S., 2006

(The Hustler) Bowles lives in Nashville, TN, and said: I am currently working as a researcher in a biology lab and enjoying freedom from school. I also work with Nashville Urban Harvest in developing sustainable food systems in Nashville, as well as building bikes, furniture and building boats.

2007

Elise Leanne Aldorf + B.S., 2007

(The Hustler) Aldorf lives in Nashville, TN, and said: Following my graduation, I decided to prolong my affair with Nashville and higher education itself. I am currently working with Vanderbilt’s Dean of Students Office as a Coordinator for Residence Life in Bssamcraft Quadramule. I am still a photographer and editor at heart and ever ready to encourage the next generation of student media staffs at Vanderbilt.

2008

Matz McCarroll + B.A., 2007

McCarrl lives in Austin, TX, and said: After graduation I moved back in Austin and worked a few odd jobs before working full-time at Waterloo Records, a local institution.

Eileen McGrawey + B.Mus, 2007

(The Hustler) McGrawey lives in Ambula, Tanzania, East Africa, and said: I teach violin and do work in development for a small arts organization in Ambula, Tanzania called the Umbio Arts Project. We provide arts education and performance opportunities to children and adults from all backgrounds in the Ambula area.


(The Hustler) Pillersdorf lives in Chapel Hill, NC, and said: Attending law school at the University of North Carolina School of Law in Chapel Hill.

Rachel Stevens + B.S., 2007

(The Hustler) Stevens lives in Traverse City, MI, and said: I am in my first year of law school at the University of Tennessee College of Law.

Update your contact info

Have you moved? Started a new job? Changed your email address? Please visit www.Dore2Dore.com to update your contact information as you continue to receive Tunnel Vision.

alumni update profile…

Karly Randolph Pitman + B.S., 1996

(The Hustler) Pitman lives in Livingston, MT, and said: After graduation, I became the the Vanderbilt Hawai’i association. Since then we have four children, two businesses, and one very full life. In May of 2007, I launched a blog for women, First Creole, www.first creole.com that encourages women to put themselves first. Women spend a lot of time and money on others, so I’m being thin or pretty enough, likewise; women are known for giving themselves as themselves as they put everyone else’s needs above their own. With Five Creole, I am using the blog to inspire and empower women to accept their bodies, to make self-care a top priority, and to increase own happiness. Since it’s launch, my blog has welcomed tens of thousands of visitors from all over the U.S. as well as from over 120 countries. I had my first national radio interview on 95.7 in October, and plan on moving into books and other media in 2009.
Working towards the most integrated newsroom in nation

Vanderbilt student media’s move to a new online model gains national awareness of NextNewsRoom Project at Duke University

The evolution of Vanderbilt student media recently caught the attention of the NextNewsRoom Project, a national Knight Foundation-funded effort based at Duke University.

“One of the most advanced student media operations we’ve seen is based at Vanderbilt University,” said project leader on the NextNewsRoom Web site in the introduction to a feature on VSC.

Here is a portion of that feature, which can be read in its entirety at www.nextnewsonline.com.

To understand the reasons behind this shift, and what lessons have been learned, deputy project manager Erin Ehnsoci conducted an extensive Q&A with Chris Carroll, director of student media at Vanderbilt University.

Q: The Hustler has been described as the most integrated college newsroom in the nation. When did you make the transition to multi-platform news?
A: We were talking of creating this moth- ership, which was to be InsideVandy, and creating it as an autonomous sort of Switzerland within our corporate setup. If we were to merge Vanderbilthustler.com there’s no way our other divisions would have played along.

It took basically an academic year to approve the idea and move forward to converge our newsroom. It was a space that’s very large with an open space and a perimeter with three smaller offices all used by the newspaper. We changed the middle space to include a design center, news and sports center, and the perimeter offices became the offices for the management of the yearbook, the magazine, etc.

We also consolidated advertising all into one space. Rather than having each group trying to do its own thing we tried to value-add group sell if you bought an ad in the newspaper, you could also get something on our television station and also online.

We also moved the television station into the same building. There are editing suites that the TV students use, but they’re also available for the students at InsideVandy. When people create a video they use pool equipment and it gets delivered where it needs to go based upon its urgency.

We decided it was time to stop rear-ranging the deck chairs — if we’re going to do this we need to jump in the deepest end possible and try to be the absolute damn best at it. We’re not just going to try and give it lip service and be mediocre. If you’re going to be a new media pioneer you might as well be a national leader because leadership is what Vanderbilt prides itself on. Management is using this as a pitch to get money to build the new building — which hasn’t happened.

Q: Since the convergence, do you find you’re now primarily a web operation that prints a paper, or does the paper reflect content on the website?
A: One’s an ideal and one’s a reality. The ideal is that it’s a web-first enterprise that prints a paper. The reality is it’s the other way around. VSC is basically building the new building — which hasn’t happened.

Q: How much of the new system, which allows photographers to events here at Vanderbilt. Through research of what other people were doing. I seized on the notion of what was import- ant or that we delivery had to be the centerpiece, the mothership.

We were talking of creating this moth- ership, which was to be InsideVandy, and creating it as an autonomous sort of Switzerland within our corporate setup. If we were to merge Vanderbilthustler.com there’s no way our other divisions would have played along.

Increased digital content main goal of new photo and video staffs

Vanderbilt Student Communications this fall retooled its photo and video staffs to increase the production of high-quality content for InsideVandy.com and other student publications.

Creative use of technology, such as Google’s shared online documents produc- t and a Web-based photo assignment system, has been a large part of the pho- tographers’ success, said senior Lauren Fondriest, an assistant photo director.

“I cannot imagine not having the online Google spreadsheet for assign- ments or having a digital method of keeping track of equipment,” said fresh- man Darcy Newell, an assistant photo director. “Overall, the system is extremely effective and organized, which has resulted in having more staff pho- tographers who are willing to take on numerous assignments.”

The new system also gives photogra- phers a variety of ways to showcase their work, Fondriest said, as it provides pho- tos to The Hustler, Versus, the Commodore yearbook and InsideVandy.com.

“We need both specific photo assign- ments for stories and also, more abstract, artistic shots for our photo essays,” said junior Darcy Newell, editor-in-chief of Versus. “We can assign both of these types of photographs through this new system, and we receive work from the staff pho- tographers quickly and efficiently.”

In weekly staff meetings, photogra- phers and videographers learn new skills and techniques from VSC advisers and critique their peers’ work to select “best of the week” awards for student-produced photos and videos.

Opportunities to attend events and communicate little-known aspects of student life are valued by both staffs.

“Photo assignments take the photog- raphers to events they might not attend otherwise and give them the opportunity to learn more about the people and cul- ture of Vanderbilt,” Fondriest said.

Jacquie Berger, a videographer on the new team, agreed, saying, “I am going to cover stories that most students don’t hear about but would be interested in.”

Berger said she most enjoys the flex- ibility of the new system, which allows her to take “three-to-four minutes to tell a story and really expand on students’ opinions and views.”

“Like” our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/InsideVandy
BABY BREAUX

Jeff and Jen (Mayer) Breaux welcomed their first child, a son named Finley, on October 15, 2007. Jeff has served as assistant director of Student Media since January of 1998. Jennifer currently teaches fourth grade in Brentwood, Tenn. She formerly served as associate director of student activities at Vanderbilt University from 2001-05. The family resides in Nolensville, Tenn.

Photo taken by Finley Breaux