

The Handerbilt Hustler

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2006 • 118TH YEAR, NO. 73

INSIDE In the Bubble Crime Log Opinion Sports Fun & Games

ELECTION 2006

campaign

misplaces

Some students

unable to vote.

By Allison Smith

ASST NEWS EDITOR

Some 53 Vanderbilt Democrats

Their voter registration cards were misplaced by senatorial

candidate Harold Ford Jr.'s

Nashville office. Most of the

53 misplaced registration cards

belonged to Vanderbilt students and

were turned in by the Vanderbilt

"We have apologized profusely," said Carol Andrews, Ford's press

"We rushed over the applications

as soon as we discovered them. We

attempted to contact every person

and the Election Commission has

By the time Ford's office turned

in the voter registration 10 days late

on Oct. 17, the applications were

considered ineligible for processing

by the Davidson County Election

Junior Tyler Zimmer said he is

"I was basically giving them my

application that said I would vote

for Ford," Zimmer said. "I'm just

"extremely frustrated" at the Ford

sent a letter."

University College Democrats.

will not be able to vote in the

general election on Tuesday.

registrations

Ford

Experts comment on Corker-Ford race

Polls, professors say outcome impossible to predict.

By Kristen Chmielewski SENIOR REPORTER

Experts in the Department of Political Science are slow to make definitive predictions as to whether Republican Bob Corker or Democrat Harold Ford Jr. will walk away with a victory in Tennessee's senatorial

"Flip a coin on who will win," said John Geer, a Vanderbilt political science professor. "It's that close. Turnout will drive this election."

Marc Hetherington, also a political science professor, agreed that it is difficult to predict the outcome of this

"It is impossible to predict right now," he said. "The polls generally show a tie. Corker is better funded and is advantaged by the fact that he is a Republican running in a Republican state. Ford is advantaged by the fact that President Bush is very unpopular, even in Tennessee. Ford, too, might be the best campaigner that I have ever seen. He has an electric personality."

"We will almost certainly be up late on Tuesday night before they call this race," he said. "That is, unless something dramatic happens between now and then.'

Regardless of the outcome, Geer said he feels both of the candidates accomplished the goals of their campaigns.

"Ford focused more on policy change and policymaking, a referendum on the Republicans and the problems the country currently faces," he said.

this election to be more about a choice between two individuals," Geer said. "He stresses his success in the business world and the experience he has accumulated within Tennessee politics."

According to both professors, Tennessee's senatorial race is one of the most significant in the country.

"Tennessee hugely important," Hetherington

said. "The outcomes of three races—Tennessee, and Missouri—are likely to determine whether or not the Republicans will retain the Senate. The Democrats need to win two of the three. If Ford wins here, it is almost certain that Harry Reid will be the next Senate Majority Leader."

He said the negative advertising tactics employed by the two candidates reflect the high stakes of this campaign.

"Given the stakes of the race—control of the Senate majority—it is little wonder that they are slinging mud," Hetherington said.

Stefanie Lindquist, an associate political science professor, said that while negative advertising is not unique to Corker and Ford's campaigns, it may have debilitating effects.

"I rarely see political races that aren't negative," she said. "According to my colleague John Geer, negativity works. It has been a characteristic of politics since the dawn of the Republic. Negativity may depress voter turnout and increase political apathy, but it's probably here to stay.'

Bruce Professor Oppenheimer said he sees a bigger problem with negative campaigning.

"The real problem lies in whether the public will be susceptible to this negative information and use it in their perceptions of the campaigns,"

Lindquist pointed to Ford's racial background as another key element in the race.

If Ford wins, he will be the "On the other side, Corker first black candidate elected to the Senate from a Southern state since Reconstruction.

"The polls indicate that Tennessee is ready," she said. "The race has been fairly close, which indicates that Tennesseans are not adverse to electing an African-American because as a nation, we have had some rather prominent African-Americans government. After all, Nashville is a diverse community."■

LIVING WAGE

Student, union form living wage coalition

Vanderbilt Community Alliance to encourage activism.

> By Allison Smith ASST NEWS EDITOR

The Vanderbilt Community announced intention to form a grassroots Vanderbilt coalition employees, students, faculty, community members and labor organizations in a release on Oct. 24.

The coalition is intended to tie in the Nashville community with pre-existing groups such as Living Wage for Vanderbilt Employees and LIUNA, the union that represents Vanderbilt employees, that are campaigning for a living wage at Vanderbilt.

The coalition calls upon the Vanderbilt administration to compensate all full-time hourly staff with a living wage, or the rate of pay supporters

Check out Wednesday's issue for The Hustler's comprehensive coverage of the Living Wage debate.

think employees need to provide basic necessities for themselves and their families.

The committee is cochaired by LIVE member Tim Bowles and LIUNA representative Glenn Farmer.

Bowles said LIVE, a student based organization, came to the consensus that there needed to be more activism from the community in the movement, after seeing the importance of community involvement in other living wage campaigns.

Bowles said the community cares about Vanderbilt's wages because as the largest employer in Middle Tennessee and the second largest employer in Tennessee, Vanderbilt has a "huge effect on the rest of the

"Our hope is that VCA will make Vanderbilt feel the pressure not just within but from without as well," Bowles said. "I think Vanderbilt cares

Please see LIVING WAGE, page 2



Freshman Frances Cobb performs Serenade for the Doll, a composition by Claude Debussy, during Sunday's Vanderbilt Harp Ensemble recital held in Blair's Turner Hall. Cobb was one of the six members of the ensemble who performed.

Four is the median of polled students.

Scientific poll reveals

political opinions

of student body

Registered in T

Not registered

Registered in

home state

Democrat

Republican

Not closely at al

61%

On a scale of 1 to 7, with one being the

• Are you registered to vote?

• Which political party do you identify

yourself as?

• Are you following this November's

Are Democratsoffering a clear

• On the issue of

terrorism, have U.S.

policies made a

• Which party do you trust to do a better

terrorism?

job in protecting

the nation against

difference in making

America more secure?

elections closely?

direction different

from Republicans?

most liberal, how

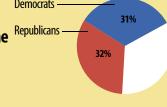
would you rate your

political ideology?

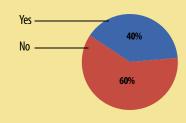
surprised. It's a campaign whose sole purpose is to get votes." JONATHAN DIETZ / The Vanderbilt Hustler "I know it was not intentional to Please see COLLEGE DEMS, page 2

37% President Bush

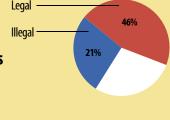
Which party do you situation in Iraq?



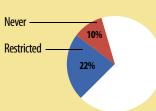
Is the war in Iraqworth the cost?



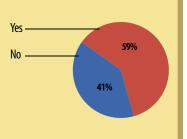
 Should abortion be generally available or illegal except for cases of rape, incest or to save the mother?



Should abortion never be permitted or legal only with higher restrictions?



Generally, do you feel that things in this country are off track?



The survey was conducted between Oct. 10 and 20, and 359 randomly selected students participated in the survey online after receiving an e-mail. The margin of error for the overall results is five percentage points. Polling conducted by Scott Clement for The Vanderbilt Hustler.

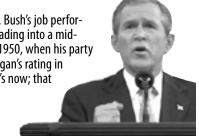


Individual Approval Ratings trust with handling the



BY THE NUMBERS

Americans that approve of George W. Bush's job performance, the lowest for a president heading into a midterm election since Harry Truman in 1950, when his party lost 29 seats in Congress. Ronald Reagan's rating in 1982 was 42 percent, similar to Bush's now; that year the Republicans lost 26 seats.



Source: ABC News

QUOTABLE

"The Saddam Hussein era is in the past now, as was the era of Hitler and Mussolini."

—Nuri al-Maliki, Iraqi Prime Minister, calling Hussein the worst ruler ever in

The Iraqi High Tribunal in Baghdad on Sunday sentenced a combative Saddam Hussein and two other defendants to death by hanging for a brutal crackdown in 1982 in the Shiite town of Dujail.

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY Showers, 59/52

TUESDAY Morning Showers, 64/53

WEDNESDAY Partly Cloudy, 70/50

Source: AP

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Nicole Floyd

Drive for Five begins today

Interhall will hold its annual canned food drive, Drive for Five, this week. Donations can be made today through Friday, Nov. 10 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. outside of Rand.

Vanderbilt Students for Students to hold second meeting

Vanderbilt Students for Students will hold a meeting today from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in Furman 325. Vanderbilt Students for Students seeks to raise funds and establish a scholarship for a local student from Pearl Cohn High School.

VPB Homecoming Committee applications released today

Applications for the Executive Chair and Committee Chair positions for the Vanderbilt Programming Board Homecoming Committee 2007 are now available. Applications can be found at www.vanderbilt. edu/vpb or in Sarratt 207 at the front desk. Applications should be turned in to Sarratt 207 by Nov. 10 by 4:30 p.m.

Yearbook Portraits

Portrait photographers will be in Sarratt 112 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. today through Friday. Juniors, sophomores and freshman may stop by anytime during that period to have their portraits taken, which only takes a few minutes. Seniors must make appointments for senior portraits at vanderbiltcommodore.com, where all students can find more information about portraits and ordering the

Interhall to hold Dinner Discussions with Professor Buckles

Interhall will be holding its fourth installment of Dinner Discussions, a Commons Small Grant Initiative, on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Rand Function Room. The dinner will feature Economics Professor Stephen Buckles and participants will discuss the probability of whether The Great Depression could happen again. Dinner will be catered. Please RSVP by e-mailing interhall@vanderbilt.edu.

OACS, SGA and L.E.A.D provide transportation to the polls

OACS, SGA, and L.E.A.D. will be providing van service to the nearest polling place on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Be sure to bring your Davidson County-issued Voter Identification Card plus a photo ID. Signed Vandy Cards are acceptable, but out-of-state driver's licenses are not. For further information call 615-343-7878.

AcFee Board applications available on SGA Web site

AcFee Board applications are currently available on the SGA Web site under the news section. AcFee is a student-led group that allocates the sum of activities fees for organizational programming on campus. The due date for the application is Nov. 13 by 7 p.m. Each applicant will then have an individual interview during the week of Nov. 27. If you have any questions about the AcFee process or the student application process, contact Leigh Taylor at eleanor.l.taylor@vanderbilt.edu.

Check out http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu for more events.

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Nicole Floyd

Nov. 2, 6:18 a.m.—An individual was arrested for trespass of real property at the Vanderbilt Hospital.

Check out http://police.vanderbilt.edu/crimelog.htm for complete listings.

SERVICE GUIDE

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

The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student and is available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each. The Vanderbilt Hustler is a division of Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc. Copyright © 2004 Vanderbilt Student Communications.

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

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The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance. See

our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

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

Call (615) 343-3064 9 a.m. — 5 p.m., Monday — Friday. One semester's delivery via U.S. Postal Service is available for \$125 or \$200 per year.

Checks should be made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

Delta Delta Delta dances for a cause



Junior members of Delta Delta Delta Delta perform "That 70s Dance" during their annual Delta Underground show Sunday. The event benefits the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

COLLEGE DEMS: Campaign apologizes for error

From COLLEGE DEMOCRATS, page 1

disenfranchise me, but it was really frustrating," Zimmer said. "I still support Ford, but it's really frustrating that I can't vote and there was other stuff I was going to vote for beside the U.S. Senate race."

Students were notified that they would not be able to vote by the Davidson County Election Commission through a letter dated Oct. 18. Kelson Bohnet, president of College Democrats, said he received many angry phone calls from students who assumed that the College Democrats did not turn in their application on time after reading the

"I will make it clear that it wasn't College Democrats' fault at all,"

"I cannot tell you how horrible I feel, though," he added. "I tried to apologize to every person who called me. It's a horrible situation, and no matter whose fault it ends up being, we still wish this hadn't

In total, College Democrats collected more than 200 voter registration applications during their two-month voter registration drive. The College Democrats then turned in the registration cards directly to Ford's office. Ford and Bob Corker's race for U.S. Senate is considered a race to watch this election season, as it could decide control of the U.S. Senate. Polls indicate that the two candidates are neck and neck.

LIVING WAGE: LIVE student group to collaborate with VCA

From LIVING WAGE, page 1

very much about Nashville, and I also think it cares how Nashville thinks about it."

"The goal is for Vanderbilt to feel pressure from the community, the students and the union to implement a living wage and employment principles in general," Bowles said.

The formation of the coalition comes only weeks before employee contracts are set to expire Nov. 15. The employment contract is currently being negotiated between the union and the administration. Among other employment issues up for debate, the contract includes rate of pay. Ellen McSweeny, a member of LIVE, said she still thinks

away with the new employee contract, whatever the results "Economic justice and economic rights are a long term project. We are always going to need groups to continue to

this organization is necessary because the issue will not go

care and continue to fight for these issues," McSweeny said. "VCA is an effort that LIVE has agreed to join up with, and we are really excited to join up with it, because it means that all those in Nashville can be stronger if we join together for certain efforts," McSweeney said. ■

Interested in working for The **Hustler?** Call 322-2424.



Comment on Hustler stories on

InsideVandy.com

TENNESSEE GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES SHARE THEIR VIEWS AND PLANS **PHIL BREDESEN** JIM BRYSON Any successful health care plan must reform lawsuit abuse in My top priority is making sure we launch Cover Tennessee On health care — the state's new initiative to provide affordable health Tennessee. There is no point in trying to provide access if we are insurance to working adults — in a responsible way that going to allow doctors and specialists to be driven out of business will ensure its future success and stability. by frivolous legal action. I've outlined an aggressive goal to raise Tennessee's average I have proposed a multifaceted program called Graduate On education Tennessee that will increase our graduation rates by attacking the high school graduation rate from 78 percent currently to 90 percent by 2012 and, ultimately, to 100 percent. To do it, problem from several angles. It would make grants available to we need to aggressively attack chronic absenteeism, design local schools that have designed programs and curriculum geared toward increasing that community's graduation rate. individual learning plans tailored to each student and provide an incentive to encourage kids to finish school. Improving education and accelerating job creation go hand Tennessee should have a research-and-development tax credit On increasing jobs in hand. I'm convinced my proposal to attract more high to incentivize companies to design and build new products in school graduates into our community college system will the state. The expansion of the tax base from these new jobs will lead to a more skilled work force. more than offset the loss in revenue to the government. I'd like to raise the minimum wage for working families We need to find a balance between encouraging businesses to On improving the economy while continuing to make new investments in job training relocate here while providing that same assistance to Tennessee programs that help laid-off workers find new jobs. businesses expanding or just starting. Elected officials should do everything in their power to protect On crime We're investing new resources to combat Internet crimes against children, and we've extended the statute of Tennessee's most vulnerable citizens. That is why I support Jessica's Law. Tennessee has become nationally known for its lack limitations in child sex crimes to allow new DNA evidence in

TENNESSEE SENATORIAL CANDIDATES SHARE THEIR VIEWS AND PLANS HAROLD FORD JR. **BOB CORKER** Health Savings Accounts give consumers control over their The problem for many is clear: as rising health care costs have On health care health care dollars and empower them to exercise control in outpaced ages, too many Tennesseans cannot afford to keep their obtaining more affordable care. families healthy. One in nine of our neighbors are uninsured, and the problems keep getting worse. Performance bonuses for teachers, like the ones we put in We need to reform our education system so every child in On education Tennessee and America has access to the best education in the place while I was mayor of Chattanooga, will encourage them to go the extra mile in raising student achievement. Tennessee businesses and workers are no longer just Congress must pass pension reform legislation solidifying the On increasing jobs pensions owed to current workers and retirees, assisting ailing competing with others across the country—we are industries in regaining their competitiveness and preventing competing in a global marketplace. Washington needs more senators who have firsthand experience with the challenges companies from reneging on promises made to loyal employees. of building a business, creating jobs and competing in the marketplace. I want to support sustainable economic growth by making It is time to stop living on the earnings of future generations. It is On improving the economy the tax cuts permanent, finding new markets around the time for a new generation of leaders with the courage of men like world for Tennessee goods and services, and ensuring Senator Howard Baker to reach across party lines and protect the America's competitiveness well into the future. financial security of our nation by balancing the budget. Sept. 11 changed the world, requiring increased focus We're recognizing that one of the reasons that Iran is in the On crime and vigilance in addressing the challenge of terrorism position that they're in is that they're able to sell oil at 65, 70, 72, around the world and here at home. In these dangerous 73 dollars a barrel, depending on what it closes at. When that happens, you strengthen that country's ability to build a nuclear times, we must devote the resources necessary to improve surveillance capacity, strengthen the Patriot Act and fix our weapon, to rattle, if not frustrate, the interests of America and of communications systems so law enforcement officers and freedom-loving people. first responders can communicate effectively in times of emergency.

Avoid Election Day hassles with these voting tips for Vanderbilt students

The Office of Active Citizenship and Service, Leaders Engaged for an **Active Democracy and the Student** Government Association will run shuttles from Sarratt to the polls, every hour on the hour, beginning at 8 a.m. on Nov. 7, with the last shuttle departing at 6 p.m.

STUDENTS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THE **FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

- 1. Student must be registered to vote in Tennessee to cast a ballot.
- 2. Voters must have their voter registration cards with them at the polls. The card must be issued by the Davidson County Board of Elections and must be signed.
- 3. Students must also bring a second form of identification with them. This ID may be a Vanderbilt student ID, but it must be signed on the back. Out-of-state driver's licenses do not satisfy this requirement. A Tennessee drivers' license may be used if the address on it matches the address on the voter registration card.

Students hold tailgate before Saturday's game



JONATHAN DIETZ / The Vanderbilt Hustler Junior Andrew Solomon plays cornhole during the Sigma Phi Epsilon tailgate in parking lot off of Blakemore Avenue before Saturday's football game against Florida.

TELEVISION

Senior to tape Jeopardy episodes next week

Jeremy Walker qualifies for quiz show, prepares for competition.

Senior Jeremy Walker will head to Los Angeles next week to be a contestant on the

hit quiz show "Jeopardy."

taking an online trial test six months ago. "I passed that, and I was invited to Atlanta for further tryouts," Walker said. "There I took more tests and had an interview. They called a week after, and then they invited me to the show."

Walker will fly to Los Angeles and tape the shows right outside of the city on Nov. 14 and 15.

"They're taping 10 shows over two days,

and if I'm the winner of the last show, then they will pay for my flight back," Walker I would like because I've been preparing

Walker said preparation for the show has been difficult.

"I am not doing as much training as Walker earned a spot on the show after I would like," he said. "I've got a lot of material I used for a similar activity I did in high school, so I'm going back through those in order to jog my memory."

> "Mainly, I'm looking at lists of several different things and subjects I can get my hands on."

> Part of Walker's difficulty in preparing for the show can be attributed to the fact that he is simultaneously pursuing other academic endeavors.

"It's actually been harder to prepare than applications for medical school," Walker

of progress in punishing child sex offenders.

Regardless, Walker said he is thrilled about being on the show.

"I think it will be an exciting experience," Walker said. "I'm more excited about being on the show and competing a little bit. I'm a little nervous, but once I get into the actual play of the game, it'll go away, and I'll try to get as many questions as I can."

Walker is unsure as to when the show will air, but he said he believes that it will be within the next several months.

"I just hope to represent Vanderbilt well and win some big money," he said. ■

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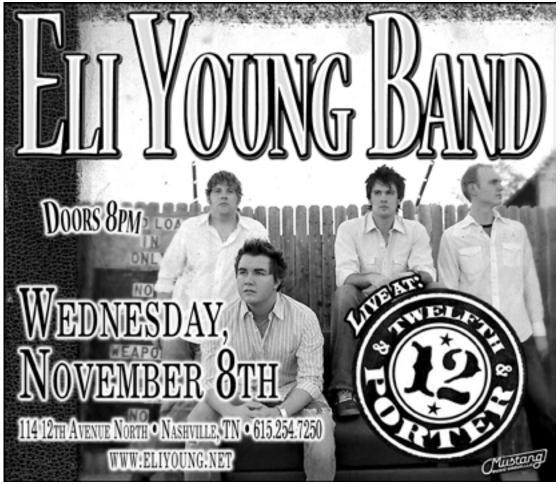
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OPINION

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution



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JONATHAN DIETZ, PHOTO EDITOR

OUR VIEW

All journalists need legal protection

Josh Wolf is on track to become the longest-jailed journalist in U.S. history, currently in prison in Dublin, Calif. for not cooperating with a grand jury investigation. His image as champion for freedom of the press is somewhat complicated by the fact that Wolf is not on the payroll of any newspaper, magazine or wire service. He is, in fact, a blogger.

On July 8, 2005, Wolf filmed a violent anarchist protest in San Francisco at which a police officer was struck on the head, resulting in a fractured skull, and protestors attempted to set fire to his patrol car, which suffered a broken taillight. He contributed some of his footage to local news stations and posted an edited movie of the event on his Web site.

The attempted arson of a police vehicle fell under federal jurisdiction, and Wolf was asked to turn over all of his footage. Wolf refused, claiming that he filmed neither incident in question and that doing so would destroy his relationship with his sources that had trusted him with their identities. Wolf was found in contempt and put in jail.

A three-judge panel of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said that Wolf's credentials would not have qualified him for protection under California's state shield laws. "The notion that I needed to be under contract by a major media outlet is preposterous. What is a journalist? There's no journalist license. The easiest way I can see of judging a journalist is whether his peers judge him to be a journalist," Wolf told the San Francisco Chronicle.

Indeed, Wolf's peers judge him to be just that. The Northern California chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists awarded Wolf Journalist of the Year "for upholding the principles of a free and independent press."

The way in which information is disseminated is changing. Newspaper circulation is declining rapidly around the country. However, according to the Newspaper Association of America, in the same quarter that the Los Angeles Times circulation dropped eight percent, usage of newspaper Web sites was up 24 percent. The Internet is the primary news source of the future, and blogs are a major part of that. This is reinforced by the frequent appearances of bloggers on cable news programs.

A federal shield law is needed to ensure a truly free press. However, it is important that all journalists are included. The makeup of the "press" is evolving along with technology; the first amendment, which establishes their freedom, was not written to protect only those within major corporations.

OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, guest columnists and authors of letters to the editor are expected to provide logical argument to back their views. Unreasonable arguments or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in The Hustler and will not be published. The Hustler welcomes reader viewpoints and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on our website. Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to The Hustler office or via e-mail to editor@vanderbilthustler.com. Letters via e-mail must either

come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editorin-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

All submissions become the property of The Hustler and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which The Hustler is a

CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2.

Glenna DeRov

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Katie Vick

Nicole Floyd

Darcy Newell

Jarred Amato

Peter Madden

Reeve Hamilton

Bring corrections to The Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at 615-322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at 615-322-

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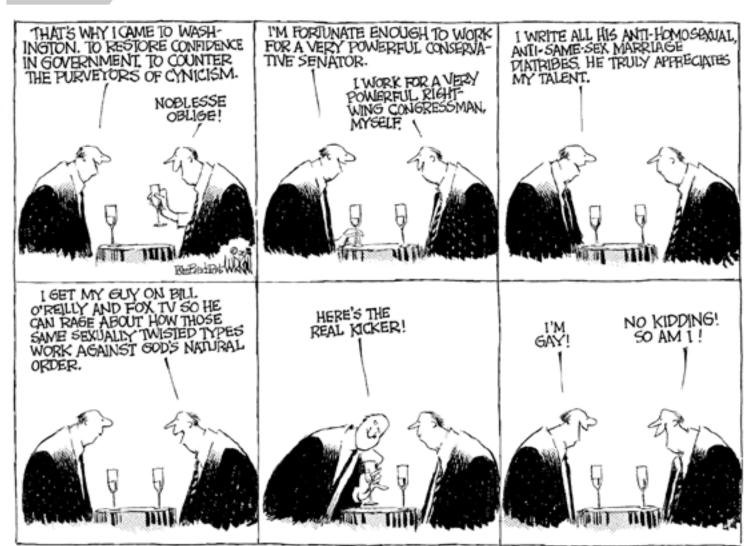
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EDITORIAL CARTOON



Don Wright --- KRT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Teach for America candidates should consider their motives

Letter to the Editor:

I have been debating a lot about whether or not to write this letter because it may seem offensive to a lot of people. I am an elementary education major, and I pride myself in the fact that I have chosen a career that is both rewarding and challenging.

But my choice to be a teacher was not a half-hearted decision. It was not based on salary, prestige, or any selfish means. I know that there is a teacher shortage in America especially of those like myself, an African American male, but I do not agree with the motives that students especially here at Vanderbilt take towards Teach for America.

Personally, I am not a fan of Teach for America, but I see it as a necessary evil. It baffles me that Teach for America makes

make-shift teachers over a 6-week period and puts them in a classroom. This would not anger me if most of the students wanted to truly make a difference. Too many students are using this as a resume booster to get themselves into medical school or law school. Our youth deserve better than that.

If you care so much about making a difference in education, why not pursue a job in education. Teachers are not the only ones who are capable of making change. If you are going to be a lawyer, be one that makes reforms and that advocates for changes in education. If you are pursing a medical career, why not create ways for underprivileged youth to be able to get necessary health care so that they can attend school.

Two years of work in a classroom equates

to how much change in education? What it equates to is two years of an unqualified college graduate in a classroom. I use unqualified only because education majors at Peabody are required to go through two screenings, the PRAXIS and the new addition of a placement test in order to graduate as a certified teacher. I know I may be stepping on a lot of toes, but I really want candidates of this program to consider their motives for entering this program.

If you are going to do Teach for America make a commitment to making change in education not just for your two years of

> Charles Stanley Jr. Sophomore, Peabody

Socialized medicine more than just a utopian ideal

Sometimes the biggest culture shock from living in the U.S. is when I hear phrases that are clearly rooted in the English language, but that one would

Guest Columnist

TIM **BOYD**

never hear used in England itself. One of my favorites is "socialized medicine" as a euphemism for "universal health care." I think I understand why critics of guaranteeing health care to all like the phrase "socialized medicine": it sounds ominously close to "socialism," which, as we know, encourages you to beat up grandma and eat your children. As such, it achieves a remarkable thing — it makes it seem un-American to want the government to make health care available for all.

The most astonishing part of the attack on socialized medicine, however, is the implication that somehow the U.S. health care system is superior to those poor, decrepit government-mandated ones that many other industrial nations have. In last week's Hustler, Justin Harkin ("McGeady's understanding of American economy wrong") made the most extraordinary argument in favor of the American system — doctors in those countries with socialized medicine earn "less than half of what they earn here."

I had never realized that one measured the strength of a health care system in this way. I always assumed one would use statistics about, say, the health of the nation's population to judge the efficiency of its health care system, but that may be "socialized" thinking on my part. In any case, it is quite clear why Harkin would stay away from such statistics, as even while his article is full of them elsewhere, they would systematically undermine the notion that the American health care system as a whole is doing a better job than its "socialized" counterparts.

We can start by considering life expectancy. A good health care system provides for a healthy population, which would be indicated by a higher life expectancy. And yet, of the 30 industrialized nations that make up the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the U.S. ranks 22nd in terms of average life expectancy. As far as infant mortality is concerned, the U.S. ranks 26th. It will come as less of a surprise that for obesity, America is down at No. 30 (though I will have to forego sounding too superior about this, as the U.K. is currently No. 29 and catching up fast).

Of course, the U.S. lifestyle may also account for poor rankings, so perhaps the facilities available to Americans in terms of health care are superior. This also doesn't seem to be the case. According to World Health Organization statistics, the U.S. has 2.56 physicians per 1,000 people, compared to 3.37 per 1,000 in France and Germany or 3.28 and 3.30 in Sweden and Spain, respectively. There are 33 hospital beds available per 10,000 people in the U.S., compared to 40 in the U.K., 76 in France, 86 in Germany and a staggering 129 in Japan.

Perhaps, then, the American system is more financially efficient? Sure, these other countries might be experiencing marginal gains in life expectancy and have extra beds, but maybe this comes at a vast extra cost that simply isn't worth

it. Unfortunately, this line of argument doesn't work out. The U.S. spends some 50 percent more per capita on health care than any other OECD nation. As a share of its overall national income, the U.S. spends 15.2 percent on health care, compared to 11.1 percent in Germany, 10.1 percent in France, 8 percent in the U.K. and 7.7 percent in Spain, according to WHO estimates.

None of this means that governmentmandated universal health care is a problem-free system. Nor does it mean that American health care does not have significant strengths, including excellent research facilities and several physicians who are world leaders in their field. But is it really a coincidence that of the top ten OECD nations in terms of overall population health, the amount of health care spending provided by the government is 75 percent, whereas in the U.S. it is 45 percent? When one considers that as well as having a less healthy population than its industrial competitors, the U.S. actually spends more per person and a greater share of national income, and still has over 40 million people (about one in seven Americans) without health insurance, is it not worth considering that universal health care underwritten by the state might have

its advantages? Of course, it may be that having the highest paid doctors is more important than any of that, in which case, by all means continue to dismiss us "socializers" as nothing but utopian idealists.

—Tim Boyd is a graduate student in the Department of History.

Your voice doesn't stop here. The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative issues. The following students and legislators

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What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound

off on any issue you want. Send

in your rants to with the subject

"Rant" to:

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College Democrats: How worthless are you? If I trust you to complete my voter registration, try to do it before the deadline. Good job getting out the vote.

It is not funny to sneak up behind people you do not know and scream at the top of your lungs. I don't care if it is Halloween; there are too many rapes happening around here for that to be funny.

I cannot comprehend why so many people think they have a moral high ground just because they believe in something that cannot be proven to exist. It does not make any sense.

Sounds like someone is jealous of the Donnelly.

Don't go for two in the first quarter. Any coach who knows football would have kicked the extra point.

I hate my computer and its lack of file restoration.

You know what annoyed me over the weekend? Girls in short cotton skirts and Ugg boots. It is cold and those are ugly. It's just stupid.

Compiled by Reeve Hamilton

Dirty campaigns disenchanting

It is only a day until Election Day. I feel bombarded by campaign advertisements. It is an all out war between candidates. Dirty tricks and mudslinging seem to be the only tactics politicians

Guest Columnist

WYNNE DUONG

are using to gain support. Somehow if they make the other candidate look worse, then just maybe they will get more votes.

I admit that I am neither a lover nor a follower of politics, but it is hard to ignore the battle between Bob Corker and Harold Ford Jr. You cannot turn on the television without missing one of their political advertisements. All this fighting makes

me wonder which candidate is the better choice. Should I choose the candidate that has been attacked more, or should I choose the candidate that is doing the attacking? I would not vote for a candidate whose opinions I disagree with, but I am less likely to vote for the candidate that plays dirty.

This senatorial election focuses more on attacking competition rather than attacking the issues. The candidates have lost sight of what is truly important and have reverted to high school boys trying to prove who the best is at insulting.

I am not worried about what the other candidate did. What this candidate will do for my state and me is more important.

-Wynne Duong is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science.

The Hustler has lost its purpose

When I was younger, all I wanted to do was grow up so I could do all the cool things adults did. I still cannot technically do all of them, and I hate to be reminded that I have a year

The Dissenting VU

CHRISTOPHER

and some months to go. Sometimes, though, it is nice to be reminded of one's age during this short transitional period. It is humbling, sure, but also refreshing in a way. There is still time left to just observe and wonder without much further responsibility, and it is helpful to be reminded before that time runs out.

That is why I'm happy with my current situation because, aside from classes and this column, I have few things to worry about. I have time to try to find some truth in the world, and when I'm inevitably let down, I get out the anger, incredulity and disappointment by writing. I would like to hope that even at such a young age the writers of The Hustler are true to themselves in their attempts to interest the Vanderbilt community in what interests them, so I am always taken aback when someone high-and-mighty bashes The Hustler or its writers for trying to do what they are supposed

I am not a journalism or an English major, so the quality of the reporting and the subtle nuances of the language are about what I would expect. The ads and inserts do not bother me because I just ignore them, and I am not a highly active member of the community, so the breadth of reporting isn't really an issue. Keeping this in mind, perhaps I've been missing something that others in different standing are seeing. What exactly is expected of The Hustler? More importantly, what should

The opinion section is probably the most contentious part of the paper in terms of what the community wishes to get out of it. After only reading and not writing for The Hustler the last week, I have come to realize that the tit-for-tat way arguments are carried out on the pages of the opinion section is pretty ridiculous. The first time a reactionary piece was sent in as a guest column strictly for the purpose of debunking one of my opinions, I thought the practice was unnecessary and a little silly — which is not to say I am innocent of it (I am not), but past wrongs do not negate present truth. The "Letters to the Editor" is the section best suited for reaction, and if you feel it necessary to argue, why not send an e-mail to that columnist? The columns are a far better forum for proposing ideas rather than arguing

With even simply stating an opinion can lead to a lot of heat when it is an issue with no easily discernable and agreed upon solution. Take homelessness, perceived academic bias or our upcoming

If important campus events are not getting any print exposure, then someone should write about them and send the information to Hustler reporters.

m i d t e r m elections as perfect examples in which an op-ed piece is rebuked simply for containing a certain opinion. What then is the purpose of the opinion section? First, it strives to stimulate interest and discussion of important issues because it is the best possible forum of discussion we have right now, and second, the individual writers try to sway readers to embrace their opinion. The problem for the opinion section seems to be a lack of concrete purpose and an overabundance of arguing, which is really only fixable through a greater diversity of writers and topics. The new "I because..." segment should help with this, but we should also keep reactionary writing in its proper place.

As for the news reporting, if important campus events are not getting any print exposure, then someone should write about them and send the information to Hustler reporters, and The Hustler should act on these news feeds and try to publish something about those events. If they can't publish for lack of room, then I would ask The Hustler to scale back its advertising a bit. It seems like they could afford it, but if not, then The Hustler's reporting priorities should be

Other than these minor things, it is obvious that The Hustler is doing a really good job, evidenced by its receipt of the 2006 Pacemaker award. It's also equally obvious that the status quo is not working for at least part of the community because The Talented Tenth has appeared on the racks. This is different than having Orbis or The Torch because those are ideological publications not meant to be representative, but if we need The Talented Tenth to represent Vanderbilt's black community within its broader community, then The Hustler has failed as Vanderbilt's student newspaper.

Hopefully enough interest has been stirred up so we can figure out exactly what should be done to correct these problems.

-Christopher McGeady is a sophomore in the

College of Arts and Science.



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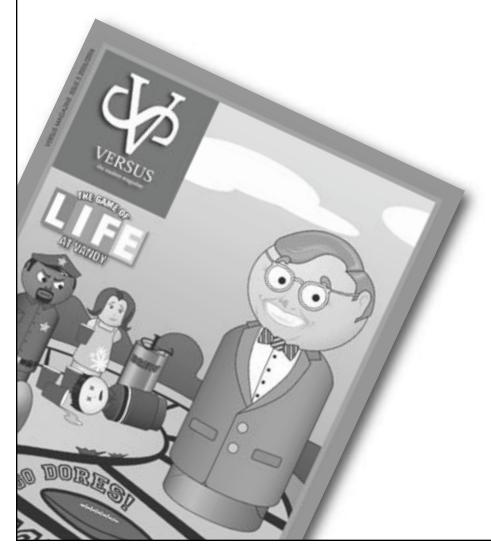
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VERSUS MAGAZINE ADVERTISING SCHEDULE

Issue 1

Wednesday, August 9, 2006

(advertising deadline: Monday, August 28, 2006)

Issue 2

Monday, September 18, 2006

(advertising deadline: Monday, August 28, 2006)

Issue 3

Monday, October 16, 2006

Monday, November 13, 2006

(advertising deadline: Monday, September 25, 2006)

(advertising deadline: Monday, October 23, 2006)

Issue 4

Monday, December 4, 2006 (Holiday Issue) (advertising deadline: Monday, November 6, 2006)

Issue 6

wednesday, January 10, 2007

(advertising deadline: Wednesday, December 13, 2006)

Issue 7

monday, February 12, 2007

(advertising deadline: Monday, January 22, 2006)

Issue 8

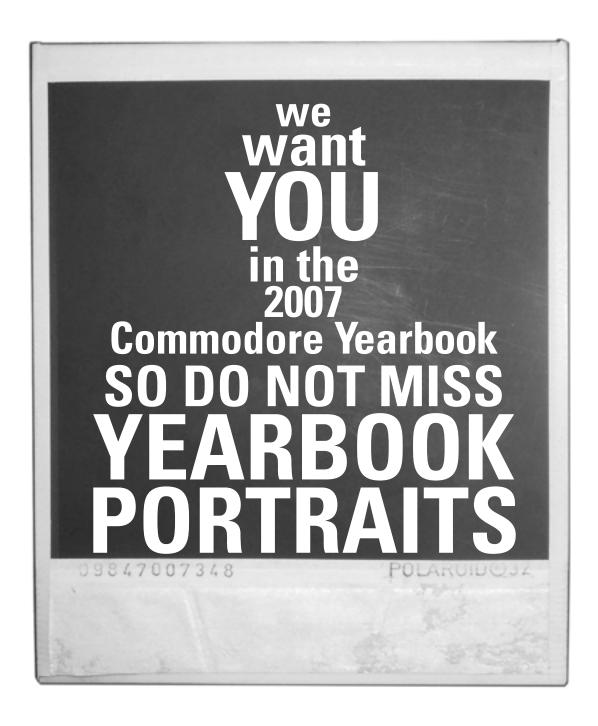
Monday, March 12, 2007

(advertising deadline: Monday, February 19, 2006)

Issue 9

Monday, April 9, 2007 (Best Of Issue) (advertising deadline: Monday, March 19, 2006)

Friday, April 20, 2007 (Art Issue) (advertising deadline: Monday, March 19, 2006)



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