



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Memorial Gym pretty in pink



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Dressed in pink apparel, Vanderbilt students turned out to support the women's basketball team's Pink Out event Sunday night in their win over Clemson.

Commodores' Pink Out event supports breast cancer awareness.

By Harish Krishnamoorthi
STAFF REPORTER

It wasn't the usual black and gold that filled Memorial Gymnasium Sunday night.

Instead, Clemson was engulfed by a sea of...pink?

The women's basketball team sponsored "Pink Out" this weekend to promote breast cancer awareness, as the undefeated Commodores beat visiting Clemson 82-63 in the nationally televised game.

"It's been in motion for months, and we think it's a terrific idea. It's kind of fun. How many times do you see pink rally towels?" said Rod Williamson, director of media relations in the athletic department, referring to the pink rally towels handed out to the first 1,500 fans.

"It's a high visibility game, so we'll get national publicity for it, and we think it's a perfect cause, a perfect opportunity to get some exposure to something that needs help."

The cause is especially important to the team, as some members, such as senior Caroline Williams and assistant coach Lisa Cernignano, have been personally affected by the disease.

Half of all proceeds from ticket sales went toward research efforts at the Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center.

"We are trying to raise awareness for breast cancer, particularly research at the Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center, and more importantly in the national audience to promote breast cancer," said Eric Nichols, director of marketing in the athletic department.

Head coach Melanie Balcomb said she was extremely pleased with Sunday's audience.

"The crowd was awesome. I think marketing did a great job of getting people out," she said. "I loved the cause and the people that were willing to dress up and show that support from the community, and I think it was a lot of fun."

Students, such as freshmen Erin Fahey and Nicole Lukens, appreciated the opportunity to sport some pink apparel and witness the highly ranked Commodore team in action.

"I like to watch basketball, and it's a great cause so we have got to wear pink," Fahey said.

"I think it's so cool that so many people showed up in pink, and so many people are supporting breast cancer awareness," Lukens said. ■

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student body approves VSG with a vote of 1,056 to 112

Election process for VSG representatives to begin after break.

By Darcy Newell
ASST NEWS EDITOR

The student body approved the plan to dissolve the Student Government Association and Interhall and form Vanderbilt Student Government with a vote of 1,056 to 112.

Students were able to cast their votes online Nov. 30 and Dec. 1.

"We are all really excited," said SGA President Boone Lancaster. "We really feel like it's a good mandate for the new student government."

"I am obviously very excited that it passed, but I am also enthusiastic about the number of votes we got," said Interhall President Devin Donovan. "The amount of involvement of the student body is really exciting and speaks well for the future of VSG."

Interhall and SGA will hold a lunch for current staff and administration today to discuss the implications of the vote.

"Boone and I sat down and invited representatives from different organizations on campus, like the Office of Housing and Residential Education, the dean of students and all areas of the vice chancellors," Donovan said. "We will be talking individually about how those offices will be impacted with the changes and new responsibilities."

Now that the student body has approved VSG, the process of electing officials for the new positions will begin. Representatives from both Interhall and SGA will hold a forum on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Sarratt 189 for interested students.

"Basically, it's for a student interested in talking about VSG," Donovan said. "We'll be talking about the general overview of the organization, but most specifically about campaigning, elections and the timeline for next year."

"Devin and I would like to see many students come out to the meeting, if not just in curiosity for how everything

will be working," Lancaster said. "We appreciate the efforts we have graciously had in all of the student publications, but there is nothing like first-hand information to really answer student's questions about how VSG will be operated."

However, Donovan added that if interested students cannot make Tuesday's meeting, they can contact her or Lancaster with questions.

As for who will be elected into new positions, Lancaster said it's completely up to the students' vote, and that students do not have to be currently involved in student government to run for a VSG position.

"Traditionally in the structures we have had, there is always a completely level playing field," he said.

Jared Anderson, SGA vice president of communications, agreed, saying, "Elections are always based on merit. While having experience never hurts you, we always try to elect those who merit the job."

The exception to this rule is that the incoming VSG president must have some experience in student government.

"The president obviously needs a grip and understanding of how things work, but other than that, everything is up for grabs," Anderson said.

The election process will begin after winter break. The president and vice president will be elected in February in the same manner that SGA and Interhall presidents have traditionally been elected.

"For the presidential elections we will use the ticket system, so the president and vice president run together," Lancaster said.

Once the president is elected, applications will be available for those interested in House or Senate positions. Nominations and selections will be made, and a chief of staff will be selected. All positions will be filled before spring break, and SGA and Interhall will turn over in April. ■

GREEK LIFE

Students speculate about potential revocation of Kappa Sigma charter

Torrey to comment on situation later in week.

By Nicole Floyd
ASST NEWS EDITOR

Students are speculating that Vanderbilt's Kappa Sigma chapter has had its charter revoked.

Junior Sean Mercado said he heard their charter was being revoked due to the fact that no pledges rushed there this year.

"Their alumni came down and saw what was going on and decided to pull it because (Kappa Sigma) was not very popular," he said.

However, Kristin Torrey, director of Greek Life, said she would be unable to verify this information until later in the week.

"I have not yet received any official documents from Kappa Sigma saying that their charter is revoked," she said.

Kappa Sigma President Andrew Brown also said that, after speaking with Torrey, he believed it was best not to comment on the subject until later in the week.

Vanderbilt's chapter is currently not listed on Kappa Sigma's national Web site. ■

SCHOLARSHIP

Senior awarded prestigious Mitchell Scholarship

Jeffrey Benedict to study politics, music in Ireland as part of year-long post-graduate program.

By Ellie Atkins
STAFF REPORTER

Senior Jeffrey Benedict will continue his musical studies in Ireland, as a recipient of the prestigious George J. Mitchell Scholarship.

A student in the College of Arts and Science, Benedict will graduate this spring with a major in European Studies and minors in music literature and history.

The annual scholarships allow 12 American students to pursue a year of post-graduate study at any Irish university, and Benedict has chosen to study at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

For Benedict, who plays the piano, cello, bluegrass fiddle, mandolin and guitar, music has always been a fundamental part of his life.

"Growing up I didn't really understand that other families didn't work like that," he said. "It's a huge musical culture. I remember family

reunions in Kentucky being composed of 10-12 fiddle players. It's just always been a part of my family."

Benedict always hoped to study in Ireland, he said.

"My family has always played traditional folk music for generations, and the antecedents come from Ireland," Benedict said. "I've always been fascinated with that."

Benedict hopes to become a JAG lawyer and will use his time in Ireland to study the intersection of politics and music.

"I've got a lot of logs in the fire, and I plan on doing them all," he said.

The Mitchell Scholarship selection process is awarded based on leadership, community service and academic excellence.

At Vanderbilt, Benedict is currently involved with Reformed University Fellowship, Army ROTC and is the co-director of Men Promoting a Solution, an anti-domestic violence group for men. ■

Momentum and Vanderbilt Dance Program showcase talent Sunday



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Gabe Hemphill, Jackie Moore, Samantha Lim and Lauren Gardner dance to a Rob Zombie song at Momentum and Vanderbilt Dance Program's fall event, Showcase of Dance, in Sarratt Cinema Sunday afternoon.

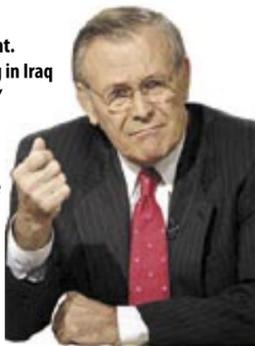
THE WALL

QUOTABLE

"In my view it is time for a major adjustment. Clearly, what U.S. forces are currently doing in Iraq is not working well enough or fast enough."

—Donald Rumsfeld

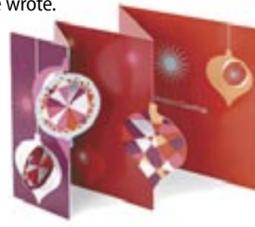
Before he resigned, the secretary of defense told Bush to make a significant shift in strategy as the White House, the Pentagon and a congressionally created study group consider changes in a memo dated Nov. 6.



Source: AP

NOTABLE

In America in 1822, the postmaster of Washington, D.C., complained that he had to add 16 mailmen at Christmas to deal with cards alone. He wanted the number of cards a person could send limited by law. "I don't know what we'll do if this keeps on," he wrote.



Source: AP

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY

Sunny, 41/25

TUESDAY

Sunny, 52/31

WEDNESDAY

Mostly Sunny, 55/34

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Nicole Floyd

VUTheatre holds open casting call for '365 Days/365 Plays'

VUTheatre will be holding an informational meeting and open casting call for "365 Days/365 Plays" by Pulitzer prize-winning playwright Suzan-Lori Parks. For more information visit <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/theatre>.

Holiday Arts Festival takes place in Sarratt Gallery

The Holiday Arts Festival will take place in Sarratt Gallery today through Sunday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. The event offers unique gift items from Tennessee's finest craft artists. MasterCard, Visa, Commodore Card, cash and personal checks are accepted.

DisciplesFirst hosts A Night of Hope Christmas concert

DisciplesFirst is hosting "A Night of Hope," a Christmas concert that will benefit the Village of Hope community in Uganda, tonight at 8 p.m. in the Student Life Center. The concert will feature performances by the Swinging Dores, VIBE, the Physical Arts and Juggling Group, and musical artists Dave Barnes and Danny y Los Cuatro.

SGA and Interhall hold an open forum about VSG

Members of the Student Government Association and Interhall will hold an open forum concerning Vanderbilt Student Government tomorrow from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Sarratt 189. The forum will offer students a chance to learn more about student government, VSG and VSG elections.

Vanderbilt Medical Center volunteer training dates announced

Students interested in volunteering Vanderbilt Medical Center or the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital should plan on attending one of two information sessions on Jan. 15 or 16, 2007, from 6:30-7 p.m. Volunteers who attend one of these information sessions will need to be available to attend volunteer training from 5:45-8 p.m. on Feb. 5, 2007. For more information about volunteer opportunities, visit the Web site at www.VolunteerAtVanderbilt.com or call (615) 322-2379.

New spring course on students' social activism available

The Office of Active Citizenship and Service, in collaboration with the new Vanderbilt International Office and the Blair School of Music, is offering a credit-bearing spring term class accompanied by a summer service trip to Durban, South Africa. Professor Dale Cockrell will teach a spring course, "Freedom, Youth, Responsibility" which will prepare students for the trip and examine the role of students and music in two major case studies: Freedom Summer 1964 in Mississippi and the 1970s student uprising in South Africa against apartheid. The class will then travel to Durban, South Africa, and live in the residence halls of the University of Kwazi-Natal and participate in service projects throughout the city. Dates for the summer service trip are June 22-July 22. If you are interested, please contact either Cockrell at dale.cockrell@vanderbilt.edu or Director of the OACS Mark Dalhouse at mark.t.dalhouse@vanderbilt.edu. You can download the application for the course and summer trip at www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs. Applications are due at the Community Partnership House on Dec. 8.

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

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Nicole Floyd

There is no crime to report.

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 \$5.00 each.

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AFFILIATIONS

The Hustler is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, Columbia Scholastic Press Association, College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers, Southern University Newspapers and the Southeastern Journalism Conference and is an associate member of the Associated Press.

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Sports results: Call 343-0967 or e-mail sports@vanderbilthustler.com

CORRECTIONS

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.

PRINTER

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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

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

SERVICE

Junior traveling to Rwanda hopes to assist victims of genocide

Jessica Shoemaker to spend three weeks abroad beginning in December.

By Kristen Chmielewski
SENIOR REPORTER

Junior Jessica Shoemaker plans to travel to Rwanda on Dec. 27 to perform three weeks of service among victims of the 1994 genocide.

Shoemaker said she discovered this rare opportunity by chance.

"My mom told me about a program called Global Youth Connect that was looking for college applicants to apply to do human rights workshops in various countries," she said.

Based in New York City, Global Youth Connect sends volunteers to Rwanda, Cambodia and South Africa, among other nations. The project was created in 1999 and has since existed as a non-profit organization.

The basic goal of the project is human rights activism. Students from various universities will begin their service by participating in human rights workshops before engaging in their specific fieldwork.

"We will work and record our progress with human rights groups, documenting their struggles and triumphs and bringing a little sanity back to the country after its 1994 genocide," Shoemaker said.

Shoemaker said she did not know anything about the genocide until about a year ago when she came across several articles on the BBC Web site and realized that these events had occurred during her lifetime.

"There was really no press on the issue at all," Shoemaker said. "It really shocks me that neither I nor anybody else knew anything about it while it was going on."

Since becoming interested in the issue, Shoemaker has become a member of the Vanderbilt organization Students Taking Action Now: Darfur.

However, Shoemaker said she feels that the whole situation "isn't real until you talk to people and see first-hand what their stories are like."

"I really hope to be able to get into the culture, the community and do what I really like — help people living with AIDS, help people that are torn apart by genocide," she said.

In addition to examining the effects of the genocide, student activists will confront the issue of AIDS in Rwanda.

"We will work with the youth to help them understand the disease and how to live with AIDS and prevent its spread," she said. ■

BCM offers late-night pancake breakfast



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students stop by the Baptist Campus Ministry Friday night for a late-night meal. The BCM served pancakes into the early morning hours.

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Arts festival kicks off in Sarratt



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Freshmen Oliver Green, Collier Calandrucio and Carleigh Flexer peruse the pottery selection at the Holiday Arts Festival in Sarratt.

INTERNATIONAL

Vanderbilt students to attend international conference in UAE

Students from over 100 countries to travel to Abu Dhabi for event.

By Christina England
STAFF REPORTER

Vanderbilt will send five students to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, for the Education Without Borders International Student Conference this February.

Along with 800 students from over 100 different countries, these students will attend workshops and discussions about global issues with international business and human rights leaders, Nobel Prize winners and influential government leaders.

"This is our first time to send a Vanderbilt delegation to EWB," said Mark Dalhouse, director of the Office of Active Citizenship and Service. "The Vanderbilt International Office hopes to foster global citizenship by putting our best and brightest forward to make global connections for the university."

The theme for this year's conference, Innovative Solutions to Global Challenges, is designed to encourage analytical and creative thinking about international issues through several different division tracks.

"We hope that the conference's focus on humanitarian assistance will allow our students to make global connections for Vanderbilt and bring (the connections) back by connecting with students from all over the world," Dalhouse said.

Senior Stacy Tolos and Vanderbilt alumnus Jake Brewer are on the global executive planning board for EWB.

Since attending last year's conference, they have been working hard to promote the conference and encourage Vanderbilt to sponsor student attendance

at the event.

Senior Samantha Ansley, a civil engineering major, plans to participate in a track related to her interests, Harnessing Education and Technology to End Poverty.

"EWB is a great global community experience," she said. "So many different cultures are coming together to talk about issues that affect everyone."

Freshman Emani Davis said she is excited about the communications track of the conference, Media: A Tool for Social Impact.

"It's such a unique opportunity to connect with such a large variety of people," she said. "I've never been out of the country before, and I'm excited about the learning experience and the opportunity to effect change."

Freshman Anna Elliott and sophomore Gustavo DePena will also attend the conference.

"I am enormously proud of these students," Dalhouse said. "It brings me joy to be able to send such incredible rising young leaders to such an awesome experience."

When the students return from Abu Dhabi, they plan to present their experiences to a freshman seminar and participate in World on Wednesdays, a discussion group sponsored by International Student & Scholar Services.

"Any time a student has the opportunity to go abroad, he or she comes back with a different perspective," Dalhouse said. "When these students return and invest themselves back into campus, they will bring back better understandings about important issues and, we hope, the motivation to continue to spread awareness as they lead various organizations on Vanderbilt's campus or start their own." ■

INTERNET

New social networking site eLIFELIST.com tracks life goals

By Linda Vongkhamchanh
STAFF REPORTER

Two Wake Forest graduates have created eLIFELIST.com, a new social networking Web site that allows members to create "life lists," organize them and share them with an online community.

Within the next few months, they hope to select a lucky person with the help of other members and help that person fulfill a goal, which they will document and post on the site.

Brent Thomas, a 2002 graduate, said he always had a list of goals that he wanted to achieve but never wrote them down to pursue them, so he decided to do something about it.

Last year, Thomas and fellow alumnus Lee Briggs created eLIFELIST.com as a way to organize those life goals.

"The simple act of writing down your goals makes it easier to achieve them," Thomas said. "You can even make timetables to set deadlines for yourself."

Thomas said the site is open to anyone

who would like to join.

"We have a wide range of people, from my little sister to people 75 years old," he said. "Everyone has got ambitions and goals in their life."

"Among the many things I'd like to do before I die is to get married, visit Asia, ski a double black diamond, go to Hawaii and relearn how to play piano," said senior Austin Daily.

Other students, such as senior Kristi Sobhani, have ambitions to change the world. She plans to step out of her

comfort zone and help people by visiting Kampala, Uganda, to help children with AIDS.

Sophomore Kris Stensland said would like to be an emergency room surgeon and then an orthopedic surgeon one day.

Similar to MySpace and Facebook, eLIFELIST.com allows members to add friends and view other profiles, but this site also allows members to check off life goals as they accomplish them.

"I think the biggest difference is that our site is one with a purpose," Thomas

said. "It's basically to say to yourself, 'What do I want to do?' and allow you to realize it."

Members can create blogs, post comments and pictures to accompany each goal. Some members have even documented themselves accomplishing their goals and posted the videos, and an interactive forum gives members the opportunity to share stories of their accomplishments, which could help others achieve their goals. ■

did you see...



...the model on 211?



...mustaches on 45?



...and Ben Folds on 31?

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OPINION



ALLISON MALONE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

GLENNA DERROY, NEWS EDITOR

REEVE HAMILTON, OPINION EDITOR

JARRED AMATO, SPORTS EDITOR

MONIKA BLACKWELL, LIFE EDITOR

OUR VIEW

SGA proposal shows lack of support for Hustler

Currently, the Student Government Association is spending a large amount of time on a resolution that provides minimal gains for students. The resolution would, for a fee, provide national newspapers to be distributed on campus.

The proposal states the reason for the program is that “if a Vanderbilt student to gain access to world news, they must actively seek it.” However, free Internet allows students access to a wide range of news sources from their own dorm rooms, including those in question: The New York Times, The Washington Post and USA Today. Furthermore, SGA has not asked students whether they would like to increase their tuition dollars to access these newspapers.

The proposal includes a section that addresses the role of The Hustler and states that it “may seem inherently unfair to spend mandatory fees collected from students on a service to bring commercial newspapers to campus when no fees are expended on the student-produced newspaper.” However, SGA says “this is not the core of the issue.” Rather, it claims “the issue is that The Hustler has expressed its desire to remain independent from the university.” It further asserts, “accepting university funding will clearly eliminate their autonomy.”

The core of the issue is that SGA is proposing to pay money for national news, but will not pay for subscriptions to a publication that students put in hundreds of hours collectively each week to produce for the benefit of the Vanderbilt community. It is doubtful anyone would claim that, were Vanderbilt to pay for subscriptions to The New York Times or The Washington Post, it would “clearly eliminate their autonomy” from the university. Similarly, students could be forced to pay for subscriptions to The Hustler without it losing any autonomy.

The Hustler is the only source of news that directly targets the Vanderbilt community. If SGA deems The New York Times and The Washington Post worthy of student life dollars, it seems obvious that the service The Hustler provides would be just as worthy. Access to national newspapers is a noble idea, but it is a disappointing value judgment to see them as more important to pay for than The Hustler.

The force of this argument is not that students should have to pay for the Hustler; it is that they should not be forced to pay for this frivolous expenditure, which does not provide them with anything they cannot already access and demonstrates a lack of support and appreciation for the efforts put into Vanderbilt’s student newspaper.

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 editor-in-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 division.

CORRECTION POLICY

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

Bring corrections to The Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at 615-322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at 615-322-3757.

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

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“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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Don Wright —MCT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SPEAR has overcome setbacks in its history

To the Editor:

In her letter to the editor on Dec. 1, recent Vanderbilt graduate Jennifer Dillard attempted to clear up some of the “misconceptions” about the history of LIVE and SPEAR. However, in doing so, Dillard provided erroneous information about the background and funding of SPEAR to which we feel compelled to respond.

SPEAR was not “created and funded” by the university administration; we began as Vanderbilt Recycles in 2003 as a joint effort between myself, a few fellow environmentalists (not including Dillard, who was not a member of Vanderbilt Recycles or SPEAR), and Linda Rosenkranz, assistant director of campus recreation and our dedicated advisor. At the time, Vanderbilt Recycles was created not as a tool of the administration designed to circumvent the Sierra Club but as a separate endeavor, led solely by a few students and Rosenkranz, to address a number of separate, concrete concerns on campus — most importantly, the disrepair of the current recycling system. Our new group also certainly did not receive funding and unconditional support from the administration. Our funding has always come from activity fee allocations and limited fundraiser activities, and we have often fought frustrating and seemingly losing battles in pushing for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design/Green Building certification, a cardboard baler on campus, room recycling bins and a permanent sustainability coordinator. When we changed our name to SPEAR from Vanderbilt Recycles in 2004, this reflected a broadening of our mission and focus from recycling to environmental sustainability as a whole, not an attempt to cover up any fictitious administration ties.

However, despite the frustration and setbacks we have experienced over the course of the past three and a half years, we have chosen an approach that has benefited our goals in the long

run and has resulted in increased trust by the administration of our honesty, dedication and desire to do what is best in the long-term interest of the university. We have achieved many of our most important goals, and we are reaching others through different avenues than we originally imagined simply by continuing discussions with the administration and working within their constraints. We are very proud of the success we have had, especially this semester, and it is insulting for anyone to assert that our progress has simply been the result of steadfast and unqualified support by the administration instead of the many hours of hard work and negotiation we have put into our cause.

By no means am I attempting to insinuate that providing a living wage to Vanderbilt’s employees is not in the best interest of the university, or that LIVE has acted inappropriately in its own endeavors. I wholeheartedly support LIVE’s goals and have done so for the duration of my college career at Vanderbilt. Our methods are different, and our missions and goals affect the university community in very different ways. Patience is sometimes much easier when we are dealing with overflowing recycling bins than with a dedicated employee who cannot feed and house her own family. A comparison between SPEAR and LIVE is difficult to make with accuracy and justice to either organization; however, falsely representing our organization’s own history to prove a point does nothing to help either group in their important work to make Vanderbilt a more just and sustainable university.

Jenny Magill
SPEAR President
Senior, Peabody College

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Alumnus responds to New York Times article

To the Editor:

As a Vanderbilt alumnus, the recent New York Times article is embarrassing. Why should I give any money to the university when it won’t pay its hardest-working workers a decent wage? In light of the \$6 million renovation of your home, it is not as if there is not enough money to go around. I question whether alumni contributions are being properly allocated to fulfill Vanderbilt’s mission. How this situation ever got out of hand such that it would even make it to The New York Times is appalling. I’m sure Chancellor Gee will agree with me that Vanderbilt does not have a plantation mentality and has no intention of perpetuating this view. The Times article, however, does nothing to dispel this notion for the rest of the nation. I’m proud to have graduated from this university, but this is not a proud day in Vanderbilt’s history or for the administration.

Please, no more corporate double-speak about the “almost infinite number of decisions about how to expend resources” that is Vanderbilt’s excuse for why the housekeepers, gardeners, etc. should not be paid more. It is

wholly unconvincing and lacks credibility and sincerity. The solution to this fiasco should be apparent, but inexplicably has yet to occur — Vanderbilt should pay these workers a decent wage by increasing their wages to meet or exceed the national average. Given that Gee is the third highest-paid university president in the nation, I think a comparable adjustment to these workers’ pay is sensible — put them at the top three percent of the national hourly wage scale for their positions. Alternatively, perhaps Alumni Relations can start a Low-Wage Workers Fund so that similarly concerned alumni and I can direct our alumni contributions directly to these workers to supplement their income.

On a final note, I’m suspending any current and future giving to the university until significant progress is made in this area, and I hope my fellow alumni will do the same and/or voice their comments to the administration.

I hope that Vanderbilt will do the right thing.

Ed Chin
A&S ’95

“

I’m suspending any current and future giving to the university until significant progress is made in this area, and I hope my fellow alumni will do the same and/or voice their comments to the administration.

”

Debate on LIVE's actions continues online

Of all the Vanderbilt Hustler articles posted on InsideVandy.com, a Nov. 17 article, "LIVE members interrupt Board of Trustees committee meeting," evoked some of the strongest student reactions. The following are excerpts from an ongoing conversation between students occurring on InsideVandy.com.

User: Debra Lewis

While I agree with LIVE's goals and think that we definitely need to take better care of Vanderbilt's employees, I have to say I strongly agree with Chancellor Gee's comments. That's not how you deal with an administration. It was extremely immature, and couldn't possibly have had a better response; no one, not even someone who had the exact same view as the interlopers, would agree to sign a petition presented in that fashion — it would appear weak and make other groups think they could always get the administration to capitulate through threats. I'm really interested in seeing what happens with the next meeting; I hope LIVE behaves in a more appropriate fashion, because this is a really, really important issue, and we need to get positive attention about it. LIVE needs to gain supporters, not turn people against them with histrionics.

User: mzerica

While this action may seem extreme for some individuals, people must keep in mind that this campaign has been going on for years. LIVE students have met with Vanderbilt officials, including Gordon Gee, as well as attended Young Alumni meetings to have their voice heard. Nonetheless, little progress has been made with this issue. At some point, a person must realize that meetings can only take you so far if no tangible progress has been seen. The interruption of the Board of Trust meeting was an unfortunate but necessary event to highlight the urgency of the situation.

User: stanlecr

I am glad to see Vanderbilt students being active for a cause. We have been accused of being passive and complacent in times past, and LIVE showed that protest and marches should still go on today. I think we need more progressives on campus who are willing to not only be a part of organizations they believe in but to also make their voices heard loud and clear. I do, however, know that the issue of living wage has only been presented in one way. What I would like to see is the administration's views on why changes for living wage have not occurred. I think then students will be able to weigh their beliefs having both sides of the issue. The administration has its reasons for not increasing wages, and I think it is time for the student body to be aware of them.

User: Michael Wilt

Ah yes, so whenever you don't get your way, just make up your own rules and do whatever you want. The fact is that there are procedures for addressing the board. Marching in on them is no way to handle it, and it doesn't get your point across. Chancellor Gee is absolutely correct. Coming into a meeting uninvited and threatening people, "demanding" that they sign a petition, is immature and it's reckless. But of course, it's what student activists are best at, and it's why they are laughed at and not taken seriously. And now the administration, quite frankly, shouldn't take them seriously ever again. A bunch of hooligans who can't be trusted to follow rules and procedures.

User: JHK

As mentioned in the (previous) posts, there is a time and a place for the use of "proper" channels. However, there is also a time when the use of these proper channels must be assessed. As students at Vanderbilt, it is time to evaluate these conventional avenues which some are so quick to recommend. When, for over four years, attempts have been made to be heard, when, for over four years, students have demanded the opportunity to engage in genuine dialogue and they have repeatedly been ignored, and when for over four years, workers have not been paid enough to survive, something MUST be done. The proper channels are simply not working.

THE RANT



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: opinion@vanderbilthustler.com

Compiled by Reeve Hamilton

"I can't stand the lazy people that live on the third floor who won't walk down two flights of stairs"

"It's so frustrating when teachers say there will only be 10 quizzes but then decide to give another one at the last minute."

"I hate sharing a mailbox with someone who never picks up their mail and has six bank statements and other random junk clogging the box."

"Does anyone else think it's unfair that we're stuck studying for exams while the real world is getting ready for Christmas?"

"I wish that the person who put a leopard-print bra on my door would reveal himself!"

"I hate the pressure of the holidays! Bah humbug!"

"I wish Stonehenge was open on the weekends."

"How many essays can one person be assigned?"

"I'm really sad this is the last Rant of the semester."

If Vanderbilt is the elite institution it claims to be, if it is worthy of the respect it demands, then over 300 workers employed by this institution should not be struggling to remain above the poverty line.

When the proper channels no longer work, it is not acceptable to be complacent, to wait. This is about people, people who cannot live on the wages they are earning. People who are struggling to feed themselves and their families, and it is about our responsibility as students to work toward establishing a more just institution.

User: Michael Wilt

I think comparing the civil rights struggle to the call for raising the wage a buck or so is not only intellectually dishonest, but also tactically unwise. No one will buy the comparison. There were legitimate issues, institutional issues, that were widespread across the entire South regarding Jim Crow laws, and they lasted for decades.

LIVE didn't get an e-mail returned and decided to interrupt a Board of Trust meeting. The administration has met with them on previous occasions. And, correct me if I am wrong, the wage has been increased previously due to pressure from the organization. So it's not like these "channels" haven't worked before.

I think this is silly, quite frankly. I agree the employees deserve a higher wage and the administration should listen to these concerns, but there is a time and place for it, and this doesn't rise to the level of civil disobedience. You've got to be kidding me. That does the names of Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, the Freedom Riders, and every civil rights activist of the 1950s and 1960s a great disservice.

User: sego pas sarko

It is not intellectually dishonest to compare this to civil rights, because this is a part of that struggle. As one of the speakers at LIVE's teach-in said, Vanderbilt's refusal to pay all of its employees fairly is a continuation of the plantation mentality. These workers are people, and they should be treated with respect and compensated adequately. This is not just one e-mail that went unanswered. This is four years of hard work to little avail. This is not something that can wait another four years while the administration thinks it over. This is something that affects these people every day of their lives.

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8	3	6	1	4	5	7	2	9
5	2	1	7	6	9	4	3	8
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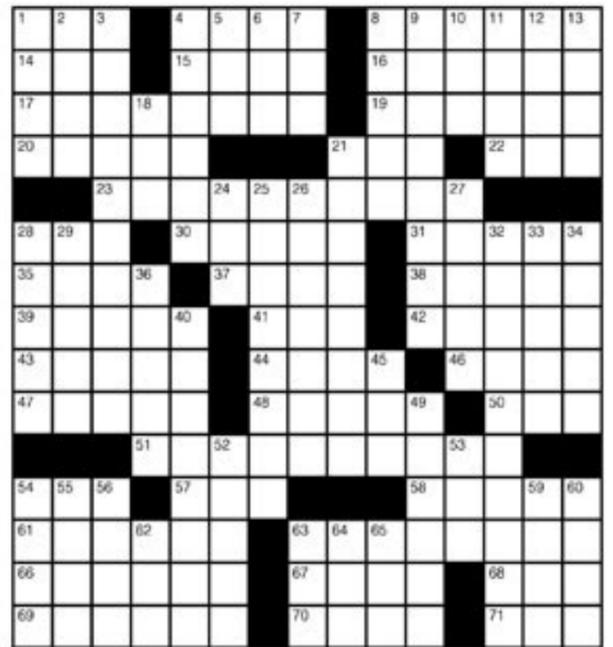
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Totality
 - 4 Quip
 - 8 Pinch pennies
 - 14 In days past
 - 15 Karamazov brother
 - 16 Full of trees
 - 17 Slothful person
 - 19 Temper
 - 20 Web locations
 - 21 GOP gathering
 - 22 Had supper
 - 23 Listening devices
 - 28 Avail oneself of
 - 30 Yippee!
 - 31 Leg joint
 - 35 Disencumbers
 - 37 Fades
 - 38 Stay sleeping
 - 39 Screen stars
 - 41 Permit to
 - 42 Technique
 - 43 Caine film
 - 44 Part of HOMES
 - 46 Bridge coup
 - 47 Judges weight by lifting
 - 48 Saki's real name
 - 50 Lacking cordiality
 - 51 Safe-deposit box location
 - 54 ISS partner
 - 57 Actor McKellen
 - 58 Wind-borne soil
 - 61 Called back
 - 63 Northeast African nation
 - 66 Gordon of "Oklahoma!"
 - 67 Metrical unit
 - 68 Back of the bus
 - 69 Take stock of
 - 70 Unfettered
 - 71 Cartoon scream
- DOWN**
- 1 Impudent words
 - 2 Citrus fruit
 - 3 Spoke impudently
 - 4 Picture puzzle
 - 5 Ms. Gardner
 - 6 Standard on the links
 - 7 Stop
 - 8 Proust character
 - 9 Hides
 - 10 Silver or Wood
 - 11 Mental impulse
 - 12 Coll. entrance exams
 - 13 Old-time journalist Ernie
 - 18 Thousand dollars
 - 21 On a perch
 - 24 June honoree
 - 25 New Testament book
 - 26 Four-bagger
 - 27 Annoying fits
 - 28 Bathsheba's husband
 - 29 Inch along
 - 32 Citric dessert
 - 33 Fragrant bloom
 - 34 Opponent
 - 36 Narrow openings
 - 40 Provençal verses
 - 45 Bobble the ball
 - 49 Seaside rock formation
 - 52 Burns wildly
 - 53 Tic-tac-toe win
 - 54 Columnist Bombeck
 - 55 Salty seven
 - 56 Curving courses
 - 59 Trig function
 - 60 Carrier bag
 - 62 Exist
 - 63 Studio apt.
 - 64 Rocky crag
 - 65 Weeding tool



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12/4/06

12/1/06 SOLUTIONS

A	B	E	D	F	E	T	E	D	A	C	R	E
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