

MEDIA

Administration prepares for impending WSJ article

Journal investigates university officials' spending habits.

By Glenna DeRoy
NEWS EDITOR

Administrators and members of the community are anticipating the publication of a Wall Street Journal article that is likely to examine how Vanderbilt is governed, specifically the spending habits of Chancellor Gordon Gee and the current administration.

A university official said Wall Street Journal reporter Joann Lublin has been working on the story and characterized the piece as an article about the "changing nature of corporate governance at nonprofit organizations and colleges." Lublin declined to comment on the content or date of publication of her article.

The article has been increasingly reported in other Nashville publications, most recently by Rex Noseworthy in his "Rex and the City" column in The City Paper.

Noseworthy said yesterday that the Vanderbilt administration is "marshalling the troops" in preparation for an anticipated Wall Street Journal article criticizing at least one higher administration official's spending habits.

According to Noseworthy, sources "close to the Vanderbilt Board of Trust" say school officials have been drawing on "support and overall good vibes for the school as a WSJ reporter continues to spend time in the city poking around."

Board members angry with the administration's "extravagant spending practices" are aiding the Wall Street Journal's investigation, Noseworthy reported.

Larry Brinton of Nashville's Channel 4 News also mentioned the upcoming Wall Street Journal article in his Aug. 2 "Word on the Street" column on the news channel's Web site.

"Vanderbilt raises millions and millions of dollars every year," Brinton said. "It is the spending that raised the interest of the Journal."

Brinton reported that Vanderbilt Board Chairman Martha Ingram sent a letter to 58 members and emeritus members of the Board of Trust in late July warning them about the impending story.

Keel Hunt, Ingram's press contact, said that Ingram was out of town and unable to comment on the article at this time.

Hunt said that he did not have a copy of the letter, but even if he did, he believes it was meant to be a communication from Ingram to

Please see WSJ, page 2

ADMINISTRATION

The Vandy Family Tree

While some members of Vanderbilt's family tree are well known around campus, others are rarely heard of, regardless of their importance to our everyday lives as students. The profiles below are designed to give you an inside look at Vanderbilt's administrators and their lives, on and off-campus.

By Sara Tabor
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

MICHAEL SCHOENFELD
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Michael Schoenfeld's main responsibility is to be the communications director and spokesman for Vanderbilt University.

However, Schoenfeld's real passion lies in music. He is involved in the Nashville music scene and has been working to get Vanderbilt more involved as well.

"When I was much younger, I thought that I might go into

the music industry," Schoenfeld said. "Coming to Nashville, I have been more able to connect to music."

When Vanderbilt recruited Schoenfeld 10 years ago, he was skeptical about making the move from Washington, D.C. to Nashville, Tenn.

"Why would I leave Washington?" he said. "It's the center of the universe."

However, after visiting



and enjoying their time in Nashville, the Schoenfelds decided to relocate.

DAVID WILLIAMS
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS
GENERAL COUNSEL
SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY

As vice chancellor for university affairs, David Williams is one of the most visible faces on campus. He controls athletics, the recreation center, risk management and conflict of interest, among other things.

Williams started his career as a professor, not an administrator, and he hopes to get back to teaching.

"I dislike the most that I am not teaching," Williams said. "At heart, I am a teacher."

Williams has four children and two grandchildren and feels that having children and working at a university go hand in hand.

"I find it so great working at a university because of the students and the youth environment," Williams said.



"The university makes me a better father, and being a father makes me better here."

The Chancellor

GORDON GEE
CHANCELLOR

Although students must feel that Chancellor Gordon Gee's bowtie collection has been on campus forever, he started his job just six years ago. Although Gee is most known for serving as president of five universities, he was also president of his high school student body and

the undergraduate student body at the University of Utah. "I believe that one should attempt to make a difference in the world, and I hope that the opportunities given to me have made some differences," Gee said.



The Vice Chancellors

BILL SPITZ
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR INVESTMENTS
TREASURER

As vice chancellor for investments and treasurer, Bill Spitz's main duty is to oversee Vanderbilt's \$3 billion endowment.

Spitz said that he preferred this job to his earlier career on Wall Street. He said that seeing students with scholarships and the buildings that are going up all around campus show the

fulfilling results of his job. "Working on Wall Street, I felt like I was just trading paper," Spitz said. "The returns on the endowment give me tangible results now."

Spitz recently announced his retirement, effective upon the appointment of a successor.



NICK ZEPPPOS
PROVOST
VICE CHANCELLOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

As provost, Nick Zeppos's responsibilities include overseeing the Student Financial Aid office, University Registrar, Career Center and ROTC program.

Zeppos said that he met his wife while he was in law school. "I first met her in the library

—where all provosts meet their spouses!" he said.

Zeppos and his wife have two teenage sons who spent most of their childhoods around the Vanderbilt campus.

"Our children literally 'grew up' on the campus," he said. "One of their favorite activities was to make waffles in Rand."



The Deans

DOUGLAS CHRISTIANSEN
DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

Douglas Christiansen, the new associate provost for enrollment and dean of admissions, began his job at the beginning of last month.

Christiansen said he was interested in Vanderbilt because of the investment the university is willing to make on behalf of its student body.

"Vanderbilt has a

commitment to undergraduate education," Christiansen said. "There are not many schools in the U.S. who are willing to fund things like the Commons and have a commitment to education."

Christiansen has been married to his high school sweetheart, Amy, for 17 years. He grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah, and like Chancellor



Gordon Gee, graduated from the University of Utah.

MARK BANDAS
DEAN OF STUDENTS

Mark Bandas was recently appointed associate provost and dean of students. Bandas's new responsibilities include housing and residential life, intercultural programs, student health and counseling, and student activities and events.

"Vanderbilt has a commitment to the education of the whole person," he said. "We want students to

take care of themselves, to make friends, to become good citizens and persons of integrity, to become leaders, to pursue their intellectual interests with passion and intensity and to enjoy their years at Vanderbilt," Bandas said.

Bandas said that he met his wife, Director of McTyeire International House Anja Bandas, in an unusual



circumstance—when he interviewed her for a position at Vanderbilt.

FRANK WCISLO
DEAN OF COMMONS

"I'm a dad, a husband, an historian of Russia, a writer, a professor, a teacher, a golfer, a scholar and a dean, among other things," said Frank Wcislo, the recently appointed dean of Commons.

Wcislo will reside in the Commons starting in 2008 and will also bring his wife, his 13-year-old twin daughters, a dog and a cat to the Peabody

campus. "As a professor, I've been lucky to have a job where the line between 'work' and 'hobbies' is not drawn all that firmly," Wcislo said.

As an undergraduate at the University of Michigan in 1969, Wcislo said he was there to witness the last Vanderbilt-Michigan game played at the Big House.



Do you even know your dean's name?
See page 3 to meet the academic deans of Vanderbilt's four undergraduate colleges.



Students wait to order dinner at the Pub on Tuesday night.

HENRY MANICE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

DINING

Long lines fail to deter Pub patrons

Vegetarian and healthy options draw more people.

By Sydney Wilmer
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Despite "longer than usual" lines and waits for food, students continue to come to the Pub in droves, said Supervising Employee Natalia Balina-Zborowska.

"I had to wait 37 minutes for my food, but I plan to come back," said freshman Joanne Lee, who eats at the Pub four or five times a week.

"Even though it took at least 20 minutes to get my food, I eat here on a regular basis," said freshman Alison Crawford. "It is the most delicious food on campus, and it has intimate seating and good music."

Lee and Crawford are not the only students that feel this way; when interviewed, four different students used the word "delicious" in reference to the Pub's food.

Freshman Rachna Patel admitted she was skeptical after two order mix-ups on her first visit, but she said that her "veggie quesadillas were yummy!"

Please see PUB, page 2

TELEVISION

Senior Donovan to compete on Wheel of Fortune

Episode to air later this fall.

By Kristen Chmielewski
SENIOR REPORTER

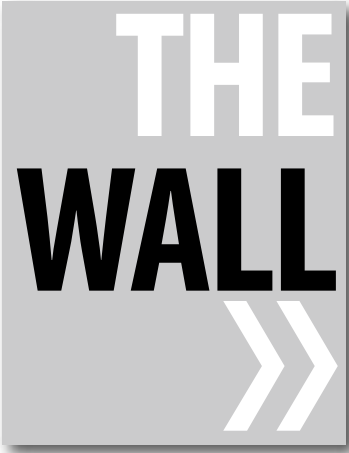
Senior Devin Donovan, president of Interhall, will participate in an episode of Wheel of Fortune in Los Angeles next Thursday, Sept. 14, to be aired on an undetermined date later this fall.

To prepare, Donovan has been watching previous tapings of the show, playing online occasionally and scheduling get-togethers to watch the show among friends and sorority sisters.

As an English major, Donovan has always enjoyed word games and fun with the English language, but in her opinion, "the whole experience is still surreal."

Since the show's format is Wheel of Fortune: College Edition, Donovan said that she will demonstrate her school spirit by wearing her Vandy sweatshirt to the show.

Please see WHEEL OF FORTUNE, page 3



NOTABLE VANDERBILT RESEARCH

In a large epidemiological study, researchers found that people who drank three or more servings of fruit and vegetable juices per week had a 76 percent lower risk of developing Alzheimer's disease than those who drank juice less than once per week.

The study by Vanderbilt's Qi Dai, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of Medicine, and colleagues appears in the September issue of The American Journal of Medicine.

Source: The Reporter, VUMC's publication

QUOTABLE

"I'm Katie Couric, thank you so much for watching, and I'll see you tomorrow night."

—Katie Couric's CBS Evening News sign-off after she debuted as the first woman to anchor a broadcast evening news program on her own last night. Couric joked about how to sign off her broadcast and asked viewers to log onto the CBS News Web site and send her suggestions.



AP Photo

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY
Sunny, 81/61

THURSDAY
Sunny, 84/63

FRIDAY
Mostly Sunny, 86/64

CORRECTION

The article, "Dores start strong, but lose in Big House," was incorrectly attributed to Nicole Floyd. The article was actually written by Sports Editor Jarred Amato. The Hustler regrets this error.

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Allison Smith

Interhall

Freshman Interhall elections will be today at 5 p.m. in Sarratt 357. Freshmen Elections — Sunday, Sept. 10 at 8 p.m., Freshman Dorms

Panhellenic Recruitment Registration

Formal Recruitment Registration will take place Sunday, Sept. 10, in the Student Life Center at 5 p.m. It is \$30 to register, cash or check. Make checks payable to Vanderbilt University.

Fulbright Scholarship

Completed applications for the Fulbright Scholarship competition are due in the Office of Honor Scholarships no later than Sept. 15. Vanderbilt alumni can also apply.

Outdoor Recreation Center

Last day to sign up for the following trips is Sept. 8. To sign up for a trip, you must come to the Outdoor Recreation Center, located on Children's Way behind the Student Recreation Center.

Climbing Trip — South Cumberland State Park is a beautiful place to climb, but climbing experience is recommended for this intermediate level trip. Most routes are 5.9 and up, so consult with the climbing instructors at the Wall if you are unsure of your level of climbing for this trip. Date of trip: Sept. 16. Estimated trip duration: 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Pre-trip meeting: Sept. 12 at 5 p.m.

Spelunking Trip — Espey Cave is an all-around good cave. It has nice formations, plenty of "breakdown," space to walk and places to crawl. Sturdy boots or shoes are recommended. Date of trip: Sept. 17. Estimated trip duration: 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Pre-trip meeting: Sept. 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Whitewater Rafting and Camping Trip — Whitewater rafting on the Ocoee River is packed with fun and excitement on back-to-back rapids! After camping out on Friday, we will be guided down the mighty Ocoee in rafts of 5 to 6 paddlers each. No experience is necessary. Date of trip: Sept. 22-23. Estimated trip duration: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Pre-trip meeting: Sept. 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Yearbook Portraits Extended

Portraits are being taken today in Sarratt 112 for the 2007 Commodore yearbook. Seniors should make appointments for senior portraits by visiting vanderbiltcommodore.com and clicking "take your student portrait." Freshmen, sophomores and juniors are encouraged to stop by any time between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. or between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. today or Thursday to sit for yearbook portraits, which only take a few minutes. There is no cost to sit for yearbook portraits. By doing so, students ensure their inclusion in the 2007 Commodore yearbook. Please email order@vanderbiltcommodore.com with any questions.

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

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Allison Smith

There was 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.

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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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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.

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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.

WSJ: Gee aware of article

From WSJ, page 1

the board members. When asked about the upcoming article during the Fall Faculty Assembly on Aug. 24, Gee said he was aware of the article and its emphasis on Vanderbilt.

Gee told faculty members the reporter focuses on the university for three reasons: Vanderbilt is one of the nation's great institutions, Gee is the first university president to leave another school and he is the longest sitting and highest paid president of a major university.

Noseworthy's column also referenced the Assembly, calling it "a rather shamelessly boosterish faculty meeting that ended on a pep rally kind of note."

"The point is this: We have become an institution that has become highly recognized for its innovation, for its creativity and for its aggressiveness, and we're going to be the poster child on

this," Gee said.

"Do I think it will say some good things about us? Yes. Do I think it will say some particularly irritating things for me? Absolutely. It will say that 'they bought him to come from Brown, they renovated his house, they paid him a lot of money. That was the reason that he came.'"

Gee reassured the faculty that Vanderbilt is a leading university, regardless of what the article contains.

"I want everyone here to know, whatever you read in that story, I don't know what it's going to say, but I want you to know, as I said on the day that I came here, I'm coming from an institution that's not nearly as good as it thinks it is to a university that is much better than it knows it is, and I want you to know that today we are a hell of a lot better than the institutions that I've served elsewhere, and I'm proud of what we're doing," he said. ■

PUB: New menu items increase meal prep time

From PUB, page 1

Ideally, the wait after ordering should be no longer than five to seven minutes, explained Balina-Zborowska, but the "new healthy and vegetarian options" draw more students to the Pub.

"We have more people on campus coming to eat here," she said.

But, as Balina-Zborowska explained, the wait is often determined by what a student orders.

"Students that order Squirrel Meals will get their food much faster than those who order the salmon filet or a panini," she said.

"It took about five minutes to get my food," said Grayson Sharpe. "The service was good."

"The pub used to only serve fast food, so it could be made quickly," Balina-Zborowska said.

Today, however, with a

more complex menu, varied preparations and wider selection, food preparations require more time.

While long lines are typical of the first month of school, Balina-Zborowska explained that the general clientele and atmosphere has changed in her seven years at the Pub.

"We used to have people who would stay here and study all night," she said.

Only within the last three years has the Pub become part of the regular meal plan.

Larger crowds have meant that this group of regulars has slowly disappeared.

"Now that we are on the meal plan, more people come through, so it is not the same," she said.

Nevertheless, Balina-Zborowska, applauded the changes, saying, "There needs to be more places for students to eat on campus." ■

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WHEEL OF FORTUNE: Interhall president auditions several times to appear on show

From WHEEL OF FORTUNE, page 1

Her candidacy originated from a visit to the Tennessee State Fair last August.

"My friend Ali Rakowski and I went to the fair last year and signed up alongside thousands of others for the chance to play a mock game of Wheel of Fortune," Donovan said. "The event appeared very organized and well orchestrated."

The two waited for up to four hours and filled out at least four cards worth of general information about themselves, but they were not selected as contestants.

In February, Donovan received an e-mail from the organization for a callback at the Opryland Hotel. She attended the second event and answered even more questionnaires regarding

her interests, hobbies and activities.

The audition slowly winnowed down the 250 other callbacks to 100, to 20 and to a final 10. The organizers informed the remaining 10 contestants that their selection as the finalists for that particular callback still did not guarantee them the opportunity to actually appear on the show.

"They told us that they could either take all 10 of us or only one of us for the show taping," says Donovan.

Donovan then received a letter three weeks later requesting a reply within 24 hours as to whether she could fly out to Los Angeles for a taping on Sept. 14.

Donovan agreed to attend the taping but said, "I still stored it away. I'll believe it when I see it." ■

From ADMINISTRATION, page 1

Meet the Undergraduate Academic Deans

CAMILLA BENBOW
DEAN OF PEABODY COLLEGE



Dean Camilla Benbow has always been involved in scholastic life and is now the dean of Peabody College, but what many students do not realize is that she has also raised a family of seven children, ranging in age from 18 to 30.

While Benbow said "her family is her hobby," she said she also enjoys gardening,

reading, crochet, cross stitch and traveling.

Benbow's psychology research has been in the area of talent development, an area she believes many students at Vanderbilt may be familiar with.

"Many students participated in talent searches in 7th and 8th grade," Benbow said. "Universities are about developing talents as well; I enjoy being dean because I see it as a way to develop talent."

KENNETH GALLOWAY
DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



Kenneth Galloway, dean of the School of Engineering, is the only undergraduate dean to have actually graduated from Vanderbilt University.

Before returning to his alma mater, Galloway worked at three other universities and two government laboratories. He said that he shares his love of Vanderbilt

through a commitment to his job.

"I am really proud of the faculty and students in the School of Engineering and of the terrific things that are happening in the school's classrooms and research laboratories," he said.

ART EXHIBIT



Courtesy of AMY BRODERICK

First exhibit of the year displayed at Sarratt gallery

'Drawings by Amy Broderick' opens Thursday.

By Darcy Newell
ASST NEWS EDITOR

The Sarratt Visual Arts Committee, a student-run organization that promotes student interest in the arts, is releasing its first exhibit this week for display in the Sarratt Art Gallery.

Sarratt's debut exhibit will showcase south Florida artist Amy Broderick. "Drawings by Amy Broderick," a series of charcoal, graphite and ink drawings up to 111 inches in height, will be on display in Sarratt throughout the month of September.

"Drawings by Amy Broderick" will kick off Thursday at 5 p.m. with a Gallery Talk with the artist, followed by a reception until 7 p.m.

In this collection, Broderick combines image with text, covering her art with statements from propaganda, current events, poetry and books such as George Orwell's "1984."

"Amy Broderick is very talented at manipulating rebellious texts, creating something tangible to get

the students' attention," said Bridgette Kohnhorst, director of SVAC. "We thought this would be a great scholastic theme to start the year off with."

"For this coming year, we decided to choose really large-scale art that would attract a lot of people, but we specifically chose Amy because her content is really rich," said senior Eric Smith, co-chair of SVAC.

The committee is in charge of issuing national calls to artists, receiving and installing submitted work and advertising the exhibits.

"Working with SVAC really gives students the opportunity to multitask the way they would in a professional gallery," said Kohnhorst. "They are truly the spokespersons for the organization."

The Sarratt Art Gallery has been in existence since 1974, and since its inception, it has offered the Vanderbilt community a variety of local and national art.

Memorable exhibits from last year include John Fenske's paintings of Fisher Price toys and Lindsay Obermeyer's sweater sculptures. ■

RICHARD McCARTY
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE



Richard McCarty is in charge of recruiting faculty, retaining faculty and working with colleagues on graduate and undergraduate education in the College of Arts and Science. In addition, McCarty is involved with the Visions program and teaches a

first-year writing seminar.

McCarty enjoys working at Vanderbilt and said that one of his favorite things about the school is its intermediate size.

"I like the size of the university," McCarty said. "It allows a lot of contact between faculty, administrators and students."

McCarty grew up in Portsmouth, Va., and married his high school sweetheart soon after graduation. McCarty and his wife have four children, four grandchildren and a cat.

"My wife has a cat," McCarty said. "I tolerate the cat."

MARK WAIT
DEAN OF THE BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC



One would expect Mark Wait, dean of the Blair School of Music, to be a musical man. In fact, he is a classical pianist, educated at Wichita State University, Kansas State University and Johns Hopkins University.

However, the rest of Wait's family is just as musically inclined, as his wife plays piano and his 14-year-old

daughter plays the electric bass.

Wait's love for music and Blair is evident in the way he talks about the teachers and the programs associated with the school.

"I think it is important that people know that the Blair School of Music has some great teachers," Wait said. "Some of these Blair classes are a great part of a Vanderbilt education. Blair has these courses to show how much music contributes to our school and our society."

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WED	9:30AM	12 noon	4:30PM	6:00PM	7:30PM
THUR	6:00AM	12 noon	4:30PM	6:00PM	
FRI	9:30AM	12 noon	4:30PM		
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TECHNOLOGY

Program allows legal downloads

ITS sees no problem with student access to software.

By Dewi Billano
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Vanderbilt students no longer have reason to bemoan the university policy banning them from the usage of illegal downloading services that boast free MP3s to their clients.

This holiday season, Universal Music is giving the gift of free—and legal—music by relying completely on advertising revenues for profit. According to a New York Times article, the new service, named SpiralFrog, aims to present a formidable threat to iTunes, which has staked a lucrative claim on the music industry.

Despite Apple's reign in the musical realm, piracy has not diminished significantly since the appearance of iTunes. According to the article, there are 40 illegal downloads for every legal online music purchase.

SpiralFrog will enable its clientele to download infinite Universal songs to their computers and iPods by using advertising from big-name companies such as Perry Ellis, Levi's Jeans and Aeropostale.

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Information Technology Services Matt Hall supports SpiralFrog as a legitimate downloading agent.

"If there are people that can pay the artists on this

label, and people can get music the way they expect to, I think everyone wins," Hall said.

However, Hall said that students should hesitate to use the new service. More importantly, they should remain wary of heavy advertising they are liable to endure and the fact that Universal is using SpiralFrog as a self-promotion device.

"This is a studio label, or labels, trying to push their own property," he explains. "You're limiting yourself to just their properties."

Junior Ryan Churchill agreed, saying that he isn't ready to jump at the chance to download music off of SpiralFrog just because it bears no monetary price tag.

"If SpiralFrog uses SpyWare, which it probably will, I'll most likely end up just sticking with Napster," he explained.

However, some students, like sophomore Kirk Dyer, said they don't mind buying music off iTunes. She also said she thinks the new software is cause for concern for artists.

"I'd have to check the credentials of this program first," Dyer said. "After I took a business music class here, I started feeling guilty. I'd want to make sure the artists are getting substantially paid."

"It just seems too good to be true," said sophomore Sarah Edmond. "I want to know what the catch is." ■



TODAY
2006



VUSR/P/SyBBURE PRESENTATIONS

Students, faculty, staff and guests are invited to view poster presentations of the research accomplishments of this year's participants in both the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Program (VUSR/P), and the Systems Biology/Bioengineering Undergraduate Research Experience (SyBBURE). The VUSR/P and SyBBURE fellows, presenting research spanning the full range of academic disciplines within the undergraduate curriculum, will be on hand to discuss their research.

COMMODORE BALLROOM, STUDENT LIFE CENTER
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2006, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

Serving Light Refreshments

OPINION



ALLISON MALONE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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JARRED AMATO, SPORTS EDITOR

MONIKA BLACKWELL, LIFE EDITOR

JONATHAN DIETZ, PHOTO EDITOR

OUR VIEW

Greek system offers more than just parties

Recently, there has been much discussion about the Greek system in the opinion pages of The Hustler. Two guest columns and one letter to the editor have said that the Greek community promotes underage drinking and contributes to a culture conducive to rape. We believe that fraternities and sororities make significant contributions to campus that often go unacknowledged; however, we realize that it is not a perfect system.

According to the mission statement on Vanderbilt's Greek Life Web site, "students are encouraged to place equal emphasis on the philanthropic, educational, personal development and social aspects of membership in a Greek organization." While the social scene may be the most visible component of Greek life to most of the campus, there are three other aspects that Greek organizations concentrate on during the majority of hours not spent hosting parties: philanthropic, educational and personal development.

Prime examples of Greek philanthropic efforts will be exhibited this month. The National Panhellenic Council hosted a speaker last night to address health care disparities as part of NPHC Week. Alpha Delta Pi will be hosting their annual fundraiser "Diamonds in the Delta," to benefit the Ronald McDonald House, the first of the series of benefits that each sorority hosts every fall. Kappa Alpha Theta, Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Delta Delta Delta are working together to host an event to support Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, CASA and the American Cancer Society. Other fraternities and sororities will be hosting even more philanthropic events as the semester continues, just as they do every year.

This does not mean that the parties provided by Greek organizations do not, on occasion, get out of control. It does not mean "CEOs and Business Hos" or "Principals and Schoolgirls" are appropriate themes for parties, but, the crimes committed this semester were not committed by the Greek system, so it should not bear responsibility for the acts.

Ultimately, fraternities and sororities are an integral part of Vanderbilt. The Greek system is a great way to get involved with philanthropic work. Many leaders of campus organizations are Greek. The system may have some problems, but we believe Greeks at Vanderbilt are working to fix them. Greeks should be cognizant of the problems that are prominent on campus and their relation to the party scene, but they do not deserve to take the blame alone. After all, they do a lot more for Vanderbilt than provide parties.

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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EDITORIAL CARTOON



Don Wright — KRT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fraternity members are community leaders

To the Editor:

Articles like Kyle Larson's "Pride in greek party scene misplaced" are often hard to read. The striking lack of exposure to the scope of what fraternities and sororities provide to their members and to Vanderbilt is the fault of Greek organizations. It's easy to understand why we get labeled as 'drinking clubs' when parties are one of our most visible activities, and anytime one of us messes up, it makes headline news in The Hustler. Greeks often don't make it a priority to share all of our activities with the campus community, and that's a problem I'm going to try to correct.

My fraternity requires that all of its members be members of another campus organization. We are extremely involved in nearly every part of university life – from SGA and VPB to varsity athletics. We network

the organizations our members are involved in to pull off cosponsored events, creating synergies within the campus community. In my fraternity alone, there are officers in roughly 20 different student organizations and there are over 80 student organizations represented. Fraternities embrace the university community; we don't isolate ourselves from it.

We also pursue academic excellence. The all fraternity GPA of 3.215 is above the all men's campus average of 3.171. Sororities have an average GPA of 3.426, which is also above the all women's average 3.35. Several of Vanderbilt's Greek organizations have been recognized as top chapters in their national organizations.

Needless to say, every fraternity and sorority is held accountable for pulling its

weight. Last year, Vanderbilt introduced 30 new standards that all Greek organizations must meet. The standards range from a minimum average 3.0 GPA to sponsoring at least four educational programs, one philanthropy event, one community service event and participation in a campus wide community service event by at least 65 percent of the chapter membership. Kappa Sigma raised over \$30,000 last year for their charity – more than a thousand dollars per member. That is a phenomenal accomplishment, and they should be applauded.

Furthermore, while the primary and most important purpose of a fraternity is to intensify and perpetuate meaningful friendships that last a lifetime, fraternities also serve as incubators of leadership. My fraternity chapter has 35 leadership positions – yes, 35.

Presidents and executive board members make a conscious effort to align and empower members to take leadership roles that suit their talents and passions. Presidents would drown and fraternities would fail if they didn't. I can think of few other opportunities on campus to learn these extremely valuable skills that will last a lifetime – you certainly won't learn them in the classroom.

It is this nature and dynamic of fraternities that makes them so valuable to Vanderbilt, because the leadership skills members learn in their fraternities carry over into their involvement in other student organizations, propelling both the Greek system and Vanderbilt on their mutual quest for greatness.

Jeff Moredock
Senior, Arts & Science
President of Sigma Phi Epsilon

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Article ignores protection of most important possession

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to the article on the latest trend of off-campus burglaries. I was disappointed to see that the focus of the article was on locking doors to protect your belongings, not yourself.

Students living off campus who do not lock their doors are putting themselves at a more serious risk than simply having their belongings stolen.

Unfortunately, this lesson was made painstakingly clear to me when I received a phone call this past May informing me that my high school friend and classmate, Tiffany Souers, had been raped and strangled in her off-campus apartment near Clemson University. She had decided to stay at Clemson for the summer since she had just been offered a position on the Board of Directors for a local charity, and she was hoping to complete her rigorous engineering degree in just four years as opposed to the typical five. Within a couple of weeks, police had determined that Jerry Buck Inman, a convicted rapist with a violent criminal record,

was the main suspect, based on DNA evidence. How exactly did Inman gain access to her ground floor apartment? While her other three roommates were out of town for the Memorial Day weekend, Tiffany had left the sliding door unlocked – an innocent act that many of us may do from time to time, but this time proved to be a fatal mistake for her.

The news of Tiffany's death was devastating, as she was a smart, hardworking student who cherished her family, friends and sorority sisters, who volunteered selflessly and who loved her college lifestyle. However, I found this news especially chilling because it could have just as easily have happened to me or to one of my friends. And it is frustrating to think that the criminal could have been deterred had she taken 30 seconds to check her locks before she went to sleep. Ironically, Tiffany and her friend had been discussing this very issue of locking doors that night at dinner, just hours before she was murdered. Tiffany said that she was not concerned about locking her door because

if someone really wanted her \$100 TV, they could have it.

Students believe that burglaries are an annoyance, but a trivial one, since material objects can be replaced. However, we need to be vigilant about locking our doors at night to protect ourselves from intruders who may want more than our laptops. After all, Inman was from Tennessee, and authorities did not even realize that he had arrived in the state of South Carolina when he went on his weeklong spree of preying on vulnerable women. It scares me to think what may have happened if Inman had decided to drive westward instead. Inman did not steal a laptop or television in the middle of the night; he robbed the world of an inspirational person who accomplished more in her 20 years than many people can in a lifetime.

Not a day goes by that I don't think of Tiffany and how unfair it is that a person who referred to himself as a "sick animal" robbed her of her life. Take the time to lock your doors – electronics and bicycles can be replaced, but I do not want to lose another

classmate with so much potential and life left to live.

Kristin Hoevel
Junior, Arts & Science



Students believe that burglaries are an annoyance, but a trivial one, since material objects can be replaced. However, we need to be vigilant about locking our doors at night to protect ourselves from intruders who may want more than our laptops. ”

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Recent 'party scene' grievances misplaced

To the Editor:
Consider me confused. The two recent letters to the editor, "Pride in Greek party scene is misplaced" and "Larson's views on party scene not a minority," written by Kyle Larson and Nicholas Snyder, respectively, seem to be grouping together a few distinctly different trends that affect our lives as students here at Vanderbilt. To be clear, these separate categories are the "Greek party scene," "the general party scene on and off campus" and "campus violence."

I, for one, would like to understand why the Greek party scene is under attack for actions that occurred off campus. I would not have a problem with any of the statements in Snyder's letter had Greeks not been implied. However, that is not the case, and therefore, I feel compelled to rebut the false assumptions and incorrect implications submitted by my fellow engineering student, Nicholas Snyder.

Snyder and Larson do not seem to have been sent the same "security alert" e-mails as the ones I received from Andrew Atwood. After reviewing the "recent security alerts involving rape," which are "a reminder of the negative consequences that are a result of the 'party

scene,'" (according to Snyder) I would venture this educated guess: the two men recently arrested for theft have no affiliations with Greek organizations here on campus. Also, according to the security alert, "The victim, a student, stated she and her roommate met two male subjects at a club downtown." Nowhere in the alert was any Greek organization mentioned.

Considering these facts, I find the blanket statements submitted by Snyder to be grossly misleading. It is one thing to condemn underage drinking on campus. I am not arguing against that. It is one thing to denounce campus violence. It is entirely another issue, however, when one implies that Greek organizations are the source of these problems, especially when the facts lead elsewhere.

It seems to me that at the beginning of each academic year here at Vanderbilt, a slew of unfortunate incidents occur, and some people on campus take these incidents as opportunities to decry the Greek system and its existence at Vanderbilt. Some of these events do unfortunately occur as a result of on-campus fraternity parties, but the recent incident to which this letter is dedicated does not by any



It is one thing to condemn underage drinking on campus [and]...to denounce campus violence. It is entirely another issue, however, when one implies that Greek organizations are the source of these problems..."

means fall in this category. I would like to submit to Snyder and Larson the same piece of advice that my freshman year computer science teacher gave me after I requested a re-grade on a midterm: "Please select your battles wisely, and do something more productive with your time."

**Michael Scherer
Senior, School of Engineering**

THE VERDICT

The opinion staff passes judgement on everything inside the bubble and out.

Stingrays		It may have been a freak accident, but killing the Crocodile Hunter may be unforgivable.
Facebook		It's cool that the new "News Feed" feature allows you to stalk every move your friends make, but it's not cool that they can do it to you, too.
Employees		Considering it is Employee Appreciation Month, what else could we do?
Labor Day		Vanderbilt is one of the few places this would get the thumbs down. If they want to change that, they should give us the day off.
Katie Couric		Made debut as first woman to anchor a network evening newscast by herself. If anyone can pull CBS Evening News out of third, she can.
Suri Cruise		Makes photographic debut today, but who honestly cares? Everyone knows she's fake, anyway.
Andre Agassi		Ends 21-year career a winner, no matter what the scoreboard said.
Lung Problems		Most World Trade Center recovery workers have them now. Life really is not fair.

COLUMN

Increasing amount of political argument resorts to personal attack, not logic

Ad hominem attacks are all too common in political discourse. One of my favorites - often thrown at me in response to my articles - is the



logically absurd assertion, "you're stupid because I disagree with you." Nothing like a personal attack to spice up your argument! This is how to win an argument without logic or effort. As group polarization has pushed our views to one extreme or the other, we yell and scream at each other, but we never work together to convince one another of the logical nature of our side.

Since the 2000 election, this country has grown incredibly polarized. One would have hoped that after 9/11, we would have changed our outlook and remained united. We did anything but that.

Now it is commonplace, both on TV and, alas, at Vanderbilt, that forcefully arguing your beliefs doesn't always entail doing so intelligently without character attacks. If our society doesn't learn how to get back to discourse that actually informs and persuades, we will fail in our mission of upholding the world's greatest democracy.

Increasingly, American political discourse has become shriller and advocates more transparent. Since we at Vanderbilt are all intelligent people, we should strive to break that mold and rise to a higher level of discourse, so that we argue real issues and facts. We don't have to agree on everything; that is the beauty of democracy. It is far more harmful to a democratic society to have a populace uninformed and unable to argue coherently and cogently. That is my



We yell and scream at each other, but we never work together to convince one another of the logical nature of our side."

greatest fear for this country: we are degenerating to talk shows on cable and "American Idol." People have lost their ability to intelligently do anything that requires more than flipping the channel button on the remote.

We need to confront this issue of ignorance, and I speak to both liberals and conservatives here. I know both sides don't agree on much right now, but there is room for agreement on some things. We can compromise and see eye to eye on certain issues. I would hope that, given the world we live in today with a nuclear North Korea, an aspiring nuclear Iran, Al-Qaeda terrorists, the mounting problem of illegal immigration, and other dangerous situations in which we find ourselves, we can come together and try to change the way we debate issues. As for the left, I think, having been out of power for

so long, the absurdity of certain elements (not the entire ideology) is more and more apparent. On the right of the spectrum, those in power have become complacent and unable to hold that power responsibly, disappointing those of us who enthusiastically elected them. No matter where you look, you see argumentation at an all-time low.

I don't profess to know the solution, and I don't think that it'll come overnight. All I can hope is that, at least here in our little world of Vanderbilt, we can try to be different from people on MSNBC and FOXNews, and rather than throwing firebombs about how stupid (or any other insult without content you can think of) one another is, we can actually talk about the issues. That means learning to disagree respectfully, of course, but also learning how to argue one's point in a manner befitting intelligence and not sophistry.

—Michael Wilt is a senior in the College of Arts and Science.

Thanks to our Staff!

THANKS to all of our INCREDIBLE staff for their dedicated years of service to Vanderbilt University & Vanderbilt Dining

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7 P.M.
SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2006
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PROGRAM DATES:
30 JUNE – 8 AUGUST 2007

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SPORTS

NCAA changes the rules

Our writers discuss whether the new rules designed to make games shorter are good for college football.

GOOD CALL BAD CALL

By Andrew Hard
SPORTS REPORTER

The new rule concerning running the clock at the ready-for-play signal is good for college football because it speeds up the games and allows them to possibly be completed in less than three hours.

While this may be bittersweet for fans attending games, it keeps the TV networks happy because games fit into their allotted time slots, and without the networks, where would the money be in college football?

This rule greatly benefits teams with powerful running games and the ability to control the ball on offense. In the Southeastern Conference, where powerful running games and strong defenses rule the roost, 10 to 15 plays per game will be cut.

Also consider that in defensive struggles there will be many more punts per game, and the start of the clock on changes of possession will eliminate even more plays.

What this eventually means is an advantage for underdog teams (as Vanderbilt sometimes is) because it shortens the two-minute drill, where a more experienced, quicker offense could take advantage of a weaker defense to score at the end of a half or game.

This rule forces teams to conserve their timeouts and practice smarter clock management; as we saw in the Florida State-Miami game, it allows the leading

team to run more clock at the end of the game because an additional 25 seconds will run off on first down.

The second significant rule change allowing a coach one instant replay challenge eliminates the possibility of what is the most absurd practice in professional football: running quickly up the line of scrimmage after a controversial play and snapping the ball before the replay officials have a chance to take a look.

College football allows official review in all 60 minutes, as last year, but now a coach has the option of challenging a play before the replay officials get a chance to look at it (and before the other team snaps the ball), if he feels that it will strongly affect the outcome of the game.

This rule may also come in handy if the officials opt not to review at all, as in last year's Florida-Vanderbilt game when Chris Leak's knee was apparently down on a fourth-and-one touchdown run but not reviewed.

The trick is knowing when to use the challenge wisely, because each team is only allotted one and a timeout will be wasted if the challenge is unsuccessful.

With the new clock rules, conserving timeouts is as important as ever in college football, and with any luck, these new rule changes will help teams and coaches play smarter, more precise football at critical junctures of the game. ■

By Harish Krishnamoorthi
SPORTS REPORTER

The NCAA has clearly made a judgment error in implementing its new rules. It unfairly punishes underdogs, adds unnecessary rules and is slowly taking away the tradition of the game.

Consider, for instance, the Florida-Vanderbilt game last year, when Jay Cutler led the Commodores on two late fourth-quarter drives to tie the game and take it to overtime.

If the new rules were in place last year, Vanderbilt would not have had an opportunity to send it to overtime, because the few plays to tie the game could not have happened. While the result would have most likely been the same, how can the NCAA deprive the fans of that half hour of sheer excitement in such a close game?

The Notre Dame-USC game would have given the Fighting Irish the victory had the new rules been in place. Are come-from-behind victories going to disappear?

The rule change causing the most concern for coaches is that it reduces the total time of the games. Starting the clock immediately after

a kick and starting the clock when the ball is spotted after a change of possession will reduce the total number of plays that a team can execute.

With the reduction of time also comes the reduction of numbers. Records will have different meanings now. So many fewer plays mean so many fewer yards, and so many fewer yards means that surpassing college football records will be much more difficult. The accumulated "missing" plays would equal one game over an entire season, and now single season records may be impossible to break.

In addition to the fact that the referees review every play in the top booth, the coaches are given one challenge each. On the surface, this seems to be a redundant addition. Underneath, it is a redundant addition.

In an effort to shorten games, the coaches' challenge will actually increase the total time of the games, contradictory to the NCAA's goals.

It is time that the NCAA stops trying to change the game, when the majority only objects to the BCS system. Game lengths are just fine, and tampering with them will only increase resentment for the association. ■

What's different in 2006

By Jarred Amato
SPORTS EDITOR

- The clock starts almost immediately after a team makes a first down.

- The clock starts on a kickoff as soon as the ball leaves the kicker's foot. In the past, the clock didn't start until the receiver caught or fielded the ball.

- The clock starts on a change of possession when the ball is marked "ready for play," not when it is snapped.

- Each team is given one on-field coaching challenge a game, so as long as it has at least one timeout. If the coach wins the challenge, he will not lose a timeout. If he loses, his team will be charged a timeout. In the past, all replays had to be signaled for by an official in a booth high atop the stadium.

- Kickers are required to use a one-inch tee on kickoffs, rather than a two-inch tee. Less loft generally causes fewer touchbacks.

- Halftimes can be less than 20 minutes if both teams agree before the game. Last year, 20 minutes was the minimum.

- If a team scores a touchdown with no time left in the fourth quarter to win the game, it is not required to attempt an extra point. ■

FOOTBALL

Scouting the Schedule

A quick look at the 11 teams remaining on Vanderbilt's schedule in 2006

By Andrew Hard
SPORTS REPORTER



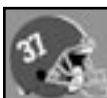
TEMPLE SEPTEMBER 30
Last Year's Record: 0-11

2005 was nothing short of abysmal, as Temple lost all 11 games by an average of 35 points. The Owls are coming off their first winless season since 1959 and are ready to begin a new era under first-year head coach Al Golden. Senior tailback Tim Brown returns after being academically ineligible in 2005.



at DUKE OCTOBER 28
Last Year's Record: 1-10, 0-8 ACC

Duke has won just once in the ACC since 2003 and is only five years removed from its last winless season. Its defense was nothing short of a pushover in 2005, giving up an average of 37 points per game. Sophomore quarterback Zack Asack showed promise in six starts, throwing for five touchdowns and rushing for two more. However, the Blue Devils are still years away from possible bowl contention in the increasingly talented ACC.



at ALABAMA SEPTEMBER 9
Last Year's Record: 10-2, 6-2 SEC

The Crimson Tide's defense carried them to a 9-0 start in 2005 and an impressive Cotton Bowl victory over Texas Tech. Alabama replaces seven starters on defense, but the biggest questions are on offense, where sophomore quarterback John Parker Wilson (11 career pass attempts) replaces three-year starter Brodie Croyle. Senior wide receiver Tyrone Prothro should ease the burden and help Alabama contend against LSU and Auburn for the SEC West title.



at OLE MISS OCTOBER 7
Last Year's Record: 3-8, 1-7 SEC

University of Tennessee transfer Brent Schaeffer will be under center in an attempt to resurrect a Rebels offense that averaged only 13 points per game in 2005. Mississippi's defense struggled with inconsistency, allowing fewer than 10 points in its three wins but over 24 in seven of eight losses. This, along with a dreadful rushing attack, has to improve if the Rebels are to contend for a bowl bid.



FLORIDA NOVEMBER 4
Last Year's Record: 9-3, 5-3 SEC

New coach Urban Meyer revitalized Florida's offense with his "spread" formation and the Gators responded with the SEC's third highest passing offense in 2005. Hoping to build off that success and return to the SEC title game is senior quarterback Chris Leak, who comes off a 26 touchdown campaign. Meyer has set his expectations even higher for this season as the Gators are poised to make a run at the national championship.



ARKANSAS SEPTEMBER 16
Last Year's Record: 4-7, 2-6 SEC

One bright spot for the Razorbacks in 2005 was their rushing, best in the SEC and No. 12 in the nation. Led by freshman Darren McFadden, Arkansas rushed for an average of 217 yards per game and 19 total touchdowns. Nineteen out of 22 starters return for Houston Nutt's team, but with questions at QB, a 6-win season and a bowl berth is no guarantee.



at GEORGIA OCTOBER 14
Last Year's Record: 10-3, 6-2 SEC

Georgia shocked everyone by crushing LSU in the SEC Championship in 2005, but lost in Atlanta to an upstart West Virginia team in the Sugar Bowl, 38-35. Thomas Brown and Danny Ware return to lead a rushing attack that ranked third in the SEC at 162 yards per game. If the Bulldogs want to win the SEC East, a win tomorrow night at South Carolina would be a great start.



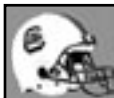
at KENTUCKY NOVEMBER 11
Last Year's Record: 3-8, 2-6 SEC

While Kentucky coach Rich Brooks may be lucky to have his job going into the 2006 season, the 'Cats may have to win more than three games for him to keep it. They could just have the running attack to do that, with senior Rafael Little coming off a 1,000 yard season and sophomore Alfonso Smith proving to be an outstanding backup in spring practice. While Florida, Tennessee and Georgia won't be scared by senior quarterback Andre Woodson, Kentucky should prove to be a much more formidable opponent in 2006.



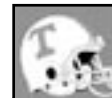
TENNESSEE STATE SEPTEMBER 23
Last Year's Record: 2-9, 1-6 OVC

Tennessee State needs more productivity on offense in order to improve on a 2-9 record in 2005. The Tigers scored in single digits five times last year, including three home losses by a combined 103 points. Quarterback Richard Hartman returns after throwing four touchdowns and eight interceptions in 2005.



SOUTH CAROLINA OCTOBER 21 (HOMECOMING)
Last Year's Record: 7-5, 5-3 SEC

The Gamecocks were revitalized in 2005 under new coach Steve Spurrier and expect to contend for the SEC East crown against perennial powers Florida and Tennessee. Wide receiver Sidney Rice teams with Earl Bennett atop the All-SEC squad, but his 6-foot-4-inch frame is only effective if junior quarterback Blake Mitchell can keep the ball out of opponents' hands. Senior tailback Cory Boyd is back from a yearlong suspension and will try to add some punch to South Carolina's rushing attack.



TENNESSEE NOVEMBER 18
Last Year's Record: 5-6, 3-5 SEC

Coming off its poorest season in Philip Fulmer's tenure, Tennessee looks to rebound behind four new offensive coaches and a renewed confidence in junior quarterback Erik Ainge. Sophomore running back Arian Foster comes off an outstanding second half of 2005 in which he ran for 879 yards and five touchdowns. Fulmer can once again rely on his defense, the one bright spot from last season. Expect the Volunteers to be hungry for the SEC East crown.

FOOTBALL

After loss, Johnson has time to reflect

Coach 'confident' that Nickson can lead offense

By Franklin Petr
SPORTS REPORTER

Now that Michigan has come and gone, Bobby Johnson must reflect back on the first game and plan a course of action.

The Commodores had a better game than many in the nation expected, though some of that was because Michigan was playing its first game with brand-new coordinators on both sides of the ball.

Johnson was able to voice his thoughts on the game this past Monday at his weekly press conference in the McGugin Athletic Center.

While one of the most pressing issues Vanderbilt must address is its inability to run the football, Johnson was quick to point out that starting tailback Cassen Jackson-Garrison was not even three weeks removed from an emergency appendectomy when he rushed for two yards on eight carries.

"(We had some players who) missed practice a lot. They just weren't as sharp as they could be and I think that really was the case with Cassen," Johnson said.

But Johnson did not make excuses. He admitted that Michigan's defense played extremely well against the run, effectively eliminating the dual threat posed by quarterback Chris Nickson.

The Commodores should expect more of



Redshirt sophomore Sean Walkers tries to gain more yards after the catch in Vanderbilt's 27-7 loss at Michigan Saturday.

the same not only on Saturday but in every Southeastern Conference game.

"Alabama is going to be physical; they are going to be fast on defense," Johnson said. "That is what we are going to see all year so we might as well get used to it."

As Vanderbilt prepares for Alabama this weekend, Johnson said he is confident in quarterback Chris Nickson's ability to lead the offense.

"We think he can make all the throws that we want him to make in our offense, and he can certainly handle the run game and we are looking forward to him making some big plays that way," Johnson said. "We're still very confident that we can do some great things on offense with Chris (Nickson)."

Against Michigan, Nickson was constantly trying to elude defenders and rarely had time to sit back in the pocket, and although his statistics may appear discouraging, Johnson remembered what it was like during the beginning of the Jay Cutler era.

"You go back and look at young quarterbacks I've had through my career, and even Jay had a bunch of trouble early in his career," Johnson said. "He probably made bigger errors than Chris did (Saturday)."

Although Nickson fumbled twice, Johnson said he does not want to focus too much on

that aspect of the quarterback's performance.

"You don't want to harp on it and harp on it so he forgets about the other things he needs to do," Johnson said.

On the opposite side of the ball, middle linebacker Jonathon Goff had a career day. Goff was quick to the ball and hard-hitting against Michigan's run-heavy offense, racking up 14 total tackles and 12 solo, both career highs.

"(Goff) did everything. He was good in his pass drops, he was good against the run," Johnson said. "He blocked that field goal. He tipped another extra point. He is the kind of guy who makes plays for you."

The rest of the Vanderbilt defense must make sure that they do not over pursue this weekend.

While the Wolverines took advantage of the Commodores' aggressiveness especially early on in the game, Johnson said his team made adjustments.

"After that we settled down a little bit and made them start earning a little bit more what they were getting from us, allowing us to keep them out of the end zone until the fourth quarter," he said.

With Alabama on the schedule in just four days, both Johnson and the team are using the first game as a learning experience. And that's the one thing no one has ever accused Vanderbilt of being unable to do. ■

FOOTBALL

Dores earn respect at the Big House

In the Microtel Hotel two hours before any footballs were thrown on Saturday, the digs at Vanderbilt football had already begun.

MEMO FROM MAMO
JORDAN MAMORSKY

Accosted by a man wearing maize and blue, with a bright Big Ten smile written on his face, I smiled back only to hear the question (which came out like more of a statement): "How many touchdowns you think Vandy will lose by today, three or four?"

Wearing my Broncos Jay Cutler jersey with pride, I said "neither" and walked away.

Certainly, I could have yelled "OH-IO!" but I wasn't ready to get pummeled by fans who looked like they were likely to fail a breathalyzer test—I mean, c'mon, what else is there to do in Michigan anyway?

Apparently, inebriated Michigan supporters weren't the only ones doubting the Commodores. The betting masterminds in Las Vegas labeled the Wolverines as 25-point favorites. And true to what the "experts" predicted, Michigan was up 7-0 after their first drive.

Yet, down 7-0 with their backs against the wall and nearly 110,000 Wolverine faithfuls chanting for their demise, a funny thing happened. The 25-point underdog fought back.

Nestled on the sidelines with the Vanderbilt players, I witnessed a team that believed. Maybe they listened to Journey before the game or just had their trainers slap them across the face like John Henderson. Whatever

it was, the team was not ready to throw in the towel.

It showed on the field. At halftime, the Big Ten booze grins had turned into frowns as the Wolverines were booed off the field—down only six points to the (gasp) unranked Vanderbilt Commodores—the supposed "Dore"-mats of the SEC.

Anyone can point to the 27-7 score and say Michigan did what they were supposed to do and beat a lesser opponent. However, what the final score does not show was that the game was in doubt until the fourth quarter.

May I put it out there that lowly Vanderbilt, the 25-point underdog, might have actually had the chance to beat Michigan in the Big House?

110,000 people certainly thought so. After an Earl Bennett touchdown pass, "Hail to the Victors" was the last tune ready to be sung.

Even Woody Paige, the loquacious talking head on ESPN, congratulated the Dore's effort by explaining to Cold Pizza host Jay Crawford that Vandy made it a "game"—something that was supposed to be just a figment of Bobby Johnson's imagination.

All summer long, the Commodores did not take heed of the naysayers betting on the number of touchdowns by which they were bound to lose. In fact, in the weight room stood a clock counting down the days and hours to their opening day match up with Michigan.

Maybe the clock has run out on Vandy's football woes, maybe it hasn't. Despite our infamous history of football follies, on Saturday, in front of thousands of national televisions, we earned respect. ■

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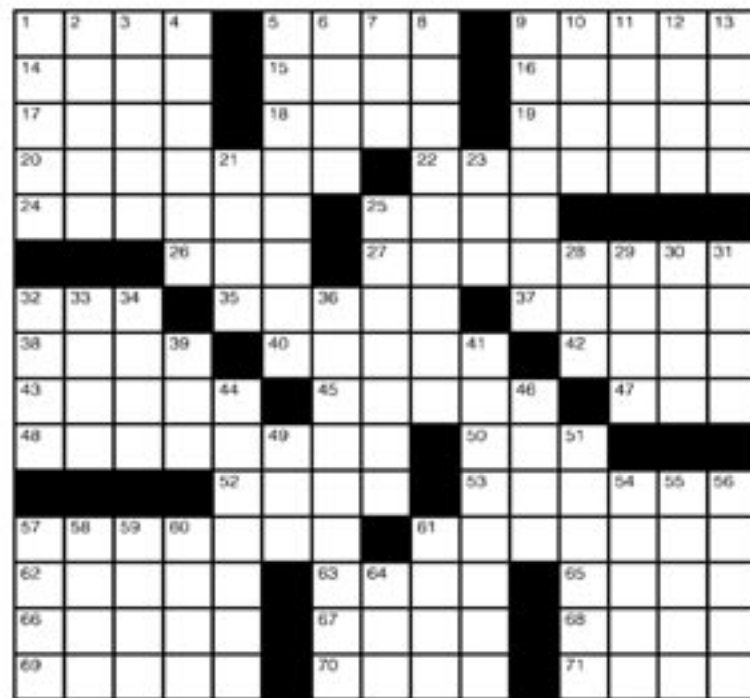
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9/4/06 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Type of revolver
 - 5 Culture medium
 - 9 Two quartets combined
 - 14 Away from the wind
 - 15 Additional amount
 - 16 Vibrant
 - 17 Sawyer's friend
 - 18 Has a bite
 - 19 Fables
 - 20 Apparent
 - 22 Violent outburst
 - 24 Spanish lady
 - 25 Very unlikely
 - 26 Arrest
 - 27 In an aimless manner
 - 32 Greek letter
 - 35 Took a nap
 - 37 Inexact
 - 38 Unctuous
 - 40 Actress Barkin
 - 42 Tie
 - 43 Wept
 - 45 Down source
 - 47 UFO crew
 - 48 "The Flintstones" epoch
 - 50 Distress letters
 - 52 Large quantity
 - 53 Muss up
 - 57 X number of
 - 61 Places of worship
 - 62 Kind of panel or power
 - 63 Hired muscle
 - 65 Kitchen utensils
 - 66 Chris of tennis
 - 67 Protracted
 - 68 Dieter's word
 - 69 Harvests
 - 70 Some voice votes
 - 71 Adam's grandson



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- 7 Creative skill
- 8 Began again
- 9 Breakfast cereal
- 10 Thunder sound
- 11 Roofer's material
- 12 Nights before
- 13 Trial run
- 21 Important times
- 23 Miscalculate
- 25 Answered
- 28 Affirmative action?
- 29 Made haste
- 30 Future DA's exam
- 31 Poisonous evergreens
- 32 Fierce mythical birds
- 33 Trumpeter Al
- 34 Mixed bag
- 36 With tasteful beauty
- 39 Longing
- 41 Rainy-day funds
- 44 Abandons
- 46 Part of SRO

9/4/06 SOLUTIONS

L	O	N	G	S	C	H	M	O	D	R	A	M
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A	N	D	Y	S	N	E	A	D	T	I	M	E

- 49 Team's top pitcher
- 51 Lithe
- 54 Killed, as a dragon
- 55 Slowly, in music
- 56 Double bends
- 57 Manipulator
- 58 Relocate
- 59 Not guilty, e.g. briefly
- 61 Salad fish
- 64 Soil turner

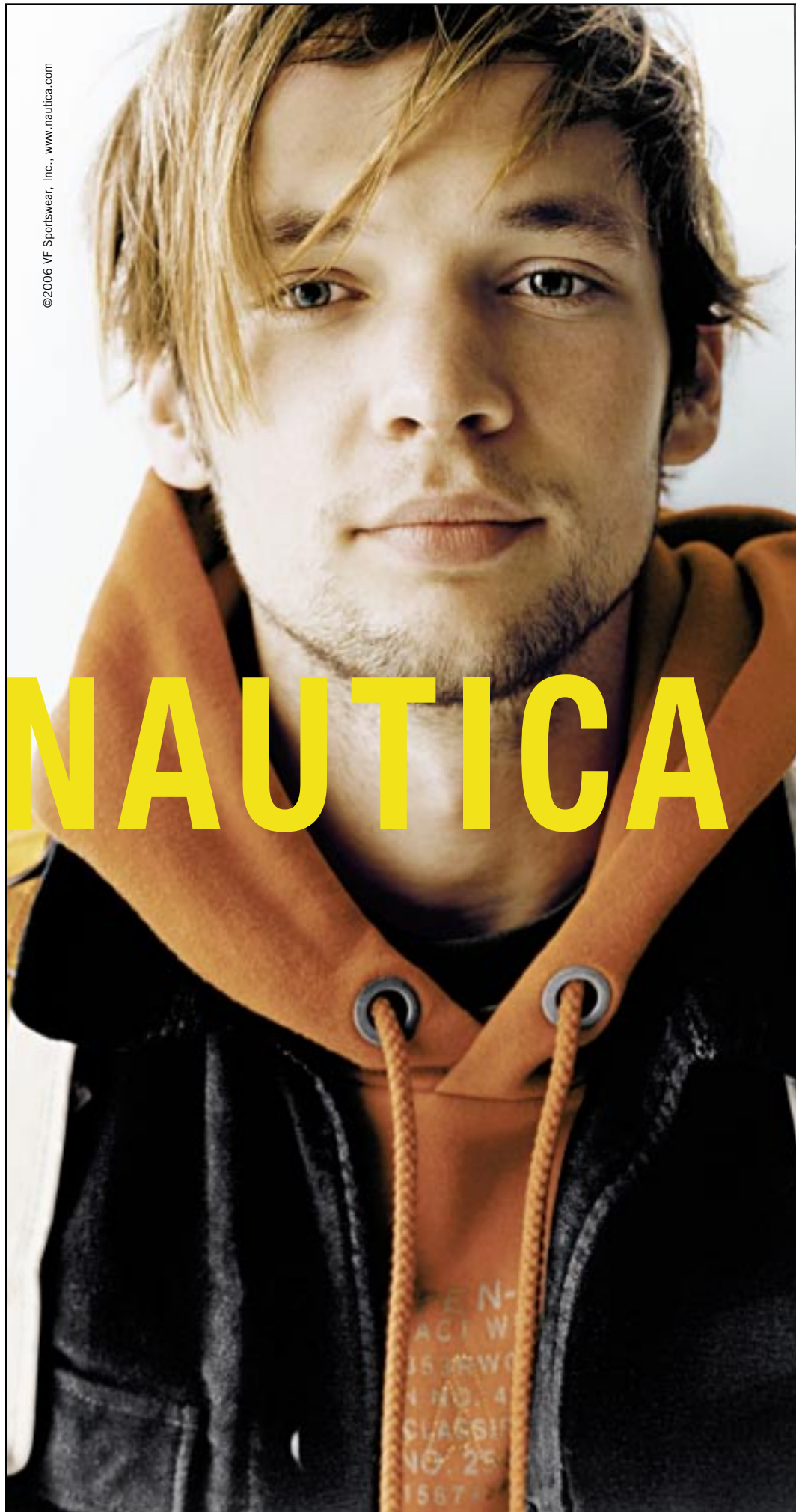
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