

GREEK LIFE

Fraternity
recruitment
decreases
slightlyBrothers Under Christ leads
2006 spring pledging season.BY GALAAL ELSAMADIEY
HUSTLER REPORTER

Fraternity recruitment, pledging and initiation is complete, and the total number of undergraduate men joining fraternities down slightly from last year, falling from 264 to 242.

This year Brothers Under Christ leads all fraternities with initiating 27 new members this year.

"I'm more than just surprised," said Brothers Under Christ president Dane Thorwaldson. "I'm really pleased. Brothers Under Christ offers something these guys are looking for that isn't found anywhere else on campus."

According to Thorwaldson, what is unique about Brothers Under Christ is that it possesses an inherent identity as a Christian organization that functions as a recruiting mechanism in and of itself.

Brothers Under Christ is not a member of the Interfraternity Council.

"The reason why Brothers Under Christ is having success is not only because it's a fraternity or because of the great members involved, but more importantly because what it represents," Thorwaldson said. "Brothers Under Christ speaks for itself."

However, Brothers Under Christ is not the only fraternity that experienced success this recruitment season.

Alpha Tau Omega nearly doubled its enrollment from nine to 17 new members while Phi Kappa Sigma tripled its enrollment to 18 new members from six new members just a year ago.

Within the Interfraternity Council, Kappa Alpha and Sigma Chi were the most successful with 25 and 26 new members respectively.

"This is testament to the strength of the house, especially to the performance of the rush committee," said Matt Langsen, president of Sigma Chi.

"We have a diverse house in terms of geographical backgrounds, political views and personalities. There has never been a certain standard or mold that our pledges have to fit."

Although Kappa Sigma is still feeling the crunch of social probation evidenced by initiating only three members this spring, its president, Andrew Brown, is optimistic about the immediate future of the fraternity house.

"Despite a difficult pledge year, we're coming out strong in the fall," Brown said.

In spite of the impressive pledge numbers, Thorwaldson and Langsen both said they are not concerned about recruitment statistics.

"Recruitment is never about reaching a certain number or quota," Langsen said. "We just simply look for upright young men." ■

Fraternity recruitment statistics

Fraternity	Spring 2005	Spring 2006	Total
Alpha Epsilon Pi	13	16	59
Alpha Tau Omega	9	17	61
Beta Chi Theta	7	7	14
Beta Theta Pi	19	13	92
Delta Kappa Epsilon	7	6	38
Kappa Alpha	21	25	82
Kappa Sigma	4	3	31
Lambda Chi Alpha	12	19	63
Lambda Theta Phi	3	3	11
Phi Kappa Psi	21	20	66
Phi Kappa Sigma	6	18	44
Phi Kappa Alpha	11	17	74
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	26	18	83
Sigma Chi	22	26	87
Sigma Phi Epsilon	63	12	54
Zeta Bau Tau	20	22	79
Total	264	242	938

ACADEMICS



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ELISE ALFORD, JOHN MAYNARD / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Amid warmer weather, longer days and confusing questions, it's time to . . .

Spring into fall
registration

Beginning Monday, students will have to look beyond final exams and summer plans, as the Fall 2006 class registration period begins.

Registration through OASIS is a process that many students are familiar with, and according to Beth Rogers, registrar for the College of Arts and Sciences, this semester's registration period will be no different.

Aside from a plethora of new and interesting classes to be offered in the fall, students can expect no other changes when they log into OASIS to register for classes.

Many students, however, have expressed confusion about how the university determines who gets their requested classes and who gets bumped.

BY NICOLE FLOYD
HUSTLER ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Rogers explains that when registering for classes, priority is based on seniority.

"A senior major would have priority over another senior," Rogers said. "A junior major would have priority over another junior and so forth."

Priority is also awarded to those students who are majors in the department in which the classes fall.

According to Rogers, a major, no matter what their year in school, would have priority over non-majors, even if the non-major seeking admittance to the class were a senior.

Minors, however receive no priority in the registration process.

Please see REGISTRATION, page 3

SPEAKERS

Former death row prisoner speaks

Project Dialogue sponsors event to
allow Melendez to share his story.BY TANYA ALVAREZ
HUSTLER REPORTER

Thursday night, Juan Roberto Melendez-Colon, who spent 17 years on Florida's death row for a crime he did not commit, shared his story at Sarratt cinema.

Hosted by Project Dialogue in conjunction with the Vanderbilt Association of Hispanic Students this event was a part of a yearlong University-wide program that tries to involve the Vanderbilt community in discussion that links classroom learning with larger societal issues.

Melendez' story and case bring to light the pervasive

problems that exist in the death penalty system, such as its unreliability and its unequal application to minorities and to the poor.

"They never gave me an interpreter, and I did not know the language," Melendez said.

He was convicted in 1984 at the age of 33 without physical evidence linking him to the crime after testimony from questionable witnesses.

The main witness against him "was a police informant who had struck a deal with the prosecution" said Melendez. "He said, 'I picked him

Please see DEATH ROW, page 3



ELISE ALFORD / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Juan Melendez rolls up his sleeve to reveal a tattoo, one of two identifiers cited by police informants who falsely testified against him as witnesses. Mendez spoke Thursday as part of Project Dialogue.

TECHNOLOGY

Facebook
may be up
for saleFounders rumored to
have turned down \$750
million offer.BY RACHEL FETRIDGE
HUSTLER REPORTER

Popular social networking site Facebook.com is for sale. According to BusinessWeek, the young entrepreneurial owners have declined a \$750 million offer in hopes of gaining as much as \$2 billion in the sale.

Mark Zuckerberg and a group of sophomore friends at Harvard University launched the popular social networking site just two years ago. The site was initially designed as a means for Harvard students to communicate with one another, as the name originated from the "facebook" colleges often provide for college freshmen. Now Facebook is a commonplace term and has come to include more than 2500 colleges and high schools across the U.S. and other areas of the world while it continues to grow.

"I think people are kind of taken aback at the amount of money being discussed, since the site started [at Harvard] and a lot of us remember when it was just a Harvard site," said Josh Patashnik, a junior at Harvard University to The Harvard Crimson. "No one really had any idea it would catch on like this."

The BusinessWeek article reported that Facebook.com received more than 5.5 billion hits during the month of February, outnumbering many other popular sites like Ask.com or Amazon.com. Many Vanderbilt students admit to visiting the site several times a day, spending anywhere from a couple of seconds to hours "facebooking."

Students at Harvard have questioned whether Facebook would lose some of its attraction if sold to a large media conglomerate.

Nonetheless, Facebook's spokesperson, Chris Hughes, a senior at Harvard, would neither refute nor verify that the site was even for sale.

Hughes told The Harvard Crimson that the
Please see FACEBOOK, page 2

LIFE

Students
participate in
Census surveyBY RACHEL STEVENS
HUSTLER EXECUTIVE NEWS EDITOR

U.S. Census workers were on campus yesterday, administering the Census Bureau's American Community survey to randomly selected campus residents.

The American Community survey is a part of the redesigned 2010 census and will replace that long form of the census that was traditionally given to selected U.S. households.

According to the Census Bureau, the American Community survey is designed to provide communities with a fresh look at how they are changing, by collecting demographic, housing, social and economic information about residents. In total, the survey will be administered to about three million U.S. households.

"The census is done every ten years," said Carolyn Land, an administrative assistant for the Office of Housing and Residential Education and liaison with the census workers. "I think they started this new survey system to take into account that things are changing more quickly than that."

Please see CENSUS, page 2



OUR VIEW

Read why we feel that the course registration system should give preference to minors in addition to majors. See Page 4

RACING

Read about a seemingly regular student's exciting secret life on the race track. See Page 7

BASEBALL

Read about the Commodores' extra-inning 6-2 victory over Austin Peay. Freshman Pedro Alvarez hit the winning grand-slam. See Page 6

COLUMN

Daniel Kasbohm feels that television is a bad habit for people looking to escape from reality. Read his thoughts about why people should live their lives rather than watching others. See Page 4

NOTABLE

There are 233 total buildings on campus here at Vanderbilt.



Kirkland Hall

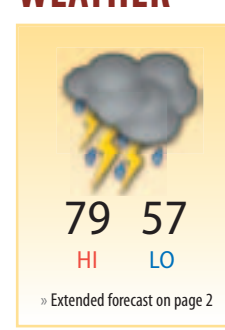
POLL

50%

Percentage of Americans who say they encounter people using cell phones in a loud or annoying manner.

» Associated Press

WEATHER



» Extended forecast on page 2

INSIDE

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PAGE 2

Today is Friday, April 7, 2006

IT IS THE	THERE ARE		
57 th	17	15	34
day of classes	class days until exams	class days until Rites of Spring	calendar days to commencement

WORD OF THE DAY

FLIB-BER-TI-GIB-BET

n. silly/flighty scatterbrained person, esp. female

Source: Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1862 Union forces led by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant defeated the Confederates at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee.
- 1939 Italy invaded Albania. (Less than a week later, Italy annexed Albania.)
- 1947 Auto pioneer Henry Ford died in Dearborn, Mich., at age 83.
- 1969 The Supreme Court unanimously struck down laws prohibiting private possession of obscene material.
- 1994 Civil war erupted in Rwanda, a day after a mysterious plane crash claimed the lives of the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi. In the months that followed, hundreds of thousands of minority Tutsi and Hutu intellectuals were slaughtered.

Compiled by the Associated Press

FORECAST

- SATURDAY
Thunderstorms
High: 58
Low: 36
- SUNDAY
Sunny
High: 65
Low: 41
- MONDAY
Sunny
High: 70
Low: 48

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Rachel Stevens

Academy of American Poets contest submissions due

Submissions are now being accepted for the Academy of American Poets annual competition for best poem or group of poems submitted to the English department at Vanderbilt University. The contest is open to all Vanderbilt undergraduate and graduate students and includes a \$100 prize. Each contestant may enter up to three poems. Two copies of each poem should be submitted, one with and one without the contestant's name and address. The deadline for submissions is April 7 and should be made to the Department of English, 331 Benson Hall. The winner will be announced by April 21. For more information, contact Professor of English Mark Jarman at 322-2541.

VU Theater's dramablog

dramablog: An Exploration of the Political and the Personal, Vanderbilt University Theatre's last show of the season, begins tonight. Performances are tonight and tomorrow at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Performances will also take place next Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. All performances are in Neely Auditorium. Admission is \$8 for the general public, \$5 for graduate and professional students, and free for undergraduates with a Vanderbilt ID. Tickets may be reserved by calling 322-2404.

Lecture on 1930s Hollywood

Catherine Jurca, associate professor of literature at the California Institute of Technology, will speak at Vanderbilt, brought to campus by the Film Studies Department. The lecture, "Goldwyn's Folly, or Hollywood Before Market Research," will take place today from 4:10 to 5:30 p.m. in Buttrick Hall, Room 015. A reception will follow. Jurca is the author of *White Diaspora: The Suburb and the Twentieth-Century American Novel* (Princeton, 2001). Her current research on classical Hollywood film combines close textual analysis with an examination of actual filmmaking practices and of the broader currents of American social and cultural history.

Compiled by staff from various sources. Check out <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu> for more events.

Census: Students live in 'group quarters'

From CENSUS, page 1

Vanderbilt students were contacted because the survey aims to sample 2.5 percent of the U.S. population living in "group quarters," defined as areas such as nursing homes, prisons, military barracks, juvenile institutions and college dormitories.

Students in certain residential areas were emailed earlier this week that they may be called on to participate. Like the actual census, selected participants are required by federal law to take part in the American Community survey.

According to the Census Bureau, failing to participate in the American Community survey can result in up to a \$100 fine. ■

CORRECTION

In Wednesday's article on Vanderbilt Theater's dramablog, it was stated that tickets were \$5. All Vanderbilt students are eligible for free tickets with a student ID. *The Vanderbilt Hustler* regrets the error.

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Rachel Stevens

April 4, 4:10 p.m. — An attempted motor vehicle theft took place in the Wesley Place Garage. No suspects have been identified and the case remains active.

April 4, 2:10 a.m. — An arrest for simple possession and driving on a suspended license took place at 29th Ave. S. and West End Ave. The suspect was arrested via a misdemeanor citation.

April 5, 11 a.m. — An incident of simple assault took place at the Law School. The suspect was arrested.

April 6, 2:59 a.m. — A drug narcotic violation occurred in lot 75 at Natchez Trace and Wellington Avenue. The suspect was arrested.

For complete listings visit <http://police.vanderbilt.edu>.

SERVICE GUIDE

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The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student and is available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each.

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The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance. See our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

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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.

Professor discusses virginity loss



ELISE ALFORD / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sociology Professor Laura Carpenter spoke Thursday in the Vanderbilt Bookstore on her new book, "Virginity Lost: An Intimate Portrait of First Sexual Experiences."

Students to go to Michigan for football season opener

Division of Student Life is sponsoring the road trip.

BY GLENNA DEROY
HUSTLER MANAGING EDITOR

The Division of Student Life is sponsoring a road trip to Ann Arbor, Mich. next September, so that 325 of the most enthusiastic football fans on campus can be there to watch Vanderbilt take on the University of Michigan in the first game of the 2006 season.

Students that would like to take advantage of this opportunity must commit to the Sept. 2 trip this semester, and due to limited availability, students should not wait to purchase a ticket.

"The trip is limited to 325 students because we have allotted a certain number of spots to incoming freshmen," said Director of Greek Life Kristen Torrey. "We did not want to exclude freshmen from this experience so we set aside a certain number of spots for them. Once they get here, they'll have an opportunity to sign up for the trip and will have to pay the same fee."

Tickets for the road trip will become avail-

Football road trip

- **What:** Football season opener road trip
- **When:** September 2, 2006
- **Where:** University of Michigan
- **Tickets:** Sarratt 339 on Wed. April 19
- **How much:** \$125 by check

able on April 19 in Sarratt 339, and students must write a check for \$125 to get a ticket. The student price will include the bus ride, a game ticket, a pre-game tailgate and a post-game meal.

Students can choose to be a participant in the road trip, or they can opt to purchase an individual ticket at the athletics ticket office for \$54.

"We decided to make some individual tickets available for students to buy if they have friends that go to Michigan or if they want to stay the whole weekend, but we wanted to also take students on a trip up there," Torrey said.

Both administrators and students see the trip as a positive way to kick off the season and to increase road support that is traditionally

lacking at Vanderbilt.

"When the announcement was made that we were playing at Michigan, there were several students who said that we should do something big for this game," Torrey said. "We saw it as a unique opportunity to go down to the 'Big House' and show our support for the team. It's going to be a fun game, it'll be on ESPN and it seemed like a lot of students were excited about it."

Rod Williamson, director of Media Relations for the Athletic Department, hopes that the trip will encourage school spirit and offer students a fun, unique opportunity to watch their team play an opponent that they have not faced in many years.

"There are a couple of hopes for this trip," Williamson said. "Support of the football team would be one of them. I think the team is always cognizant of the student support they receive, and they appreciate it a lot. This is also a unique opportunity. We haven't played Michigan for a long time. It's an interesting stadium to visit, being one of the largest in the country, and it's also situated in a part of the country that some people haven't been to." ■

Facebook: Networking sites have been sold

From FACEBOOK, page 1

Stories circulating on BusinessWeek and other websites are merely rumors.

Industry analysts are speculating about what type of company would be willing to purchase Facebook at such a high price and whether the Facebook team neglected a profitable deal in rejecting the \$750 million offer.

A similar social networking site, Friendster.com, rejected acquisition offers, and has seen its popularity decline. At the same time, the internet gurus who founded Google, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, refused to sell their site in its early stages and are now worth approximately \$11 billion each, according to Forbes Magazine. Business-

Week mentioned that Viacom, which owns MTV, VH1 and Comedy Central, might be a potential buyer and good fit for the site. Purchasing Facebook would make Viacom more competitive with News Corp, owned by Rupert Murdoch, who purchased MySpace.com for \$580 million last year.

Despite Facebook's growing popularity, MySpace reportedly received three times as many visitors than Facebook in February and ranks second only to Yahoo as the most-trafficked site.

"Most students, at least at Vanderbilt, are not even aware of who owns Facebook," said Lindsay Beach, a junior Peabody student. "As long as the site does not undergo any major changes, whoever owns it probably will not affect its amount of use."

Nonetheless, other students seem more concerned over the ownership of Facebook.

"If Facebook were bought out by a large company, I would definitely still keep my profile up, but the entrepreneurial spirit that Facebook created would no longer exist," said Erin Nusbaum, a junior Arts and Science Student. "Also, it worries me to list so much personal information on a site controlled by a large company that has the potential to exploit us."

Patashnik said that Harvard students do not seem to be angry or resentful over the potential sale.

"If Mark Zuckerberg can get that much money, he should go for it," Patashnik said. ■

www.vanderbilthustler.com

Death Row: Real killer suspected for 17 years

From DEATH ROW, page 1

up, took him to the scene of the crime, picked him up from there and took him home' in his testimony against me.

He went on to say that he "had to call an alibi witness...I had a problem. Everyone that I had on my side was an African American, and all of a sudden their credibility was gone."

Melendez described how he was felt when he was sentenced to death.

"When I was convicted to death, I was full of hate. I was very scared to die for a crime that I did not commit."

After 17 years on death row, it was found that prosecutors hid evidence and lied to the court in order to protect the real killer, who was also a police informant.

A confession from the real killer that prosecutors knew about before they took Melendez to trial came to light in 1999.

Judge Barbara Fleischer exonerated him from death row, and he was released on Jan. 3, 2002.

"It caught me completely by surprise" Melendez said. The officers who took him out of his cell informed him that he would be released that very same day. "I was in

a state of shock, but smiling—and I'm still smiling today!" said Melendez with a smile.

He spoke of the inmates in prison that taught him "how to write, how to read, and how to speak."

He also spoke of the many times when he considered committing suicide, like many of fellow inmates and friends had done.

"I never saw my friends kill themselves, but I saw them roll the bodies out of their cells" Melendez said.

He said that "every time that I got depressed or suicidal, God sent me a dream" that gave him hope. "In death row if an inmate does not find something spiritual he either commits suicide or goes crazy."

Melendez has traveled throughout the United States speaking to audiences about his story of injustice and tries to "get people to think" about the negativity in the death penalty.

"I need for all of you to get involved in this cause," he said. "Just like we got rid of slavery, we can get rid of this."

Melendez said the death penalty "can kill innocent people—they already have, and when they do it, they do it in your name." ■

Registration: Students may register until May 6

From REGISTRATION, page 1

Rogers feels that the most important thing for students to remember as they think about their course selection for next year is that signing up for classes during the official request period has great benefits.

"Be sure to check out the course catalog and participate in the course

request period," Rogers said. "If you don't participate in the course request period you are put at the bottom of the list."

Rogers said that participating in the request period is also important because after the period is over the departments are given a list of how many students want to be in the course.

"If the class only holds 30 people, but 140 people request to be in the class, this information is handed over to the departments, and if there is another teacher who can teach the class, the possibility of getting another section added increases," Rogers said.

Before students can begin to request classes on OASIS, they must first arrange a meeting with their advisor in order to receive their advisor approval code. This code is required for logging on to the OASIS system.

Further information regarding registration can be found beginning on page 148 of the Course Catalog. The official course request period lasts from April 10 to May 6. Any student registering after this date must pay a late registration fee. ■

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TECHNOLOGY



TOM REESE / Seattle Times

A daytime TV show plays on the Origami. Viewers can watch live TV via the Slingbox, a separate product that connects to a home TV and sends video over the Internet to a PC. Future Origami devices may have built-in TV tuners.

Microsoft to launch UMPC

Details on rumored 'origami' computer soon to be unveiled.

BY FITZGERALD M. DOUBET
THE DAILY VIDETTE (ILLINOIS STATE U.)

NORMAL, Ill. — Most people know origami as the ancient art of Japanese paper folding. The traditional paper crane has become an icon both of Japanese culture and of the art itself.

While a folded paper crane is not likely to take flight, Microsoft intends to launch a new form of portable computer, codenamed Origami, this spring.

As rumors and speculation about Microsoft's Origami project have accumulated on the Internet at technology Web sites such as ign.com and the aptly named origamiproject.com, Microsoft prepared to announce details about their new computer system.

Earlier this month, the computer software giant revealed that Origami was a codename for the UMPC, Ultra Mobile PC.

The UMPC is a new addition to the portable computer market, which currently includes laptops, tablet PCs and PDAs, personal data assistants. The Ultra Mobile PC, which looks similar to a Sega Game Gear or Sony's PSP, will combine some aspects of all of its predecessors.

According to origamiproject.com, "Ultra-Mobile PCs are a new class of computer that is optimized for mobility. With a screen size of

7 inches or less, Ultra-Mobile PCs can be slipped into a purse or a small bag for ultimate portability.

A touch-screen, a tablet pen, and a D-pad give you a variety of input options while you are on the move.

Built-in Bluetooth gives you the option of staying connected wherever you go. Running Windows XP Tablet PC Edition, Ultra-Mobile PCs have the full capabilities of the Windows operating system in one of the smallest packages yet."

Currently, laptop computers are the most consumer favored portable computer devices because their functional capabilities roughly match those of their desktop brothers.

"The advantage of laptops is portability," Russ Karis, a Circuit City employee, said.

Slightly less popular among general consumers are the more portable PDAs, which include Pocket PC's that run a form of Microsoft's Windows operating system.

"It's just like having a computer on you at all times," Javier Evlyn, a Best Buy employee, said. "You can store a bunch of content with it, do a lot of scheduling all in the palm of your hand. It's basically just like a portable computer if you don't plan on having a laptop with you at all times, it's like another way to go basically."

”
It's going to be able to do most things a laptop can as far as software, surfing the net, things like that. One of the big differences is just going to be that the format's different. It's not going to be a full-sized keyboard. It's just going to be completely different for typing.

—Circuit City employee Russ Karis



TOM REESE / Seattle Times

The user can enter text by calling up a touch-screen keyboard designed to be used with the thumbs. Called dial keys, the input system is arranged in two semicircles.

Though the functionality and the software on a PDA may be similar to that on a standard full-sized home-office computer, the way in which a user inputs computer operations is different. Pocket PC's use a touch-screen and a stylus instead of a keyboard.

"It's going to be able to do most things a laptop can as far as software, surfing the net, things like that," Karis said. "One of the big differences is just going to be that the format's different. It's not going to be a full-sized keyboard. It's just going to be completely different for typing"

Tablet PCs, which have the power of a laptop computer, use this same touch-screen technology rather than using a keyboard for user input, but they are about the size of a notebook and are not widely used.

UMPCs shrink down the technology used in tablet computers to a hardware package just a little larger than the average PDA.

In addition to the touch-screen and stylus inputs, Microsoft plans to add additional user-friendly functionality to the UMPC.

According to ign.com, "Most intriguing is the 'Dial Keyboard': two fans of on-screen keys at the lower corners of the screen designed to allow for typing with two thumbs."

Microsoft has designed this computer device to appeal to a broader consumer base than the average businessman.

While it will not replace current computer technology, at least for now, the Origami UMPC will be as friendly to the typical computer user and as portable as a paperback book. ■

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COLUMN

Israel's unilateral withdrawal from West Bank settlements better than no withdrawal at all

On March 28, Ariel Sharon's newly-formed centrist party Kadima did not win an overwhelming majority of seats in the Israeli parliament, the Knesset, in probably the

GUEST COLUMNIST
LAURA BRESLIN

most uneventful election in Israeli history. Because Kadima did not win an overwhelming majority of seats, they will form a coalition government. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert will most likely be asked by Israeli president Moshe Katsav to form the new government, and as the head of Kadima, he is expected to be the prime minister.

It is hard for me to say whose party I would have liked to have won the majority. I have never been a fan of Benjamin Netanyahu of Likud, who is hard-line and pro-settlements. In my opinion, the Moroccan-born Amir Peretz was little better with his mixed messages; he will be defense minister with other Labour party members in ministerial positions due to the 20 seats Labour won. There are a few doves in the Labour Party who oppose Israel's practice of targeted killings and support withdrawing the vast majority of settlements; I hope their voice is heard in the new coalition government. And then there is Olmert, who is positioned in the middle. To me, Olmert is the lesser of two (or three) evils, a view I imagine is held by many Palestinians. If you have a cursory understanding of Olmert's attitude with regards to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, you see how his stance could be beneficial for the Palestinians, considering he has proposed a unilateral withdrawal of more settlements from the West Bank.

There is one word that Kadima and Olmert used to which I object: unilateral. Withdrawing settlements from the West Bank is a step in the right direction; I don't think it is a "grand gesture," as Sharon's withdrawal from Gaza was called, simply because Gaza and the vast majority of the West Bank is still under military occupation. This military occupation has repeatedly been deemed illegal by the United Nations, because it violates articles of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Israeli withdrawal is not a gift of peace, but an act of pragmatism serving Israel's best interests. I am not naïve enough to think the U.N. resolutions regarding the Israeli occupation really have any tangible impact on Israel; much like the United States, the U.N. resolutions should have an influence on Israel, but they do not.

Israel's unilateral withdrawal from West Bank settlements is better than no withdrawal at all. If they with-

draw unilaterally as they did from Gaza, it will further cement the attitude of many in Hamas who believe that their violent resistance is the cause for Israeli withdrawal. Nearly all Israeli land concessions have been preceded by violence, causing people to equate violence with land gains. The view that violence begets land, could be replaced by the idea that negotiation—not violence—works by bringing Palestinians into the withdrawal dialogue.

I do not find the withdrawal to be the most upsetting unilateral proposal; rather, it is Olmert's pledge to establish Israel's formal boundaries and separate from Palestine, unilaterally. I hope by now we have moved beyond the days of denying the existence of Palestine and the Palestinian people. Any borders Israel proposes will be with Palestine, and Palestine deserves an equal say in how its borders are defined.

The United States has said that they will not support Israel drawing its borders unilaterally, in the same manner that it does not recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Likewise, the United Nations would most likely not recognize any unilateral declaration of borders, and you can be certain the Palestinians and Palestinian Authority will not accept Israel defining the borders. What purpose then does declaring borders serve, except to deepen the wounds of resentment felt by the Palestinians and incite anger? Israeli-drawn borders will have little to no effect on how Palestinians view the occupation of the land beyond the green line of 1967.

Acting alone will not bring peace. Negotiations, on the other hand, can bring peace. You cannot shut out the voices of the people with whom you are in conflict if you hope to find peace. Diplomacy moderates, unilateral actions radicalize. Borders between Israel and Palestine must be settled by bilateral negotiations. Palestine and Israel are a long way from a just peace, but the first steps towards peace must be taken together, down a road both sides agree is right.

—Laura Breslin is a senior in the College of Arts and Science and the president of Dores for Palestine.

“
I hope by now we have moved beyond the days of denying the existence of Palestine and the Palestinian people. Any borders Israel proposes will be with Palestine, and Palestine deserves an equal say in how its borders are defined.”

AROUND THE LOOP

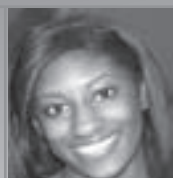
Compiled by Sean Hymowitz

What do you think of Facebook going on sale?



JAMES KOO Senior

"I think it's a big sell-out."



ZAKIYA SMITH Senior

"As long as I don't have to pay, and they don't sell my information, I don't care."



AUSTIN WANLAND Freshman

"I am sad — Mark Zuckerberg is my boy!"



GRETCHEN FARACI Freshman

"I know, I'm getting it for my birthday!"



JESSIE LEIGHTON Freshman

"I think he should keep it because I like the little comments at the bottom."

COLUMN

McGeady: Fanaticism's victims morally superior in the eyes of God

From MCGEADY, page 4

was not for nothing: the charges against Abdul Rahman were dropped on technical grounds, and he has been given asylum in Italy.

The story drips with irony. Italy, whose capital encloses Vatican City, the seat of the Roman Catholic Church, grants asylum to an Afghan because he was persecuted on religious grounds. I guess the Italians know firsthand the price of religious fanaticism and persecution, since they have one of the greatest culprits of religiously motivated crimes living comfortably in their midst. Of course Rahman is a Christian, — that being the whole reason he was persecuted in the first place — but I read something very interesting in the *Associated Press* straight from the mouth of Mario Scialoja, Rome-based president of the Muslim World League. He said, "From our point of view, apostasy is a grave sin, but one will do penance for it in the afterlife, not on Earth."

Mario Scialoja, you're my hero.

This is the first time I have seen anything in the mainstream media coming from a prominent Muslim world leader acknowledging freedom of religion and ideas. What was so hard about that? I have a rather cynical view of organized religion, so forgive me for being a little suspicious of any religion claiming the right of divine punishment over those who convert to a different religion. Something tells me that God is perfectly capable of punishing anyone he wishes, and if he wishes to punish someone for

praying to him in a different language while facing a different direction, so be it. Otherwise, I see this interpretation is nothing but an artificial safeguard against adherents converting from their born religion and an attempt to restrict people's freedom of thought, spirituality, and conscience.

If communism is the best form of government, why did Mao and Stalin have to kill millions just to keep the rest of their citizenry in line?

If Islam is really the best religion encompassing all that we must know to find God and be at peace, why should it need the threat of worldly death just to keep worshipers from converting?

And if there is any merit to fanaticism, why does my heart tell me that come Judgment Day it is the fanatics' victims that will have the moral high ground in the eyes of God?

—Christopher McGeady is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science.

“
If communism is the best form of government, why did Mao and Stalin have to kill millions just to keep the rest of their citizenry in line?”

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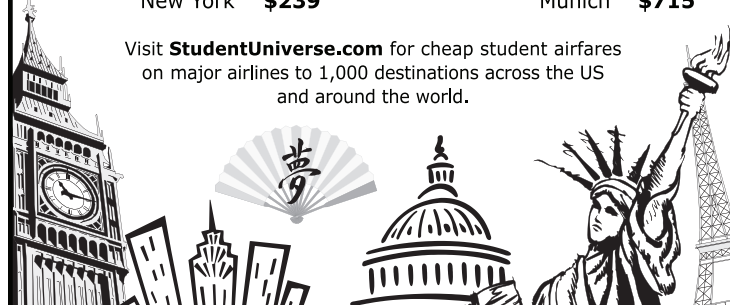
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SPORTS

BASEBALL

Alvarez powers past Austin Peay

Grand slam in 14th inning leads Commodores to 6-2 road victory.

BY JARRED AMATO
HUSTLER ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

As David Price took the mound in the bottom of the ninth to preserve Vanderbilt's 2-1 lead against Austin Peay, it looked as though the Commodores would be returning to Nashville victorious and at least somewhat early.

So when James Ray hit a home run to send the game to extra innings, nobody was more taken aback than Price's teammates.

"It was surprising because David was on the mound," said freshman Pedro Alvarez. "It's not what you expect, but things happen and we never let (Austin Peay) have the momentum."

With the bases loaded in the top of the 14th, Alvarez hit a first-pitch curveball over the right field fence for a game-winning grand slam. Although later than they expected, the Commodores eventually won, 6-2, and improved to their record to 20-9 overall. Meanwhile, the Governors fell to 19-9 and saw their six-game winning streak come to an end.

Alvarez, who had also homered in the fourth inning, finished 2-for-6 with five RBIs.

"I had the chance to bring in the run and possibly win the game, and I just wanted to make contact with the ball and get the run in," Alvarez said. "I ended up hitting the home run, and I was happy."

Vanderbilt's pitchers also had reason to celebrate, as seven pitchers combined to throw 14 innings, allowing just two runs on eight hits while striking out 21 batters. The 21 strikeouts were two off the school record, which was set against Chattanooga in 1970.

Starting pitcher Josh Zeid gave up one run in 3.2 innings of work and was relieved by junior Casey Weathers, who threw 3.1 scoreless

No. 12 Arkansas at No. 16 Vanderbilt

Today, 6 p.m. Pitching matchups: David Price (4-2, 2.26 ERA), Charley Boyce (2-1, 5.45 ERA)

Tomorrow, 2 p.m. Pitching matchups: Matt Buschmann (3-3, 4.27 ERA), Nick Schmidt (5-2, 1.69 ERA)

Sunday, 1 p.m. Pitching matchups: Cody Crowell (4-0, 1.76 ERA), Trey Holmoway (2-0, 3.10 ERA)

innings, allowing just two hits and striking out six.

"It was fun to get in there in a close game and hold it down," Weathers said. "We never thought we were going to lose. We were going to stay there all night if we had to (in order) to win."

Freshman Nick Christiani pitched a scoreless eighth and handed the ball over to Price, who had not given up a run in his last 19.1 innings.

After Ray led off the inning with a homer, Price set down the next three Austin Peay hitters to keep the game going.

"We still thought we were going to win," Price said. "I knew my teammates would help me pull that out."

Sophomore Ty Davis shut down the Governors for the next three innings and sophomore Cameron Betteourne pitched the final two to earn the victory.

Governor Michael Parson matched Vanderbilt pitch-for-pitch for his first three in-

nings, but found trouble in his fourth frame.

Sophomore Parker Hanks walked, sophomore Shea Robin singled and junior Matt Meingasner reached on a bunt single to the load the bases. After sophomore David Macias lined out, Alvarez delivered the big blow.

"It was exciting, and anytime I can get up there and help out the team, I feel a necessity to come forward and try to do my best," said Alvarez, who is batting .337 with a team-leading six home runs, 21 RBIs, 29 walks and .492 on-base percentage.

"The game has slowed down a little bit for me," Alvarez said.

"At the beginning of the year I was possibly trying to do too much and now I'm up there with a good approach, just seeing good pitches and putting the bat on the ball."

Meingasner, Robin and sophomore Dominic de la Osa all had a pair of hits and one run scored, while senior Brian Hernandez recorded a RBI groundout following Alvarez's fourth-inning homer.

Tonight Vanderbilt hosts Arkansas in game one of the three-game series. Price will take the mound against sophomore left-hander Nick Schmidt, who is second in the Southeastern Conference with a 1.69 ERA.

"I know (Schmidt) pretty well — he's one of my buddies," Price said. "He's really good, and they are a good team."

Price said he is looking forward to the series and that he likes the direction the Commodores are going.

"We're always confident — we're 7-2 in the SEC and 20-9 overall," Price said. "We're feeling good right now, and we've just got to come out and win tomorrow." ■



NEIL BRAKE / VU Media Relations

Freshman Pedro Alvarez has been one of the Commodores' best hitters since the beginning of SEC play. Alvarez is leading the team with 6 homeruns and is hitting an impressive .337 on the season.

COLUMN

Commons will alter campus athletics

In 2004, Vanderbilt started a new tradition: Chancellor Gee runs on the field with the entire freshmen class, with the



COLUMN
ANDY LUTZKY

football team before the first home game of the season.

Hate it or love it, you can't argue with the ideology: getting new students integrated with the excitement and rush of college football, which hopefully spurs them to a high attendance rate during their years here.

For freshmen in Branscomb, football games aren't really a big deal. In Scales, one could practically roll out of bed and hit the stadium. The walk from Vanderbilt-Barnard Hall takes about ten minutes, while Kissam Hall students might want to leave a little earlier.

Consider for a moment, however, the arduous trek from Peabody campus to the football stadium. To get to the game the quickest way, students would walk past the Kissam area right between Wilson Hall and Central Library, continue between Rand and Buttrick, behind the mailroom, and then, finally, come within eyesight of

Branscomb. In other words, they literally traverse the entire Vanderbilt campus before coming close to getting there.

There are fewer things that could stop a freshman from walking to Dudley Field than a long walk through a campus that they don't know that well, not to mention crossing the continental divide that is 21st Avenue.

I understand the Freshman Commons topic has been beaten to death and discussed over and over again, and all kinds of task forces and committees have risen as a result of the impending cultural changes coming to our campus. However, largely overlooked in these discussions has been the potentially harmful effect that moving the freshman class to figurative Siberia will have on our athletic programs.

Attendance becomes the central concern here: while Vanderbilt already has trouble persuading students to attend football and baseball games, the Freshman Commons could make that problem exponentially more difficult. And, with Gee's new ritual creating a culture of strong football attendance in new students, the Commons only undermine it further.

Also, consider other sports that already suffer in attendance. How many freshmen will want to walk all the way across campus to see soccer, lacrosse or either of our

tennis teams?

Even worse, this draws freshmen even further from the Recreation Center, creating a two-fold problem. First, it's a workout just to get to there from Peabody, remember, these students will all be freshmen; they won't have cars to drive over there, much less get there, work out and walk back—all the more reason not to stay in shape. Second, one of my favorite parts of freshman year—freshman intramurals—could take a serious hit in participation. Teams will not want to make the journey all the way to the Rec Center fields or basketball courts if there is even the most minute possibility of the other team not showing up, since walking there, waiting, and walking back now becomes nearly an hour of wasted time.

All of that said, the Commons will not bring the same doom and gloom to athletics that some have predicted for every other aspect of our existence. For starters, this move represents a huge victory for the athletics' mission. Remember, way back in 2003, the administration dissolved the athletic department. Part of the explanation for such a move was to further integrate student-athletes with the rest of the student body, a task that the Commons performs perfectly.

Could the Commons help with recruit-

ing at all? It's certainly possible, if having every single freshman student-athlete living within three minutes of each other further creates a type of athletics-family community. It's much more plausible for the Commons to help recruiting than to hurt it.

What can we do about this? Freshman intramurals could almost develop further, with the entire class in such a small area. Ideally, having the community in such proximity could breed accountability; if both teams know the game will happen, then the walk over will be worth it.

Attendance becomes a stickier issue. There needs to be a consistent reason or voice on the Peabody side of campus to convince the freshmen to make the voyage across the Great Divide. I'm not a marketing genius, and that is a difficult sell.

For students with practically no knowledge of the campus or its athletics, and being so removed from the students who do know, any good plan needs to start with a massive amount of education, or culture-planting. One possible starting place is taking advantage of the fact that the entire consumer base—the freshmen—are all in the same exact place; a unique, freshman-only culture will rise every year, and if the cards are played right, part of that culture could be an increased athletic attendance.

Have a Vanderbilt-sponsored pre-game party on Peabody, with food and drinks for the students, like a mini-Vandyville. Have cool giveaways there too, like winning the chance to participate in Punt, Pass and Kick competitions during half-time or a free jersey. For baseball season, the giveaway could change to throwing out the first pitch. Maybe the band and Mr. C could make guest appearances, possibly right before all the students and staff take their ceremonial march through campus to the stadium.

Or, maybe a similar system of the Greek Cup could help, awarding the freshman halls or buildings that achieve the highest attendance rating. Possibly, we could add a special one-hour class, where grades are given based on how many athletic events freshmen attend during the year.

Whatever the best solutions are, we now see that questions about the Commons not only center around the Greek and social community, but athletics as well.

One thing is for sure, however: the freshmen probably won't need to work out at the Rec Center anymore. The miles they walk to get from their rooms to the football stadium will keep them in tip-top shape. ■

FOOTBALL

Temple replaces Kent State as home opponent in 2006

HUSTLER STAFF REPORTS

Working in conjunction with officials from the Southeastern Conference and Mid-American Conference, Vanderbilt has agreed to play the Temple Owls in football in the 2006 football season.

The Vanderbilt-Temple game is scheduled for Sept. 30 at Vanderbilt Stadium. Prior to the switch, the Commodores were to face

Kent State on that date.

The Vanderbilt-Kent State encounter will move to the 2007 season.

Vanderbilt accepted the switch after officials from both the MAC and SEC approached the school.

"This decision is intended to benefit the MAC and its members," said Brian Reese the director of sport operations for football. "As the newest member of the MAC, Temple and

the conference were having difficulty completing their composite schedule for next year. Since Temple and Kent State are our common opponents, and therefore it's not about losing a date, we tried to be as helpful as you could to all parties."

The Commodores will have six home games during the 2006 season. After opening the season with road games at Michigan and Alabama, the Commodores will play

consecutive home games against Arkansas, Tennessee State and Temple. In the second half of the season, the Commodores will also play host to South Carolina, Florida and Tennessee.

Last year, Temple struggled through the season. The Owls finished the year 0-11, but played one of the hardest schedules in the nation. The lost games to Arizona State, Miami, Virginia, Wisconsin and Clemson. Since the

Owls were not yet part of the MAC, all of the games were out-of-conference.

Vanderbilt and Temple have met once previously, though the encounter came before World War II. In 1935, one year after the retirement of legendary Vanderbilt head coach Dan McGugin, Temple defeated the Commodores 6-3 in Philadelphia. ■

RACING

Aschenbach is ready to race

BY WILL GIBBONS
HUSTLER SPORTS EDITOR

He might not fit the typical description of a professional racecar driver, but to Lawson Aschenbach, a senior in the School of Engineering, being unique is perfectly fine.

While most seniors are currently looking for employment, Aschenbach is racing in the Sports Car Club of America Speed World Challenge. This past weekend, he won his first race on the circuit, fighting back from fourth place to take the checkered flag in St. Petersburg, Fla.

"It was perfect all race, and I just almost blew it twice," Aschenbach said following the race. "But I was able to come back, and there was some good luck, and we were able to get the win out there."

It was a lifelong journey to Saturday's win, and it wasn't always crystal clear. A year ago, Aschenbach had no sponsor and no ride. After a stint with a Porsche team in the International Motor Sports Association GT3 Cup, where his experience was deemed too high, his career looked somewhat uncertain.

"I really wasn't sure what I was going to do," Aschenbach said. "I didn't have the financial backing to move up, and I got lucky that the same team had a team in the pro series."

Aschenbach seized the opportunity, finishing third in his professional debut with the Porsche team. He felt fortunate just to be racing, as success in the sport relies heavily upon sponsors and funding.

"The problem with racing is that it's all about money," Aschenbach said. "Racing is the one sport where no matter what, the more money you spend, the better. You can't win with a bad car, it doesn't work."

Skill is also important, since he races on road courses and even city streets. It was clear at a young age Aschenbach was deft behind the wheel, beginning when his father would take the eight-year-old and his brother to race go-karts.

"It's not like anything you see at the beach or pay two dollars to ride around," Aschenbach said.

In go-karts, made for youngsters in-

terested in racing, Aschenbach was mastering his craft early in life. Virtually every professional racecar driver begins by racing them. Once he turned 16, Aschenbach began racing cars, which eventually brought him to where he is now.

He will soon become one of the few professional drivers with a college degree (there are only a handful of American born drivers in his circuit), let alone a degree from a prestigious school such as Vanderbilt. As one can imagine, balancing schoolwork with travels for racing can get fairly stressful and difficult. A double major in engineering science and mathematics, Aschenbach's de-



Aschenbach

sire for an education has never wavered.

"I want to race, but I want to get a good education," Aschenbach said. "If racing doesn't work out, I need something to fall back on, which is very important."

Education was also very important to Aschenbach's parents, who have been more supportive of the potentially dangerous sport than one might think. His father always had an interest in cars and has made a career selling them.

"My dad always supported my racing," he said. "He has paid for it at certain points."

Aschenbach's mother shares the same support.

"She's scared sometimes...but she understands that you can't get in the way of someone's dreams, if they're realistic," Aschenbach said.

While he has accomplished a great deal, Aschenbach remains humble. Most in the Vanderbilt community probably had no

idea there was a professional driver on campus. One person who does know is Chancellor Gordon Gee, who has a quote about Aschenbach on the driver's webpage, www.lawsonaschenbach.com, saying he hopes to "congratulate him at two finish lines -- one with a checkered flag and the other with his Vanderbilt degree."

"I've never actually met him," Aschenbach said, "but I kind of want to thank him for that quote."

If his success so far provides any indication, Aschenbach will be racing for a long time. He plans on making a career out of racing. Other signs, such as his deal with Porsche or his AXA Financial sponsorship, also imply that Aschenbach is in professional racing to stay. These races can even be viewed on television on the Speed Channel.

"I'm very fortunate in the spot I have right now," said Aschenbach. "The situation I'm in is incredible." ■

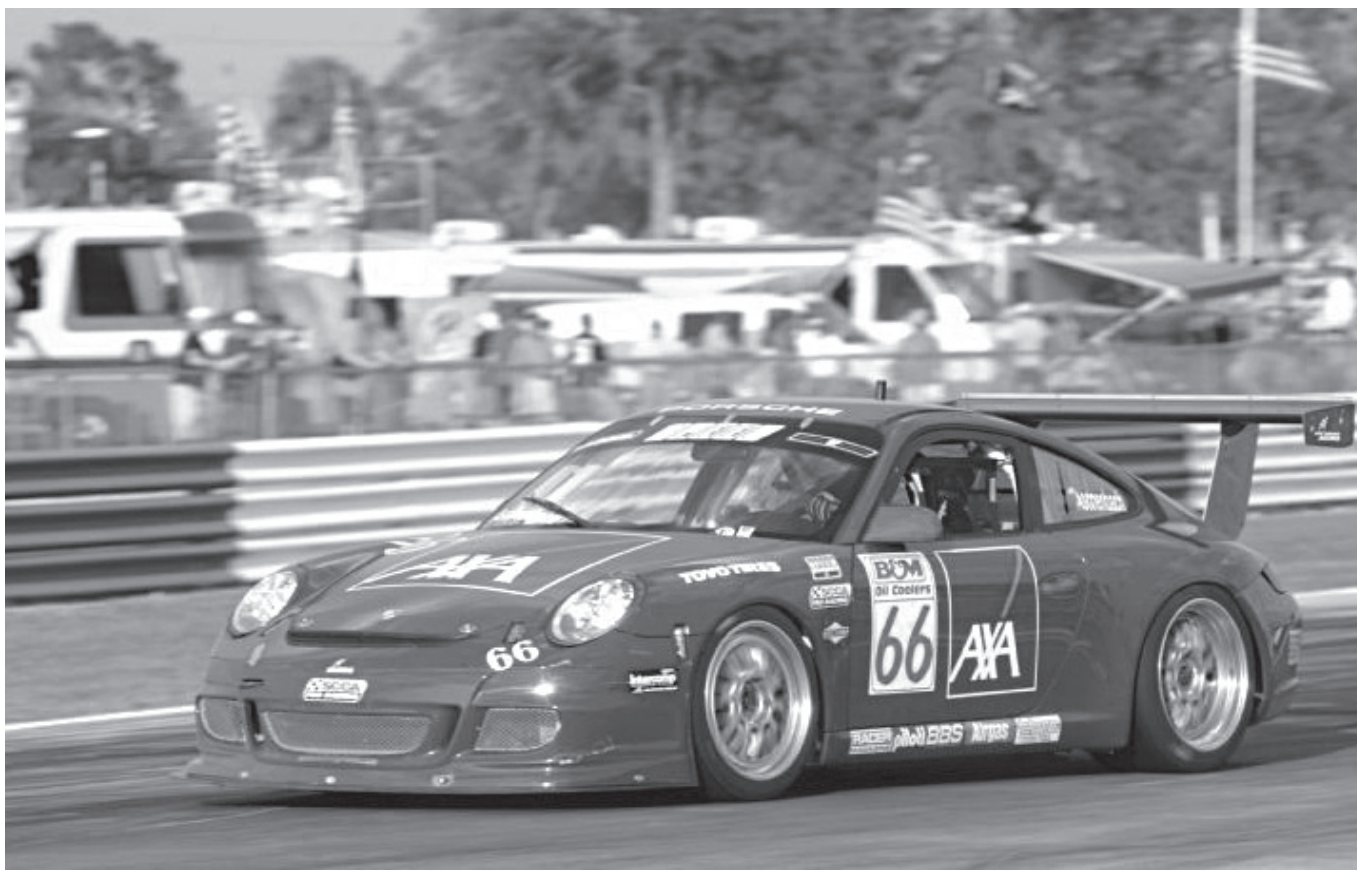


PHOTO PROVIDED

Senior Lawson Aschenbach will pursue a career in professional racing when he graduates in May. Aschenbach has already competed in numerous races.

MEN'S TENNIS

MTSU Blue Raiders slam past 'Dores, 6-1

BY ANDY LUTZKY
HUSTLER ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Despite forcing three tiebreakers throughout the day, Vanderbilt men's tennis could not capitalize on their opportunities and fell to Middle Tennessee State on Wednesday, 6-1.

"It wasn't what I had in mind, I didn't think we played well," said head coach Ian Duvenhage. "I really felt like we'd been building something in the last three matches, but unfortunately this was a step back. We will definitely have to regroup before Friday."

The No. 31 Blue Raiders (12-6) handed the No. 63 Commodores (7-10) their first match loss in eight tries, led by a pair of European giants in Andreas Siljestrom and Marco Born.

They teamed up to crush Vanderbilt's Andy Mack and Evan Dufaux in doubles, 8-2. Siljestrom later downed Ryan Preston in singles, 6-1, 6-4.

Preston and Jordan Magarik delivered the lone doubles victory for the Commodores at No. 2, defeating Kai Schledorn and Brandon Allan, 7-6.

Vanderbilt's only other win of the day came from the singles play of Nik Cromydas, who beat Middle Tennessee State's Morgan Richard in a tiebreaker, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6(6). The Blue Raiders won the other five singles matches.

Vanderbilt plays host to the Florida Gators today at 2:30 p.m. at the Curry Tennis Center. ■



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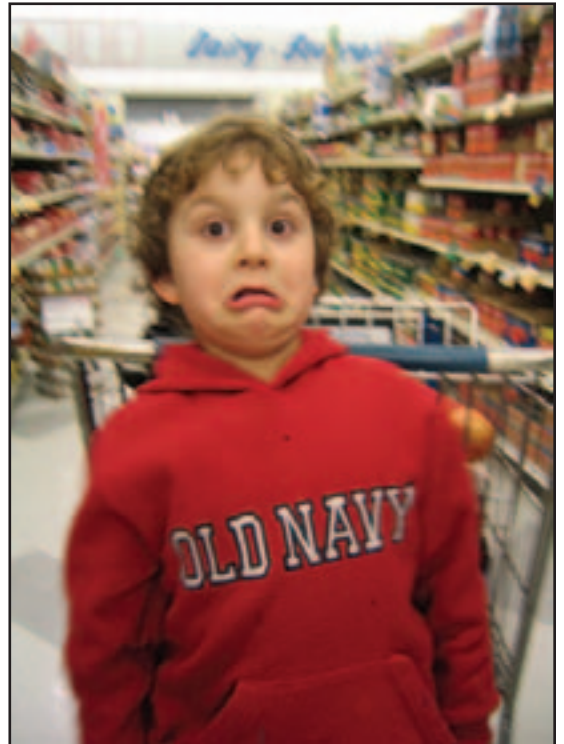


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 - 27 Talented
 - 29 Self-image
 - 30 Brosnan series, "Remington ___"
 - 32 Brown shade
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 - 39 Super-duper
 - 40 Maltreat
 - 42 Feels unwell
 - 43 Two peas in a pod
 - 45 Wine and dine
 - 47 Supernatural
 - 49 Parisian street
 - 50 Grand gorge
 - 52 Flutter
 - 56 Mammal's triplets?
 - 57 Lined and crinkly
 - 60 Half a bikini
 - 61 North Carolina school
 - 63 Lord of the manor
 - 64 Proprietor
 - 66 Gobi's place
 - 67 Of the ear
 - 68 Cereal grain
 - 69 Tenant's check
 - 70 Small notch
 - 71 Bridge position
- DOWN**
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 - 3 Strung along
 - 4 Mideast federation
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 - 6 Film reel
 - 7 Hack
 - 8 Got older
 - 9 Go back on one's word
 - 10 Ancient Egyptian deity
 - 11 School eatery
 - 12 Solo
 - 13 Medicated
 - 22 Larger and deeper fiddle
 - 23 Carpe ___!
 - 26 Propriety
 - 28 Flotsam or jetsam, e.g.
 - 30 Publicity ploy
 - 31 Part of LSAT
 - 32 Angora or Burmese
 - 33 In what way?
 - 34 Thin translucent paper
 - 35 First sibling
 - 37 Inventor Whitney
 - 38 W-2 form ID
 - 41 Spine-tingling
 - 44 Flat-bottomed boat
 - 46 Massage
 - 48 Perfect accord
 - 50 Chest material
 - 51 Make laugh
 - 52 Type of T-shirt
 - 53 Li'l guy of comics
 - 54 Pick up the tab
 - 55 Dirt
 - 58 Tubular pasta
 - 59 Clapton or Roberts
 - 62 Chow down
 - 65 Sci-Fi Doctor

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17					18				19			
20				21	22				23		24	
25			26					27		28		
		29				30	31					
32	33	34			35				36		37	38
39				40				41		42		
43				44		45			46			
		47			48			49				
50	51							52		53	54	55
56				57		58	59			60		
61			62		63				64	65		
66					67				68			
69					70				71			

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04-05 Solutions

A	C	E		C	O	M	M	A		B	U	R	M	A	
C	O	D		O	N	A	I	R		O	N	I	O	N	
M	A	I		V	E	R	S	E		A	S	C	O	T	
E	X	T		R	E	M	E	S		C	R	E	E	D	S
				I	R	A	S			H	I	D	E		
W	H	I	T	E	N		C	A	D	E	N	C	E	S	
H	A	T	E	D		D	I	V	E	R		R	A	W	
A	R	E	S		L	A	T	E	R		M	A	G	I	
L	E	M		E	A	T	E	N		C	A	V	E	S	
E	S	S	E	N	C	E	S			F	A	K	E	R	S
				A	R	K	S			R	A	R	E		
T	E	T	R	A	S		D	E	S	E	R	T	E	R	
A	L	O	N	G		B	U	T	T	E		B	A	A	
P	U	R	E	E		A	L	I	E	N		A	S	K	
S	L	E	D	S		G	L	E	N	S		R	Y	E	

The Hustler is appreciative of the high interest in our Photo Contest. Unfortunately, due to a high volume of talented submissions and limited space, we are only able to print a fraction of what we receive. We would like to thank everyone for participating.