



**SCIENCE & MEDICINE:** Child Health Week aims to keep kids from getting fat. **SEE PAGE 2**

**OPINION:** Obama and Biden will tax and spend citizens from here to eternity. **SEE PAGE 4**

## Aid gets accolades

**Elimination of need-based loans receive widespread praise.**

by **EVE ATTERMANN**  
*Administration Specialist*

With much focus on Nashville and Commodore football this past week, the Vanderbilt administration has given the public another reason to look to our campus with the announcement of the elimination of need-based loans in undergraduate financial aid packages.

Next semester, the new program will go into effect for seniors so they can benefit from the new program before they graduate. Approximately 400 seniors will benefit from the new financial aid program that will replace all need-based loans with grants, which will cost Vanderbilt around \$1 million, according to Christiansen.

"It's just been unreal the positive feedback we've received," said Associate Provost for Enrollment Management and Dean of Admissions Douglas Christiansen.

"Congressmen and senators have been commending us on a national level on our continued efforts to give access for all students. I've received hundreds and hundreds of e-mails."

Christiansen said admissions offices from comparable schools have also been giving positive feedback.

"Most of the schools I've spoken with are all thrilled, it's mostly about access

and education and less about the competition, although it's competitive, as you know, as well," Christiansen said.

This positivity has echoed across campus, even by those seniors who will remain unaffected by the initiative.

"I think it is a great idea, but I'm upset that it happened our senior year," said senior Christina Puig. "But overall it is a great thing. I am curious in how it will affect everybody else."

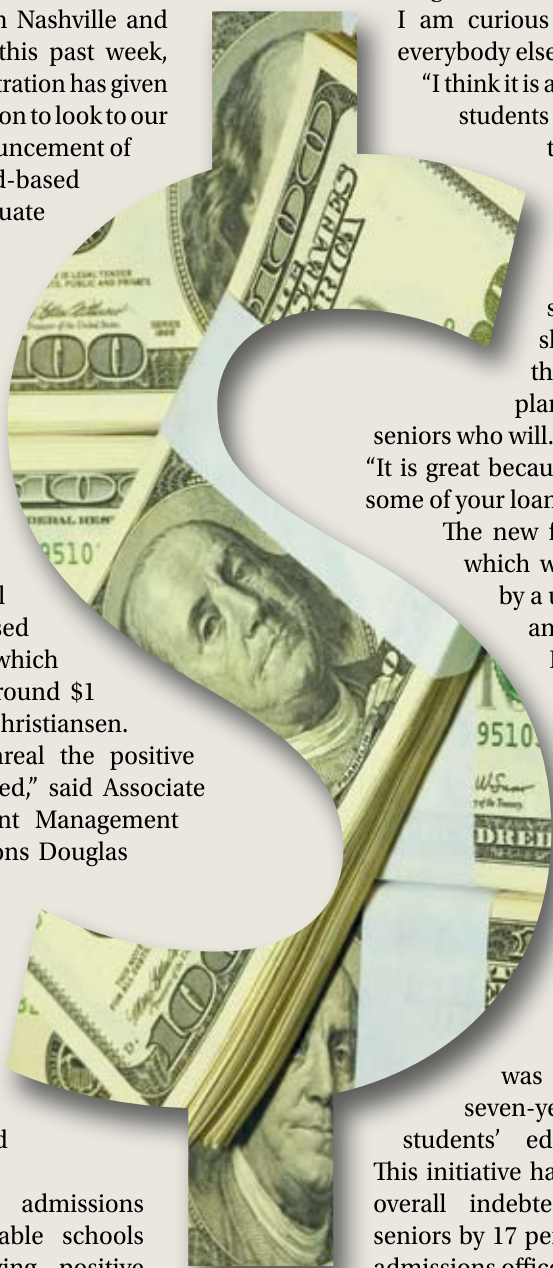
"I think it is a great way to encourage students that can't afford college to come to Vanderbilt," said senior LeeAnne Lynch, who will graduate this December. And while she is disappointed she won't get to enjoy the benefits of the new plan, she is happy for the seniors who will.

"It is great because you get to decrease some of your loans," Lynch said.

The new financial aid initiative, which was unveiled on Oct. 1 by a university press release and *The Vanderbilt Hustler*, will be offering need-based grants in the place of loans to all students starting next year. The initiative will be funded by strategic budget allocations as well as a \$100 million fundraising campaign called Shape the Future.

The new program was the culmination of a seven-year initiative to reduce students' education-related debt. This initiative has reduced the average overall indebtedness of graduating seniors by 17 percent, according to the admissions office. ■

— *Chrystel Marincich contributed information to this article.*



## LEADERSHIP

### VSG resolutions pass

by **LILY CHEN**  
*Leadership Specialist*

At the VSG meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 8, topics of discussion included various events such as a Thanksgiving dinner in Highland Quad, a Halloween party at Carmichael Towers and Poker and Play night on Alumni Lawn. Senator Lori Murphy discussed the upcoming 5K Commodore Trot. Resolutions passed in Senate and presented and passed this week included:

**Presentation of Resolution 08-09-10: "House elections Transparency Act"**  
**Presenters: Senator Aziz Malik, Council President John David Furlow**

The resolution states that in the past two years, members of House have been elected by plurality vote, whereas VSG resolution specifically states "each house shall select its House President by a majority vote." Therefore, an amendment to Article VIII, Section IV of the Constitution from a "majority" to a "plurality" is encouraged.

Possible upcoming resolutions include increasing card access, faculty posting course syllabi online and improved pre-major advising

Resolutions compiled by VSG General Secretary Melissa Zhu.

## CAMPUS LIVING

### MTSU student charged with terrorism after e-mail threat

*Associated Press*

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (AP)**—A 19-year-old student at Middle Tennessee State University was arrested on terrorism charges Thursday after threatening e-mails forced the cancellation of two days of classes.

Justin Davis of suburban Nashville was charged with an act of terrorism and one count of arson, said Kyle Evans, a spokesman for the Murfreesboro Police Department. Davis was jailed on \$500,000 bond and did not yet have a lawyer.

University officials at midday Thursday had canceled classes Thursday and Friday because of what campus Police Chief Buddy Peaster said was an e-mail suggesting "large-scale devastation or destruction."

Evans said no motive had

been determined, but said Davis was cooperating with investigators about the case. The student is a freshman majoring in dental hygiene.

The arson count resulted from a small fire Wednesday night in a stairwell at the Miss Mary residence hall where Davis lived, Evans said. It was quickly put out.

University President Sidney McPhee sent an e-mail to all faculty, staff and students at midday Thursday, saying "a credible threat to our campus has been made."

Police said they believe just one person sent the e-mail, but about six people on campus had received it Wednesday. Computer data has been turned over to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Peaster said before the arrest that it was possible a student was just trying to get out of a

test, "but we need to be wary and concerned."

"We felt we should err on the side of safety and caution," he said.

Students were taking midterm exams Thursday and Friday, then had fall break next Monday and Tuesday. Classes were scheduled to resume Wednesday.

The school, 30 miles southeast of Nashville, has a fall enrollment of about 23,900. It's primarily a commuter university, with 3,500 living on campus in 21 residence halls and apartments. School housing was not evacuated Thursday.

University offices maintained their normal business hours Thursday, and campus events were scheduled to go on as planned. The Blue Raider football team plays Saturday at Florida International. ■

## ACADEMICS

### VISAGE combines service and study abroad

by **MARTYNA STOMSKI**  
*News Contributor*

As study abroad programs grow in number and become more accessible to students, new opportunities offer the chance for alternative abroad experiences.

One of the newest study abroad opportunities at Vanderbilt is the VISAGE Program, which is designed in three parts to provide students with a summer study abroad opportunity as well as academic experience.

"I don't think anyone else has a program like this. What we combine is academics through a course in the spring, service through a trip in the summer and a follow-up through

another course in the fall," said Dr. Marshall Eakin, professor of History and VISAGE program director.

The program's design is meant to integrate academics with being a global citizen, both in Nashville and abroad. Each particular program is centered on its own theme, varying from resource sustainability, economic development to social justice. While only in its second year, VISAGE offers programs to Australia, Nicaragua, South Africa and newly added Costa Rica.

"Last year in the Australia program, half our students were Arts and Science (students) while half were engineers, so we created this nice environment for students who

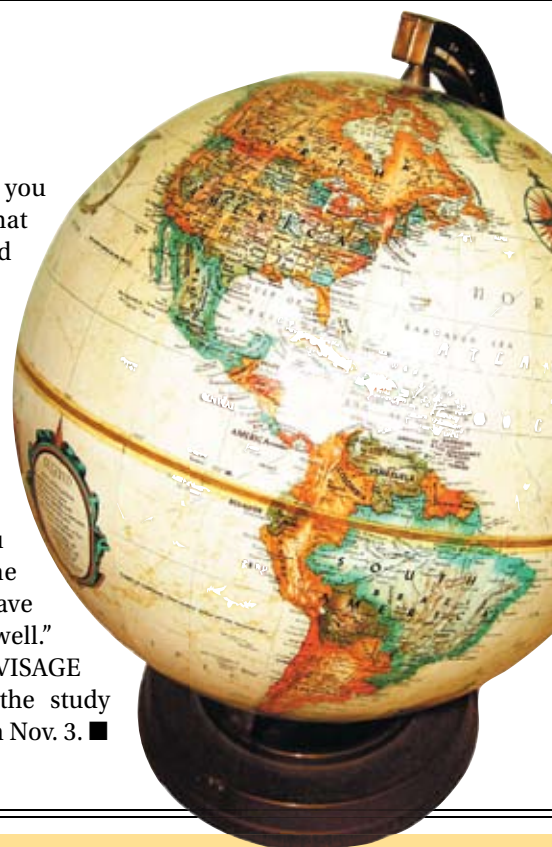
approach problems in completely different ways and I think you'll find that in completely different sites," said Marie Martin, assistant director of the Global Education Office.

Unlike traditional study abroad summer programs where students barely have time to digest their experiences, the length of the program is meant to place a greater emphasis on understanding solutions to global problems through both scholarly and service work. During the trips in the summer session, students will perform 15-20 hours of community service per week in addition to lectures, tours and cultural immersions.

"In this program, you're learning so much about the country first,

and when you get there, you can actually see those that you saw in the book and it registers differently," said Waldir Sepulveda, senior lecturer in the department of Spanish and Portuguese and site director of Nicaragua. "People open their eyes a little wider. It's different in that way because you have the academics in the beginning and then you have the experience side of it as well."

Applications for the VISAGE Program are available in the study abroad office and are due on Nov. 3. ■



**SPORTS:** Friday Conversation with soccer star Megan Kinsella. **SEE PAGE 6**

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# SNAPSHOTS

compiled by HANNAH TWILLMAN

## WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

### TODAY



HIGH **84**, LOW **63**  
Sunny

### SATURDAY



HIGH **85**, LOW **60**  
Partly cloudy

## STAFF

Editor **Michael Warren**  
michael.r.warren@vanderbilt.edu

Day Managers  
**Hannah Twillman**  
hannah.t.twillman@vanderbilt.edu

**Eve Attermann**  
eve.r.attermann@vanderbilt.edu

**Janelle Stokes**  
janelle.k.stokes@vanderbilt.edu

Opinion Editor **Thomas Shattuck**  
thomas.w.shattuck@vanderbilt.edu

Senior Copy Editor **Hannah Twillman**  
hannah.t.twillman@vanderbilt.edu

Academics Specialist **Judy Wang**  
zhu.wang@vanderbilt.edu

Administration Specialist **Eve Attermann**  
eve.r.attermann@vanderbilt.edu

Campus Living Specialist **Norah Scanlan**  
norah.o.scanlan@vanderbilt.edu

Leadership Specialist **Lily Chen**  
lily.z.chen@vanderbilt.edu

Greek Scene Specialist **Janelle Stokes**  
janelle.k.stokes@vanderbilt.edu

Science and Medicine Specialist **Allie Morris**  
allison.d.morris@vanderbilt.edu

Sports Specialist **David Rutz**  
david.c.rutz@vanderbilt.edu

Election Project Director **Katherine Miller**  
katherine.m.miller@vanderbilt.edu

Commons Project Director **Kelly Swope**  
kelly.m.swope@vanderbilt.edu

Art Director **Matt Radford**  
matt@vscmedia.org

Photo Editor **Chris Phare**  
chris.phare@vanderbilt.edu

## SERVICE GUIDE

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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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### BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 124 during business hours.

## CORRECTION

Wednesday's editorial incorrectly noted that Vanderbilt had made a bid to host the presidential debate. The Hustler regrets this error.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Dalai Lama hospitalized in New Delhi following routine medical checkup

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—The Dalai Lama was hospitalized in New Delhi, his spokesman said early Friday, just days after a medical checkup cleared the Tibetan spiritual leader to resume foreign travel.

Tenzin Taklha told The Associated Press that the Dalai Lama was admitted to a New Delhi hospital for "further consultations with doctors."

Taklha declined to say when he was hospitalized or provide any details on his condition. He said he expected more information to be released later in the day.

The Press Trust of India news agency reported that the spiritual leader was admitted to the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in the Indian capital. The hospital's duty officer Dr. Priyank Tyagi would not comment on the the report.

In August, the 73-year-old Dalai Lama was admitted to a Mumbai hospital and underwent tests for abdominal discomfort. Doctors advised him to cancel a planned trip to Europe and rest, saying he was suffering from exhaustion.

The Dalai Lama arrived in the Indian capital Monday from Dharmasala, a north Indian hill town where he set up his headquarters after fleeing Tibet in 1959 following a failed uprising against Chinese rule. He underwent the medical check on Tuesday and was scheduled to be back in Dharmasala on Thursday, according to information provided earlier by Chhime R. Chhoekyapa, another spokesman.

At the time, Chhoekyapa declined to say why the Dalai Lama needed another checkup less than six weeks after he was admitted to a Mumbai hospital and underwent tests for abdominal discomfort. He spent four days in Mumbai's Lilavati Hospital.

Taklha in September said that the spiritual leader was in good condition but doctors had advised him to rest as much as possible.

### Suspected US missile strike reported near Pakistan-Afghanistan border

**DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan (AP)**—A suspected U.S. missile strike targeted two areas in a Pakistani tribal region near the Afghanistan border on Thursday, killing at least nine people, Pakistani intelligence officials said.

Also Thursday, bombings targeting police killed 10 people and wounded 14 in Pakistan's volatile northwest and the capital — reminders of the challenge facing the country as its lawmakers pursue a national anti-terror consensus.

The alleged missile strikes appeared to be part of a surge in U.S. cross border assaults from Afghanistan on alleged militant targets in Pakistan, which have strained ties between the two anti-terror allies.

One missile strike occurred at a house in Tappi village in North Waziristan tribal region. Some of those killed were believed to be foreigners, said two local Pakistani intelligence officials, citing reports from informants and agents.

A local tribesman, Shoaib Dawar, said Taliban militants surrounded the house. He said drones were heard in the area before the strike.

A second alleged strike was reported at a house in the village of Dande Darpa Khel. The site was near a seminary of veteran Taliban commander Jalaluddin Haqqani, considered an archenemy of the U.S. No casualties were immediately reported.

### Palin wrongly suggests Congress bans oil, natural gas exports

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, touted by GOP presidential candidate John McCain as his expert on energy, seemed to have problems Thursday explaining whether the government bans oil exports — especially from her state's North Slope fields.

A questioner at a town hall-style meeting in Wisconsin said he had heard that at least 75 percent of the oil drilled in Alaska was being sold to China and said, if true, he would like to know why.

"No. It's not 75 percent of our oil being exported," Palin said, suggesting some of Alaska's oil, in fact, may be going abroad but not that much.

"In fact," she added, "Congress is pretty strict on, um, export bans of oil and gas especially."

No Alaska oil has been exported since 2004, and little if any since 2000, according to the Energy Information Administration and the Congressional Research Service.

And Congress has never imposed outright bans on oil exports. Congress prohibited exports of Alaska oil in 1973 when the Alaska oil pipeline was built. But that ban was lifted in 1996 when there were large volumes of Alaska oil coming down from the North Slope and U.S. demand was soft.

The Alaska ban has never been reinstated.

### Police: Shopping mall shooting suspect upset over purchase in Knoxville

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—The fatal shooting of a store employee and gun battle with police in a Knoxville shopping mall began as a complaint over a clothing purchase, authorities said Thursday.

William Johnson — who faces charges of murder, aggravated kidnapping and attempted murder in the Wednesday shootings — acted alone and targeted the store, police spokesman Darrell DeBusk said.

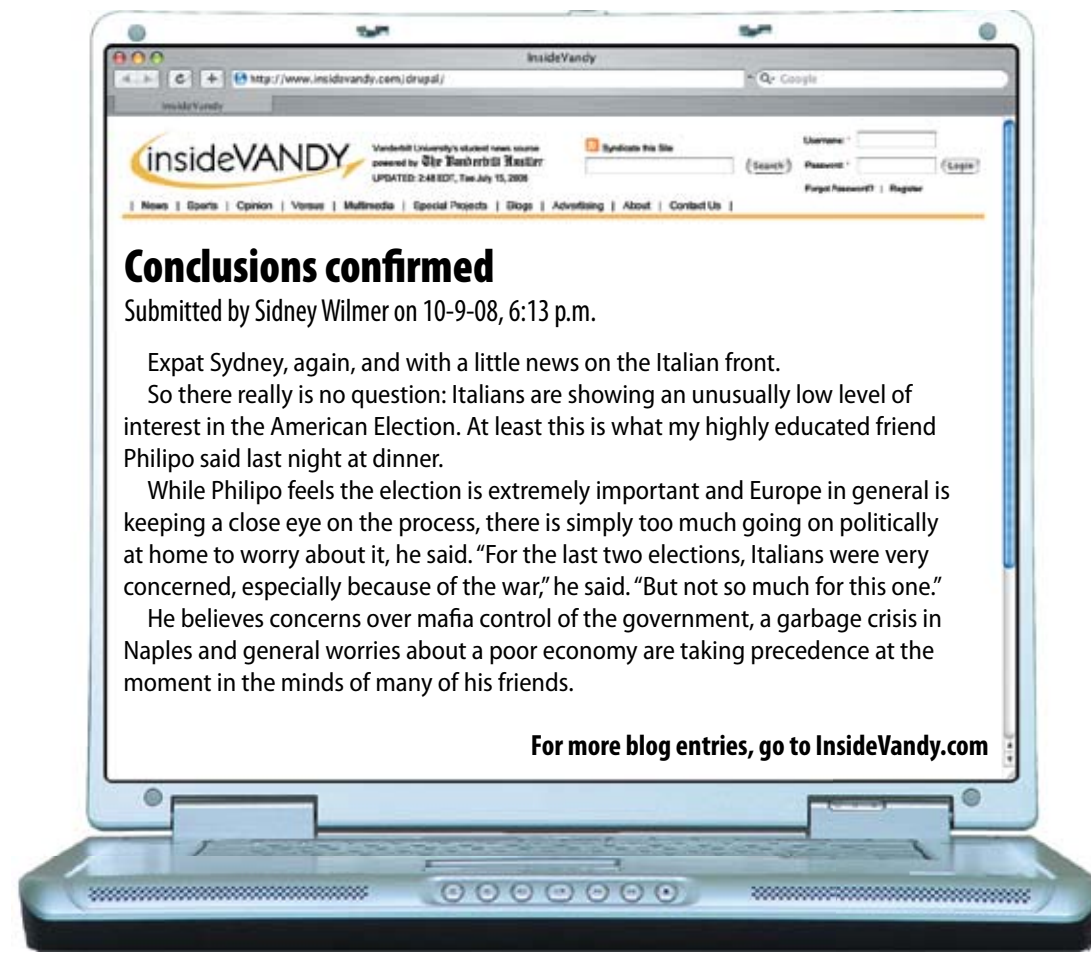
"This shooting did not occur just because the store was at the mall," he said. "It occurred because the suspect was upset over a previous clothing purchase."

Johnson, 42, came to the shopping center around 4:20 p.m. Wednesday determined to get satisfaction from Reno Mens Wear for clothing he had bought there. Neighboring merchants said the store had a no-return policy and Johnson's complaint was about a suit, but DeBusk wouldn't discuss those details. A man listed in city records as the owner-operator of the store, Yasser Salem, did not return phone calls seeking comment.

Minutes after Johnson entered the store, 29-year-old employee Ahmed Nahl was dead and Johnson was being taken to a hospital for wounds in the leg and arm after a shootout with two police officers.

The investigation was continuing Thursday and Johnson, hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries, had yet to be interviewed. But authorities were closing in on what happened.

## FROM THE BLOG



### Conclusions confirmed

Submitted by Sidney Wilmer on 10-9-08, 6:13 p.m.

Expat Sydney, again, and with a little news on the Italian front.

So there really is no question: Italians are showing an unusually low level of interest in the American Election. At least this is what my highly educated friend Philipo said last night at dinner.

While Philipo feels the election is extremely important and Europe in general is keeping a close eye on the process, there is simply too much going on politically at home to worry about it, he said. "For the last two elections, Italians were very concerned, especially because of the war," he said. "But not so much for this one."

He believes concerns over mafia control of the government, a garbage crisis in Naples and general worries about a poor economy are taking precedence at the moment in the minds of many of his friends.

For more blog entries, go to [InsideVandy.com](http://InsideVandy.com)

## SNAPSHOT

### YOM KIPPUR



ERIC GLASSER / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students enjoy a dinner hosted by Vanderbilt Hillel in the Student Life Center before a 25-hour fast in observance of Yom Kippur.

## SCIENCE & MEDICINE

### Vanderbilt at risk: Measles in Tenn.

by **SISHIR MANNAVA**

News Contributor

Vanderbilt study abroad students and travelers may be affected by a recent outbreak in measles. This outbreak may not cause concern in the many immunized students within the safe confines of the Vanderbilt bubble, but Dr. Louis Hanson, director of Student Health, said it is a pressing problem.

"All college students are affected ... American students (are) going abroad and bringing back strains of measles and mumps is the real threat," said Hanson.

Forty-five years after the

development of the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine, measles has returned as a considerable problem. Kathryn Edwards, professor of Pediatrics and vice-chair of Pediatric Medicine at the Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, said non-vaccinated individuals and travelers from abroad have released a vigorous and highly contagious strain of measles in the U.S., especially since recent factors have led to a decrease in MMR vaccinations.

"Religious belief and the recent scare by media about autism and neurobehavioral diseases linked to the MMR vaccine keep some residents of Tennessee from vaccinating

their children," said Edwards.

The risk of measles being reintroduced back into the community is still alive. According to Hanson, there exist pockets of underimmunized students on Vanderbilt's campus. Students put themselves at risk of contracting the disease if they avoid getting the two MMR shots required before the start of fall semester of their first. In an effort to emphasize the importance of immunization, procedures for immunization compliance have grown more intensive for the class of 2012. If a student does not comply with immunization, Vanderbilt is prepared to suspend their spring semester registration. ■

## SCIENCE & MEDICINE

### Child Health Week aims to combat child obesity

by **ALLIE MORRIS**

Science & Medicine Specialist

Child Health Week will take place at the Vanderbilt Medical Center next week with events including a national forum on children's obesity, a free car seat check and a 1-hour teaching kitchen demonstration.

"Children's health is a focus for our state. Ultimately we want all of our children to be as healthy as they can be," said Director of Children's Health Improvement and Prevention Mary Kate Mouser.

Mouser said Tennessee is ranked in the top four states for highest child BMI and also holds

a high rank for adult obesity.

The Pediatric Obesity Forum will be held on Oct. 15 from 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

"It's a chance for folks across the state to come together and to talk about obesity ... It's a time to brainstorm and to think about the future, to collaborate and to build," Mouser said.

Mouser said child obesity is a multifaceted problem and can stem from many different causes.

"There is an education piece that has to happen, a change in behavior and also a change in environment," she said. "Tennessee is in the South, in the South we put butter and lard

in our food because its been a tradition ... Also, there are a number of things when looking at low income areas, they don't have access to fresh fruit or vegetables, only access to quick markets who sell candy bars and beer."

The Vanderbilt Medical Center is trying to combat the problem through a number of research and outreach programs. Additionally, Mouser said Vanderbilt has recently received funding for a 20-year long-term study that will follow kids from the time they are conceived until they turn 21. The study aims to uncover what types of health issues arise based on environment and education. ■



Alcohol is the most common  
substance used in  
**DRUG-ASSISTED RAPES**

**SEX WITHOUT CONSENT**

**IS RAPE**



"This project is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee."



# OPINION

## Populism made easier



**THOMAS SHATTUCK**  
Opinion Editor

I have to admit that I, along with probably millions of Americans, was disappointed with the debate. I'm also mildly surprised at the lack of student interest. Of course, I can't really be all that shocked — the debate slowly became an unnerving display of outright sycophancy. Judging by Messieurs McCain and Obama, all the viewing public wants is xenophobia tinged with less-than-subtle flattery. I know I didn't learn much about either of candidates. I have a funny feeling that was intentional.

Look at it this way: Each campaign has spent millions of dollars and thousands of man hours (some volunteered and some compensated). The way the candidates behaved on Tuesday was not an accident. They have been coached to act just so. For example, neither of these potential leaders answered a single damn question. Not a one. When asked something interesting, they reinterpreted it into a something that directly related to their well-established platform. They then reiterated their platform ad nauseum. While it made for a dull debate, I can't quite fault them. Misdirection is simultaneously fundamental to stage magic and public speaking. They obviously can't have all the answers, so they pretend to look like it. I mean seriously, someone asked if they could put a dollar amount on some of their plans (healthcare, I think). Who could do that? I know most pundits are equating Obama to Jesus, but even he would be stuck on that one.

So obviously, the candidates knew what they were doing. This brings up the question, why did they treat the American people like xenophobes? According to them, as an American, all I should care about is that jobs do not get exported. Furthermore, I should think it's a crime to purchase energy from another country. For some reason, I sincerely doubt the source of our domestic woes is foreign economic aggression. It's strange to hear a Republican — a man who is supposed to be in favor of full trade — try to stop international competition. I mean, isn't that a fundamental part of globalization? You can stop yourself from changing, but it's a mite more difficult to stop the planet. They must be listening to T. Boone Pickens too much for their own good. There are a lot of problems in this country; however, I don't think developing an isolationist economic policy will help.

Furthermore, the candidates kept announcing how their government would help all the people. That's not entirely surprising from Obama, since he's practically a Social Democrat at this point, but from McCain? When would a Republican government ever buy \$300 billion in bad debt in an attempt to take an intentional loss? That's not conservative, I'm not entirely sure if it's even sane. Not to mention, Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum kept implying the debt crisis was not because of the American people. Like the Enron scandal, the problems were attributed to a few bad apples. You know, because buying a house you can't afford is just peachy. Why have financial common sense when you can just go bankrupt?

One way or another, the campaign machines have quite an interesting picture of the average American voters. They're scared of foreign competition, they have no idea what global warming is (it involves carbon somehow) and they have no sense of personal responsibility whatsoever. It's not exactly a flattering portrait, is it? Of course, maybe it's not so inaccurate. Maybe the campaign apparatuses know more about us than we do ourselves. In that case, we might as well kill ourselves know. If not, I'm sure they'll do it for us.

*Thomas Shattuck is a sophomore in the School of Engineering. He can be reached thomas.w.shattuck@vanderbilt.edu.*

### EDITORIAL

## Living within our means

The blame for the current financial market crisis can certainly be spread to a number of people, policies and events. The wealthy bundlers of sub-prime mortgage loans, who sold the risky financial products to people who could not pay them back, certainly have one of the larger burdens. The members of Congress who failed to act on the White House's vocal concerns about Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac also have to take some of the blame. Of course, as America waits for both presidential candidates and other national leaders to provide a clear and sober solution to problems our economy faces, Americans need more than macro solutions.

At last week's vice-presidential debate, Republican candidate Sarah Palin offered a nugget of common sense desperately needed in this time of uncertainty: "Let's do what our parents told us before we probably even got that first credit card. Don't live outside of our means." The governor of Alaska gets a bad rap for her grasp of the issues, but this bright spot in the debate perhaps held the more wisdom than any other statement by any politician this campaign season.

At the heart of all of the economic problems our nation faces is the inability for many Americans — on Wall Street, on Main Street and on Capitol Hill — to live and work within their means. Investment firms decided to ride a get-rich-quick wave and buy bad loans. Individuals and families purchase loans they cannot afford and charge luxury items to a credit card they cannot pay off. Politicians in Washington spend taxpayer's money and borrow the rest to finance a litany of government programs — with the national debt spiraling out of control. The message of frugality is not being heard.

College students stand right at the precipice before the big leap out into the real world of student loan payments, car payments, rent or mortgage payments, taxes, insurance premiums and a whole host of other financial obligations that await us. It is up to this generation to do what generations in the past have known but recently have failed to adhere to — live within our means.

This generation needs to hold its government responsible for its out of control spending. This generation needs to write the newspaper articles that uncover the next sub-prime type of scheme. This generation needs to sound the alarm from within the investment banks, the real estate companies and the halls of government that encouraging reckless financial behavior for individuals is wrong and dangerous. This generation needs to spend the money it has, and only the money it has, in order to restore faith in credit and financial markets.

What we have seen from the baby boomers in these regards has not been exemplary. It is their self-centered, "buy-it-if-you-want-it" mentality that has placed us into this mess, so we can hardly look to them for answers. Fittingly, the two presidential candidates seem to fall just outside of this generation, but neither has yet to field a plausible solution to either the immediate crisis or the long-term failure of Americans to live within their means.

We need to do better than this. The larger problem needs a leader with clarity of vision. Our generation can deliver this leader, if and only if we start recognizing the need to return to that age-old aphorism: Live within our means.

## A message from the Honor Council

### To the Editor:

Each year, Vanderbilt's incoming students have the opportunity to learn about the rich traditions of our university and about the community we are all part of. In that spirit, the Undergraduate Honor Council is excited to announce the information session we will hold on Thursday to introduce students to the Honor Code. The session will include a discussion of academic integrity at Vanderbilt and will answer questions about the Honor Council's role on campus, how students can uphold academic integrity in their classes and other issues students want to discuss. The

session will be from 6 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9 in Stevenson 4327, and while it is open to all students, we want to especially encourage first-year students to attend so they can gain a more in-depth understanding of the Honor Code they signed just a few weeks ago. The entire executive board will serve as the panel for the event, and we hope to equip students with the knowledge they need to prepare for their studies at Vanderbilt. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Abby Stufflebam**  
**Matt Specht**  
**Jeremy Gunn**

## THE RANT

**What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on any issue you want. Send in your rants with the subject "Rant" to: [opinion@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:opinion@vanderbilthustler.com)**

Compiled by Thomas Shattuck

"Sports should not be on the front page. That's what the back page is for. 5-0 is super-sweet and is a big deal in Vandy history, so maybe, but even still. As for all the other times it happened this year — come on."

"Katherine Miller's opinions on the presidential candidates? I don't give a monkey's derriere about what the people on the opinion page think about McCain or Obama, why should I have to read that on the front page? Just because each party earned roughly the same number of animal icons does not make her unbiased or objective. It's a freakin' opinion!"

"I don't give a damn about what the people on the opinion page think about McCain or Obama, or gun rights! Let's leave it to the people who are knowledgeable professionals (or social philosophers in the case of gun rights) to give opinions on this topic, not the kid who sits next to you in PoliSci."

"Why is The Rant only in every other issue? It's the only thing in the Hustler that I habitually read."

"I'm starting to hate the Wall. Every time I walk by I feel like I'm being accosted by beggars."

"Will someone please tell my roommate to wash her own dishes!"

"You know what's awesome? Eating baconators at 2 a.m."

## Obama wants your money



**FRANNIE BOYLE**  
Columnist

With the recent economic crises, much of the speaking time during the past two presidential debates was dedicated to solutions for the country's financial troubles. Both presidential candidates, Sen. John McCain and Sen. Barack Obama put forth vague solutions this past Tuesday, and they were also given the opportunity to point fingers at one another. One issue both tickets have tried to claim this campaign season is government spending.

Unfortunately for the Democratic ticket, both candidates have little accountability when it comes to handling taxpayers' money in a responsible manner, and they are up against one of the most frugal candidates the Senate has to offer.

According to the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, Obama and Sen. Joe Biden have very low markings when it comes to taxing and excessive government spending. In 2007, Obama was given a rating of 10 percent, which contributes to a lifetime rating of 18 percent (the lower the percentage, the less defensive the candidate has been against frivolous government spending). In 2008, Obama let 53 earmarks slip by, coming to a total of \$97.4 million. This large sum includes \$1,648,850 for the Shedd Aquarium. Biden actually received the lowest possible rating last year — a whopping 0 percent. He let \$119.7 million dollars go by in 2008, including \$246,000 for the Grand Opera House in his own Wilmington, Del.

It is quite ironic that Biden would not let Gov. Sarah Palin forget her initial support of the "Bridge to Nowhere" during their debate last week, because it was actually Congress that financed the project. In 2005, both Biden and Obama voted to support funding for the "Bridge to Nowhere" project rather than funding for more Hurricane Katrina relief.

Since taking office, Obama has asked for \$740 million worth of earmarks for Illinois. Of that, \$750,000 went toward a visitor's center and \$713,000 of that went toward soybean disease research. Biden has requested \$120 million in earmarks for Delaware, \$2 million of which has gone toward oyster bed revitalization and \$656,000 that went toward sprinklers for apartment complexes.

The list of what the Democratic ticket has wanted to do with U.S. taxpayer money goes on and on. McCain, on the other hand, is probably one of the best GOP politicians you could find when it comes to cracking down on excessive government spending. The Council for Citizens Against Government Waste gives McCain an 88 percent lifetime rating. He actually received a 100 percent in this past year because he did not request a single earmark. He has pledged to veto any bill containing earmarks that comes across his desk, and by looking at his past any voter can see that he will more than likely stick to his word.

During the debate on Tuesday night, McCain mentioned the importance of cutting down on frivolous government spending. Obama responded with: "Earmarks account for \$18 billion in last year's budget. Sen. McCain is proposing — and this is a fundamental difference between us — \$300 billion in tax cuts." Yes, the fundamental difference is apparent through these words and through Obama's history: He believes he can make change by allowing the government to manipulate the people's money, while McCain believes he can make change by giving people the money that belongs to them.

*Frannie Boyle is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at [maryl.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:maryl.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu).*

### OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion page 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, arguments in bad faith 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 InsideVandy.com.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via e-mail to [opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com](mailto:opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com). Letters via e-mail must come from

a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. 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](mailto:editor@vanderbilthustler.com). You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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**President Joseph Williams**  
Vanderbilt Student Government  
5009 Station B  
[joseph.williams@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:joseph.williams@vanderbilt.edu)  
Sarratt 355  
(615) 322-8742

**U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander**  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4944  
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United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
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**Rep. Jim Cooper**  
U.S. House of Rep.  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4311  
(615) 736-5295

**Rep. Brenda Gilmore**  
Tenn. District 54  
P.O. Box 281934  
Nashville, TN 37228  
(615) 876-3665

**Sen. Douglas Henry Jr.**  
Tenn. District 21  
11 Legislative Plaza  
Nashville, TN 37243-0021  
(615) 741-2380

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10/8/08 SOLUTIONS

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## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- University of Georgia city
  - Magical power
  - Put a lid on it
  - Hammer upon
  - Waterproof footwear
  - Blockbuster of 1959
  - Tennis with paddles
  - Break off
  - Age
  - Rams' dams
  - Medina man
  - Perimeter
  - Perfect match
  - Will Ferrell film
  - Salad green
  - Pile up
  - Fine-grained gypsum
  - Hither's partner
  - Special visuals
  - Gasteyer of "SNL"
  - The King of Beers
  - Puts a stop to
  - Synthetic substitute
  - Big load
  - \_\_\_ en scene
  - Classic clown
  - Kind of boom
  - Oscar winner Thompson
  - Linguini or penne
  - 401(k) alternative
  - Raised road
  - Shameless
  - Mount of presidents
  - Sign of stress?
  - Most remote, briefly
  - Solidifies
  - Extinguishes
- DOWN**
- French cleric
  - Twix 12 and 20
  - Gymnastic feats
  - Ordinal ending
  - Pacific island nation
  - Move briskly
  - Sulk
  - Like sheep
  - Aniston, to friends
  - One URL ending
  - Grub
  - Top-notch
  - Tent stakes
  - Exceeds the limit
  - Rice dishes
  - Two-time loser to D.D.E.
  - Balance due
  - Grind (teeth)
  - We'll see
  - French love
  - Armada
  - Emphasizes with slanting letters
  - Air ducts
  - Rub out
  - Look after
  - Transversely
  - Effervesce
  - "\_\_\_ Cannonball"
  - French friend

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10/10/08

10/8/08 SOLUTIONS

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65 911 respondent  
66 Grievous distress  
68 Point: pref.

# \*63%

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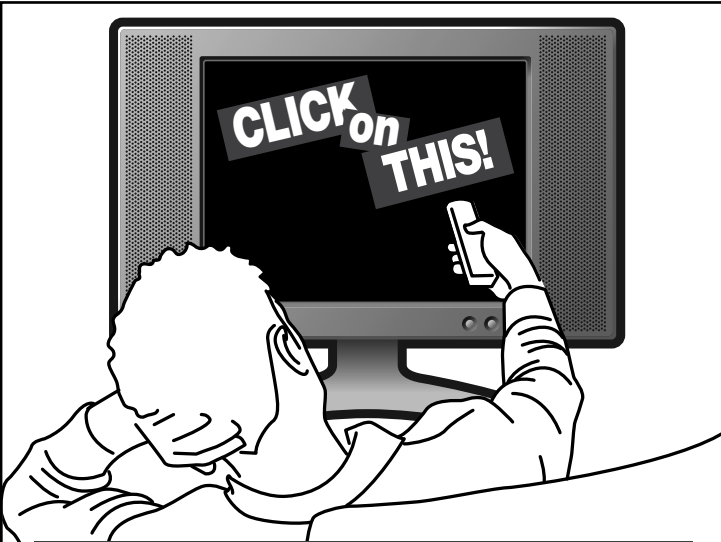
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The Vanderbilt Hustler

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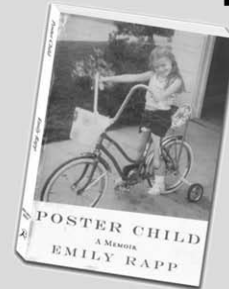
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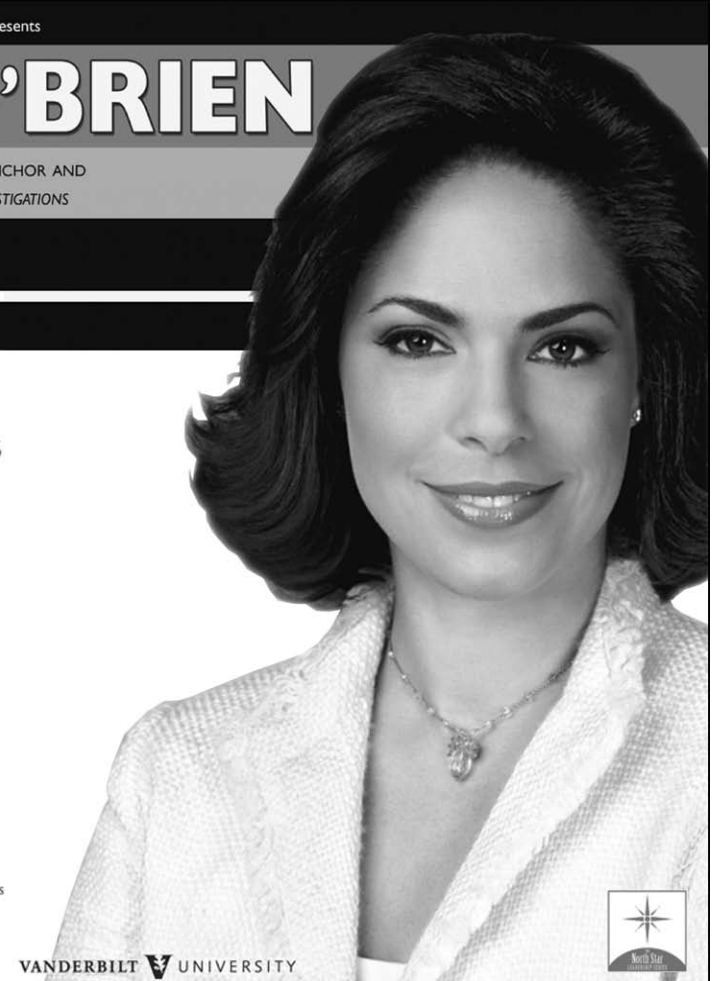
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## SPORTS

## Commodores seek win for bowl eligibility

by NICK GALLO  
Sports Contributor

Throughout this season, the Commodores (5-0, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) have set milestones, but a win this weekend at Mississippi State (1-4, 0-2) would be truly meaningful. By reaching the six-win plateau, Vanderbilt would become bowl eligible for the first time since 1982 and would also start the SEC season 4-0, which they have never done before.

Heading into Starkville, the Commodores will face a Bulldogs team that hasn't played very consistently this season, but could certainly come away victorious on Saturday. They started off the season with a disappointing 8-point loss on the road to Louisiana Tech, but went on to play an extremely close game against Auburn, in which the Tigers managed a strange 3-2 win over the Bulldogs. They also put a scare into Louisiana State on the road, only falling short by 10 points. Mississippi State's lone win came at home against Southeast Louisiana State, who they thumped 34-10.

Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson knows his team can't continue to be focused on their important win over Auburn last

week and must be ready for the Bulldogs' best shot.

"Well, it was good to get our squad back together, get the Auburn game behind us, and start concentrating on the Mississippi State game," Johnson said. "It's always going to be a tough battle for us whenever we have to go down to a tough place to play."

Johnson also acknowledged that his team must keep their attitudes in check after the big win against Auburn.

"We'll have to work hard to get ready, but our guys will be ready to do that," he said. "They've got great attitudes right now and I think they're handling everything the right way."

Johnson noted his players aren't anxious either.

"They seem calm to me," Johnson said of his players at practice. "The only thing we can control is how Vanderbilt plays on Saturday."

There is one major question mark for this Vanderbilt football team — whether redshirt senior Chris Nickson or redshirt junior Mackenzi Adams will start at quarterback. Nickson re-injured his throwing shoulder against Auburn, paving the way for backup quarterback Adams to take over the helm and rally the



### No. 13 Vanderbilt at Mississippi State

Kickoff is at 1:30 CST

DISH Network, the official satellite TV provider for the Vanderbilt Commodores, will join Comcast and Charter to bring pay-per-view opportunities for Saturday's football game between Vanderbilt and Mississippi State.

Fans can order the Oct. 11 game through their local, participating cable provider for \$29.95.

104.5 FM will air the game also.



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

team to a 14-13 victory.

Johnson knows he has a great choice in either Nickson or Adams and also has two young quarterbacks waiting in the wings if needed.

"We have guys who are ready to play and we have two that have played effectively and we

Mackenzi Adams filled in well at quarterback against Auburn, but it remains to be seen whether he or Chris Nickson will start on Saturday.

have two others who are ready when we need them," Johnson said.

Discussing his tactics for this week's game against Mississippi State, Johnson spoke about his team's game planning in the

second half and the importance it will have on Saturday.

"The best thing that we do is we are figuring out what's not working well in the first half and we try to eliminate it," Johnson said. "This gives our guys a

chance to go out there in the second half and be confident in the calls we make."

Hopefully those calls will lead to another win for the Commodores — giving them bowl eligibility. ■

## friday conversation with MEGAN KINSELLA

Interview by MEGHAN ROSE  
Sports Contributor

Sophomore women's soccer player Megan Kinsella spoke with the Vanderbilt Hustler about her role in last week's win over South Carolina, what she thinks is the biggest threat the Commodores pose to their opponent and what it's like sharing the field with her sister Molly.

**VANDERBILT HUSTLER:** How did it feel to contribute to the win against South Carolina last Sunday?

**MEGAN KINSELLA:** It was great; I really haven't felt like I've contributed too much to the scoring aspect or the assisting aspect because I only have two goals so far this season. Putting us up 2-1 against South Carolina helped our team out a lot.

**VH:** How important was it to notch your first Southeastern Conference win of the season?

**MK:** Florida was the scoring breakthrough, because we've had problems putting the ball in the back of the net. Even though we lost to Florida, we were confident that it was going to come. South Carolina was a winning breakthrough, and hopefully from here on out, we'll continue to win and put goals in the back of the net.

**VH:** What are the major differences in the competition you are playing against at this point in the season versus your earlier games?

**MK:** Most of the teams we've played before the SEC games were from Tennessee. Our conference games are a whole lot different — the competition is a lot stronger, and there is a greater sense of urgency and desire to win the SEC games.

**VH:** How would you describe your team's chemistry on and off the field?

**MK:** We have mostly freshmen and sophomores on the team. The sophomores played together last year, and obviously we're going to know each other, and the freshmen came right in with the training over the month of July. We trained together, and that helped us ease our way into the preseason and the regular season. Our chemistry off the field benefits our chemistry on the field.

**VH:** Has coach (Ronnie) Coveleskie's game plan changed at all this season?

**MK:** Coach sticks to the same theme of speed of play and mentality. She is a big mentality person, because if you aren't there mentally, you won't be there physically the way she needs you to be there and the way the team needs you to be there. Our speed of play has picked up from our preseason scrimmage against Wake Forest; it's unbelievable how much it has changed because she stresses it. We play the club boys' team during practices on Tuesdays and that helps us to play faster.

**VH:** What are your individual and team goals for the season?

**MK:** For me, I want to work my hardest all the time in both practice and games. I want to be a help to my teammates on and off the field and be coachable. As a team, we want to get to Orange Beach for the SEC tournament, and I think we have a chance. Winning from here on out is our goal.

**VH:** How important is the Georgia game for the team to stay on track?

**MK:** It's a very important game because Georgia is the first game of three straight weekends where we play away. If we beat Georgia, it will give us more motivation, and we'll be ready to play Tennessee.

**VH:** What do you see as your team's biggest threat to competition?

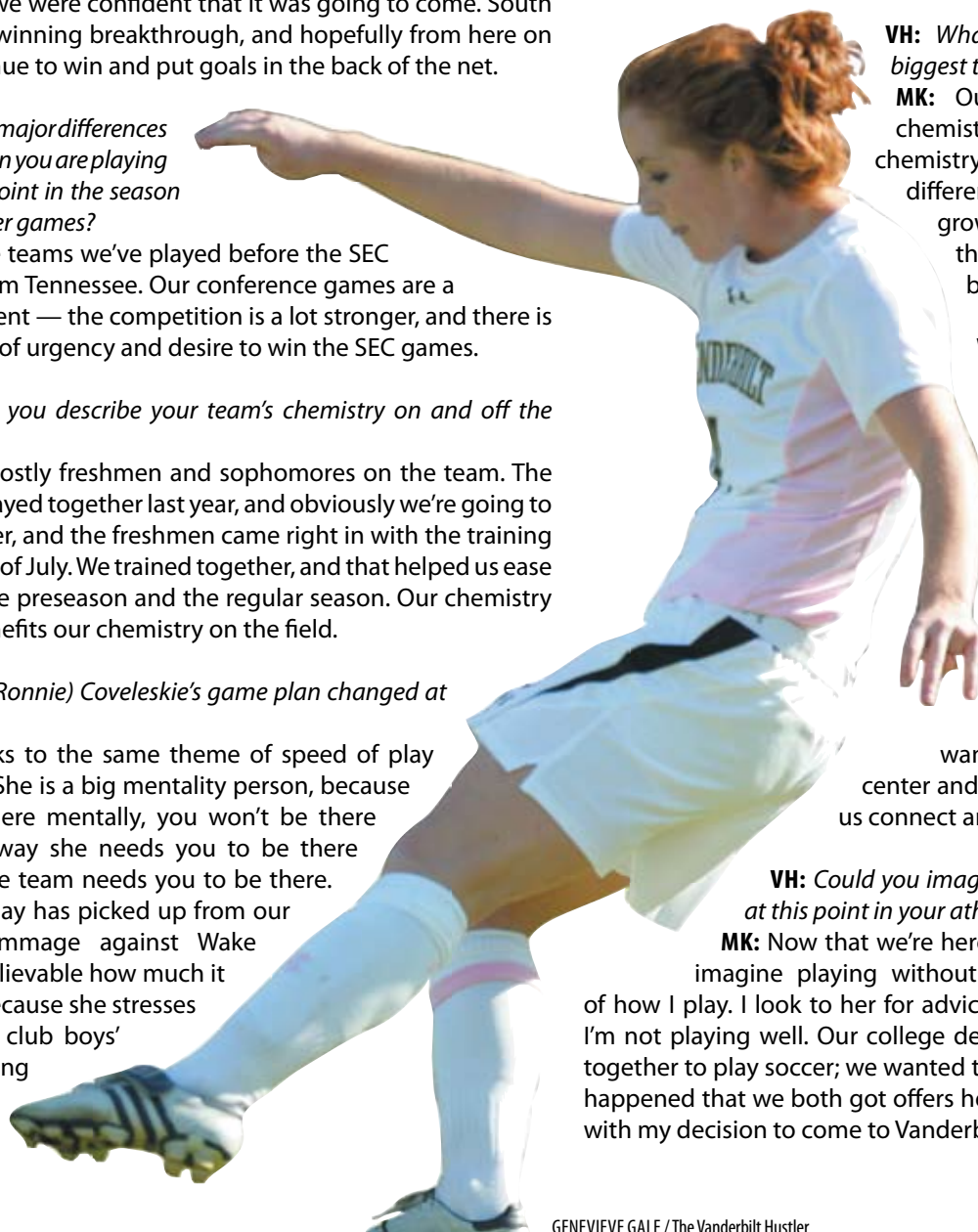
**MK:** Our biggest strength is our chemistry. We have awesome chemistry on the field; it's a whole lot different from last year because we've grown as a team. Last year wasn't the best season for us, and we've been able to put it behind us.

**VH:** Having your sister Molly on the team, how does it feel to have a sense of familiarity on the field?

**MK:** I've played with Molly since I was five. My dad was the coach through grade school and competitive high school play, and he's been with us throughout the whole thing. Playing with Molly, we know where each other is going to be or wants to be. Her playing in the center and me playing on one side helps us connect and things can get done.

**VH:** Could you imagine not playing with your sister at this point in your athletic career?

**MK:** Now that we're here together, I honestly couldn't imagine playing without her. She's an essential part of how I play. I look to her for advice, and I look to her for help if I'm not playing well. Our college decision wasn't based on going together to play soccer; we wanted to be happy individually. It just happened that we both got offers here, and I am extremely happy with my decision to come to Vanderbilt to play.



GENEVIEVE GALE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

## Men's tennis duo at All-Americans

by BRIAN LINHARES  
Sports Contributor

On Monday, men's tennis standouts junior Vijay Paul and senior Nick Cromydas kicked off play in Tulsa, Okla., for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American Championships. Widely regarded as one of most esteemed tournaments on the fall slate, the tournament consisted of 128 singles competitors and 64 doubles teams.

Cromydas, in his first match of the 2008-2009 season, defeated Kevin King of Georgia Tech (6-4, 2-6, 6-0) advancing to Tuesday's second round. However, he fell in the second round to Dennis Lajola of Hawaii (6-2, 6-2).

Cromydas, as the only senior, will use his experience to provide invaluable leadership on a squad that features four sophomores and two freshmen.

"Nick (Cromydas) is a great guy," said sophomore Andy Pulido. "He is a hard worker and a role model for our team. He is the epitome of a player that always finds a way to win."

Ranked No. 80 by the ITA, Paul lost to Bartosz Golas of San Diego State in his first round match on Monday, (6-3, 6-0). Yet, Paul found success in the consolation bracket, defeating of Matt Kecki of USC (7-6 (4), 6-2). The team leader in wins last year with 22 (tied with sophomore Alex Zotov), Paul's recovery after the first round loss is indicative of his quality play and mettle.

"Vijay is an incredible player," Pulido said. "He is extremely talented and understands the game really well."

Competing as a doubles team, Paul and Cromydas squared off against Christopher Muller and Bruno Rosa of Rice on Tuesday, ranked the No. 25 doubles team in the preseason by the ITA. Paul and Cromydas came up short against the Owls, 8-4, who led by the 14th-ranked Rosa and 35th-ranked Muller.

After the ITA Championships, the fall schedule winds down for the Commodores in the next several weeks. The ITA regional, in Lexington, begins next Thursday, Oct. 16, running through the following Sunday. Finally, the Alabama Invitational, in Tuscaloosa, closes out the 2008 stretch in the last weekend of October. ■



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