

LETTER: Vanderbilt parent weighs in on alcohol pledge dispute. SEE PAGE 4

VERSUS: Check out the first issue of the weekly entertainment and culture paper. COMPLETE SECTION INSIDE

'Mr. Carter' is coming to Quake



by JANELLE STOKES Greek Scene Specialist

Insightful lyrics, extended metaphors and addictive beats are some of the reasons why the Vanderbilt Music Group chose Lil' Wayne to headline this year's Commodore Quake.

With the successful release of his album "The Carter III" this summer, Lil' Wayne has steadily conquered the music charts and become this year's most talked about artist.

Senior Music Group Co-Chair Zach Reiner said Lil' Wayne's name was brought up several times during weekly meetings when discussing who should come to Nashville.

"We make a list of bands or artists that would be a good fit for Quake. We pretty much debate (and decide) as a group who we think is the best," said Reiner.

Although Kanye headlined Commodore Quake last year, having another rapper did not deter the Music Group from choosing what the students

"The group decided that Lil' Wayne was a really popular act right now and we thought he appealed to a large majority of the student body," Reiner said. "That's the point of Quake, to bring music to the students."

Tickets will go on sale Sept. 12. Student tickets are \$20, faculty and staff, \$25, and general public, \$40. Floor seats are only available to Vanderbilt students, and student tickets can only be purchased on the Commodore

Progress at 100 Oaks



Construction of the new Vanderbilt Medical Center at the 100 Oaks Mall - Outside the main entrance, where the 100 Oaks sign used to hang.

by ALLIE MORRIS

Science and Medicine Specialist

Amid piles of heaped up stone and dirt, and over the whirring of saws and banging pipes, Diane Seloff, project director of the medical center's new 100 Oaks mall facility, asserts that construction is on time and all is going according to schedule.

Although debris and building materials currently line the white, cement walls of what will be the main concourse, Seloff said quick progress is being made on the building every day.

"Every time I come out here, it looks different," said Seloff. "Every day I see changes. We used to have 4-by-4foot skylights, and then I came in last Thursday and they had ripped them out and rebuilt them to be 10-by-20 feet."

Construction at 100 Oaks began last April and has continued on a tight schedule. The first set of clinics, mainly support services like ancillary labs and imaging facilities, will move in February

According to Seloff, before the mall opens to patients in late February, the clinics will be opening every two weeks, starting with an OBGYN and a women's imaging center.

Sean Farrel, of Steve and Batten, the

contractor hired for interior work, said the rapid speed of the construction makes this project a once in a lifetime opportunity.

"Four months ago there was nothing in there, just three football fields of empty space," said Farrel.

Roughly 250 construction workers work on the site daily, according to

Seloff said one of the biggest difficulties has been coordinating between the interior contractor and the exterior contractor.

"A lot of the work, that we would like to happen sequentially, is happening in parallel," said Seloff.

Although, according to Seloff, the medical center expects the clinics will help boost business at the mall's retail stores, 100 Oaks has seen a decline in the number of shoppers, which is mainly attributed to the construction.

"People think that because of the construction the mall is closed and because of that retail volume has dropped," Seloff said.

However, despite drops in shoppers, the Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinic that relocated to 100 Oaks back in February has seen an increase in patients since moving from the medical center location. Erik Hamnes, director of Pediatric





SAM KIM/The Vanderbilt Hustle

Rehabilitation, said the new clinic is more convenient for families because there is less traffic and more parking.

"We have seen an increase of patients who are on time, there are less no shows, and people are telling us how much more accessible it is," said Hamnes.

Terri Brown, an employee at the Pediatric Rehabilitation clinic, said the move was much needed, and that the clinic now had access to more treatment rooms and new equipment. ■

LEADERSHIP

Efforts to help student **evacuees** underway

by LILY CHEN

Leadership Specialist

In the aftermath of Hurricane Gustav, efforts to help those in need are underway in affected areas while Vanderbilt Student Government and Vanderbilt Red Cross are working together to accommodate students who have evacuated to Vanderbilt.

According to junior Melissa Zhu, president of the Vanderbilt Red Cross and VSG general secretary, donations and volunteers are being gathered around campus.

"We really need help from the Vanderbilt community at times like these," said Zhu. "We're working with the Office of Active Citizenship, Red Cross and VSG to organize donations and volunteers." Currently, more than 100 people

have already responded to an email from the Office of Active Citizenship and Service asking for volunteers for Red Cross. There are eight shelters in middle Tennessee with about 300 to 400 evacuees in each shelter.

"We've got the volunteers, but we're still waiting for instruction from Red Cross," Zhu said.

According to Peabody Senator and VSG Community Service Commuttee Co-Chair sophomore Aysha Malik, there are several donation spots around campus, including in Hank Ingram House and Gillette House on the Commons, Branscomb, Towers East and West, Vandy/Barnard and Mims. Mainly donations of body lotion, hair care products, deodorant, books and games are all needed for Salvation Army. Donations will be picked up

"We hope our efforts will help relieve some of the burden of the evacuees," said Malik.

VSG President Joseph Williams says Tulane students will be able to attend Thursday's game free of charge by showing their ID at the gate entrance.



"We're happy to be hosting Tulane students and we hope they'll be honorary Commodores for a day and help us celebrate our victory over South Carolina," said Williams.

For more information on how to help please visit the Office of Active Citizenship and Service website at www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs. ■

Medical research team studying drug to delay diabetes onset

High blood pressure meds may serve additional purpose.

by NIKITA PUSHPA News Contributor

Vanderbilt University Medical Center's diabetes researchers have recently embarked on a study to examine how Ramipril, a commonly prescribed ACE inhibitor used to treat high blood pressure, could be used to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes.

The research on diabetes treatment has increased drastically in the last couple of years due to the increasing number of people diagnosed with the health problem. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the number of people with diabetes in the United States soared from 5.6 million in 1980 to more than 21 million in 2006, an increase of nearly 400 percent. Of these 21 million, 90 to 95 percent of these people have type 2 diabetes, which is apparent through their bodies' resistance of insulin. One of the main reasons attributed to the increase in diabetes is the alarming

rate at which obesity is growing in the United States.

The lead investigator of this study, Stephen Davis, M.D., Ph.D., chief of the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism at VUMC, said the idea to use ACE inhibitors such as Ramipril to treat diabetes came from previous studies where the goal was aggressive management of high blood pressure in people with diabetes and pre-diabetes. While they have determined Ramipril can be used to return someone with pre-diabetes back to a normal blood glucose level, they are unsure of why this phenomenon occurs. Previous

studies have shown that Ramipril and other ACE inhibitors can lower the progression of diabetes but have not

"They found that by taking Ramipril, the progression from pre-diabetes to diabetes was reduced." He also claimed the study was double-edged, seeing as it was also looking at whether the treatment can be used in the reverse for people already diagnosed with diabetes.

The study is being done at Vanderbilt's Medical Center and is open to people between the ages of 20 to 65 who are at risk for diabetes. ■

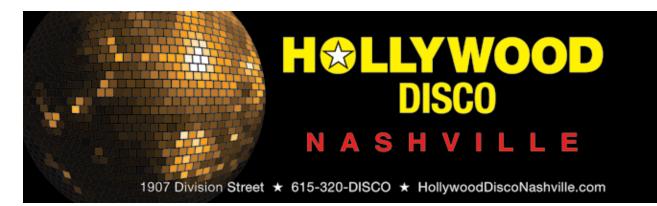
NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENTS OF COMMONS HOUSES

Crawford: MELISSA PETERSILGE East: HARRY STIMMEL Gillette: DAVID CURRAN Ingram: SLOANE SPEAKMAN Memorial: ADAN MEYER Murray: YOUSUF AHMAD **North: TYLER FRAZIER** Stambaugh: MICHAEL KARIYA **Sutherland: IAN BINGHAM**

Total freshmen voter turnout was 63%

West: BEN SCOTT

CAMPUS LIVING: Upperclassmen sound off on living in Branscomb, Kissam Quads. SEE PAGE 3



Wednesdays: Wild Card Wednesdays—The best live dance bands and DJs making special appearances.

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Fridays/Saturdays: Get ready to shake your groove thing while your favorite DJs bring the funk all night long!

Doors open at 9pm.

CORRECTION

Monday's news story, "Changes to the Pub cause controversy with students," Travis Vollmer was listed as a sophomore. He is a junior.

WEATHER WEATHER.COM





HIGH **90**, LOW **69**

Partly cloudy

THURSDAY



HIGH **89**, LOW **68** Partly cloudy

FRIDAY



HIGH **89**, LOW **66** Partly cloudy

SERVICE GUIDE

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

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

NEWS BRIEFS

McCain says Palin thoroughly checked

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Republican John McCain said Tuesday he's satisfied Sarah Palin's background was properly checked out before the Alaska governor joined the Republican ticket. He predicted that public excitement about her candidacy will increase after her address to the GOP convention on Wednesday.

McCain visited firehouses in Ohio and Pennsylvania on Tuesday, and was due to arrive at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., on Wednesday.

Asked about whether Palin's background was thoroughly checked out before he selected her, McCain told reporters in Philadelphia: "The vetting process was completely thorough and I'm grateful for the results."

Later, after visiting a firehouse outside Cleveland in Brecksville, Ohio, McCain added: "I just want to repeat again how excited I am to have Sarah Palin, the great governor of Alaska, as my running

"America is excited and they're going to be even more excited once they see her tomorrow night," he said. "I'm very, very proud of the impression she's made on all of America and I look forward to serving with her."

Source: AP

After Gustav, officials wonder if people will heed warnings next time

MORGAN CITY, La. (AP)—Millions fled the Gulf Coast in fear of Hurricane Gustav, billed as the apocalyptic "mother of all storms." It didn't deliver. Now, with three other storms lining up in the Atlantic, some fear people might not listen next time.

As the first of the 2 million people who fled Gustav began to trickle home Tuesday from shelters, many grumbled about the food, the heat, the overcrowding, the uncertainty and the frustrating wait for the all-clear. Some evacuees, particularly in Texas, on the far fringes of the storm's path, suggested authorities overreacted in forcing them to leave their homes.

"Next time, it's going to be bad because people who evacuated like us aren't going to evacuate," Catherine Jones, 53, of Silsbee, Texas, who spent three days on a cot at a church shelter with her disabled son. "They jumped the gun."

Emergency officials strongly defended the decision to evacuate coastal areas, saying that with something as unpredictable as a hurricane, it is better to be safe than sorry — a lesson driven home by Katrina, which killed 1,600 people in the U.S. in 2005, compared with eight deaths attributed to Gustav.

Source: AP

According to report, Gonzales mishandled

counterterror secrets

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Justice Department refused to prosecute former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales for improperly — and possibly illegally — storing in his office and home classified information about two of the Bush



AP photo

administration's most sensitive counterterrorism efforts.

Mishandling classified materials violates Justice Department regulations, and removing them from special secure facilities without proper authorization is a misdemeanor crime.

A report issued Tuesday by the Justice Department's inspector general says the agency decided not to press charges against Gonzales, who resigned under fire last year.

The report by Inspector General Glenn A. Fine found that Gonzales risked exposing at least some parts of the National Security Agency's terrorist surveillance program, as well as interrogations of terrorist detainees. Some aspects of the surveillance program explicitly referred to in the documents were "zealously protected" by the NSA, the report found.

Southern US nervously watches Hanna

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP)—Nervous residents rushed to buy plywood and generators while emergency officials in Georgia, Florida and the Carolinas weighed possible evacuations Tuesday as Tropical Storm Hanna was expected to shift toward a tough-to-predict landfall along the southern Atlantic coast by the end of the week.

Florida Gov. Charlie Crist declared a state of emergency as Hanna, downgraded from hurricane status Tuesday but with ample time to regain strength, was forecast to turn to the northwest from the Bahamas. Emergency officials in Georgia and South Carolina went into 24-hour alert mode.

In Savannah, which hasn't seen a direct hit from a major hurricane in more than a century, Janey Miley took her 15-year-old daughter to Home Depot at lunchtime Tuesday for an impromptu lesson in hurricane preparedness.

Probe disputes deaths in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A U.S. investigation released Tuesday disputed a U.N. report that found "credible evidence" that up to 90 civilians died in a raid on a western Afghan village, saying an afterbattle assessment found most of the victims were Taliban fighters.

The military probe found that up to seven civilians and between 30 and 35 Taliban militants were killed in an operation in Azizabad village in the early morning hours of Aug. 22. The U.N. backed a finding by the Afghan government that all the victims were civilians.

The competing claims illustrate the difficulty of determining how many civilians fall victim in a war fought in distant mountains and densely populated villages.

U.S. officials say they face significant challenges both in identifying Taliban fighters, who mix easily with the general population, and

because of incentives to falsely claim civilian casualties. Source: AP

FROM THE BLOG



ending to the epically bitter Democratic primary, the Republicans have scrambled to find a way to convince Hillary Clinton supporters that voting... For more blog entries, go to InsideVandy.com

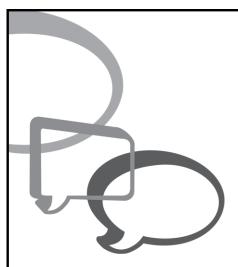
SNAPSHOT

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BRETT KAMINSKY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Luke Boehne discusses opportunities to get involved at the Community Service Fair held Tuesday Sept. 2 on Alumni Lawn.



THE STATE **HUMANITIES**

BRUCE COLE

Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008

Reception 5 p.m. • Lecture 6 p.m. • Ingram Hall

s chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Bruce Cole is a proponent of the humanities as a vehicle for the communication and development of American culture. He has led the NEH in initiatives such as the We the People Bookshelf and Picturing America, which distribute classic children's books and reproductions of masterpieces of American art to libraries and schools throughout the country, and in the application of digital technology to the humanities, particularly to catalog and digitize American newspapers' chronicle of our nation's past.



This lecture begins at 6 p.m. and is preceded by a complimentary reception at 5 p.m. in Ingram Hall, Blair School of Music. Parking is available in South Garage (24th Avenue South at Children's Way).

This event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-seated basis.

For more information, please visit www.vanderbilt.edu/chancellor/cls, e-mail cls@vanderbilt.edu, or call 343-2574.

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Tailgating returns to Greek Row

by NICK GALLO

News Contributor

Much to the relief of many students and administrators, the all-purpose student tailgate lot, which was supposed to be a safe haven for Vanderbilt students to come together and tailgate before football games, has been terminated after one

According to Assistant Director of Greek Life Tanner Marcantel, the tailgate lot was

originally meant to give students flexibility in their social options before the football game.

"The student tailgate lot was a push from Vandy Fanatics for a space for a designated student tailgate area," said Marcantel. "A lot of fraternities took advantage of that option even though it wasn't mandated. Unfortunately, students weren't holding each other accountable and the lot was shut down because the question was raised as

to whether it was worth the trouble or just to get rid of the student lot altogether."

Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity junior Tom Rosen said he thought the tailgate lot was meant to cut down on the visibility of fraternity tailgating. "One of the goals of having tailgates over at the student lot was to make the tailgating less visible to outsiders, school administrators and students. Also, at the tailgate lot it was less segregated — the average

student who was or wasn't Greek could tailgate over there. Having it in the student lot made tailgating as an entire student body possible."

Tailgating will return to fraternity houses this year and will remain there, as long as the same rules and regulations that existed in the pre-tailgate lot times are practiced. With the first football game being on a Thursday night, this presents many challenges for professors whose students will start

tailgating for the game early that afternoon.

Anthony Landsberg, a junior in Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, said his fraternity will be slightly more cautious with their tailgate because of past tailgating experiences and the increased security. He also said he didn't think the tailgates would interfere or cause problems with the weekday traffic and campus

In an effort to assuage the every house," said Rosen. ■

concerns of many students and faculty alike, members of the Greek community and administrators got together last Sunday and discussed ways of preventing problems on game night.

"The consequence of having it back now on campus is that it will be more available and closer to all of Vanderbilt. It will be more visible to everyone and it poses a lot of risk management issues for

Kickoff Cookoff starts football season with celebration

by ALEXANDRA HELLMAN and DANA KELLEY

News Contributors

This Wednesday evening on Olin Lawn, students will be celebrating the first home game of the season with the third annual Kickoff Cookoff.

Kickoff Cookoff was started by two students who wanted to create a community event involving several campus groups and with a focus on philanthropy. This year's co-chairs are seniors Joel Collins, a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, and Maggie Fesmire, a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

"(The founders) thought that this event would not only be a great way to kick off football season, but (also) to kind of introduce freshmen to the campus and university events and also to benefit a really well known and well respected non profit organization in the Nashville community," said

The proceeds from the event will go to Fannie Battle Home for Children, an organization that provides affordable childcare for working parents and lower income families in the Nashville

"We've gone out as an executive team of Kickoff Cookoff to volunteer



WHEN: Today 5-7 p.m. WHERE: Olin Lawn **HOW MUCH: \$8 before the event** \$10 at the door.

All of the proceeds go to Fannie Battle Day Home for Children

and spend time with the kids," said Fesmire, who expects 10 to 15 children from Fannie Battle to attend the event.

Both Fesmire and Collins expect more than 1,000 people to attend the campus-wide cookoff, which this year it is organized by Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Beta Theta Pi fraternities, and Delta Delta and Kappa Alpha Theta sororities, as well as the Vanderbilt Fanatics.

"We're trying to make this a campuswide event (by) getting other big organizations and completely non-Greek organizations to get involved," said Collins. "We really want to expose everyone mainly to benefit Fannie

Battle. The more people who come, the more money we can raise."

Performances by the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity band, the El Dorados, and the Chris Hennessee Band, as well as a watermelon-eating contest and a pie-baking contest judged by the basketball team and Dean of the Commons Frank Wcislo will take place at the event.

Local restaurants are donating food items attendees will be able to vote for, and winning restaurants will have contracts with the Greek houses involved for the remainder of the

CAMPUS LIVING

Branscomb again? Upperclassmen displeased with old freshman housing

by JENNIFER DENNARD

News Contributor

Upperclassmen living in Branscomb are still feeling the indignity of being placed in what was previously freshmen housing. The Vanderbubble, however, seems to have been turned upside down as sophomores, juniors and even a couple of seniors return to Branscomb Quadrangle.

Many of these upperclassmen had planned on moving from their previous housing into something better, but instead, a large number are living in the same housing as last year or have even been downgraded.

These changes are being made as a part of the administration's efforts to make Vanderbilt a residential college — one where all students live on campus. To start this process, the Commons was created as a place where all freshmen could live together, starting with the Class of 2012. The next step was to reduce the number of students living off campus, forcing many upperclassmen to live in Branscomb for the first or second time.

One of the main problems with these dorms is the lack of private kitchens and bathrooms, which are traditional benefits of being an upperclassman. As junior Olivia Nicholson

said, housing is supposed to "get better and better" as you get older and obtain a level of seniority at Vanderbilt. Clearly, for juniors moving from Peabody to Branscomb, this was not the

As can be expected, many students, especially juniors, are displeased with the situation. Chelsea Hulburd, a junior living in Lupton, said she is "supremely disappointed" with her housing assignment. Along with many others, she is unhappy that freshmen housing is significantly nicer than that of upperclassmen. Hulburd also said she likes the idea of a residential campus but feels administration should have upgraded upperclassmen housing first, thus maintaining the seniority-based housing

Despite this "downgrade," most students in Branscomb cite its convenient location as a major bonus. Branscomb is located near many students' classes and is next door to the fraternity and sorority houses. Furthermore, it has its own Vandy Van stop, and its large population makes socializing easy. While many students do not believe these pros outweigh the cons, most are, like junior Tarina Parpia, "just trying to make the best of it." ■



NEIL BRAKE / VU Media Relations

Lupton and Scales Halls form two parts of Branscomb Quad. The center of freshman life at Vanderbilt for decades, upperclassmen have returned to their first-year stomping grounds.

Kissam now a better option

by HOLLY MEEHL News Contributor

In past years, Kissam Quadrangle has not always had the best reputation. It was generally considered to be the most undesirable housing on campus, as it is far removed from dining options, Greek row, the Student Recreation Center and many other Vanderbilt student essentials. A term was even coined to describe those rising sophomores who were "unlucky" enough to receive Kissam housing during the process last spring: "Kisslammed." Although the administration promised major renovations over the summer, students' expectations were low.

However, as sophomores moved into their Kissam dorm rooms this August, some were pleasantly surprised. In fact, sophomore Hilary Rocks summed up the facelift to the lead students to view the dorms as more quad in three simple words: "Kissam is bangin."

new renovations, including Hemingway Market, are extensive, and students appear to be very pleased with them. "The Varsity Market is a great asset to the Kissam quad," said junior Sherie Byrd, a Residential Advisor in Mims.

Students are also satisfied with the Kissam laundry and Reinke's exercise room, which includes a bike, two ellipticals and one treadmill. Because the Recreation Center is quite a distance away, the workout machines are very beneficial to residents. Although four machines may not seem like a lot of equipment, sophomore Claire Nowlin said,

"I've never had to wait to use one." Other Kissam upgrades, including new sofas, flat-screen televisions and paint jobs

colorful and inviting than they previously were. Mims Hall also has a 24-hour front desk and a Wii students can use in the lobby. Dyer's lobby has giant beanbag chairs in which students can be seen relaxing.

In addition to the returning Vanderbilt students, many transfer students live in Kissam. When asked how it compares to her previous housing, sophomore Chrissy Tanner said, "It's not a bad dorm, it's about average." Such a response may not have occurred last year before the renovations.

Most students seem to be content with the revamped Kissam. The term "Kislammed" has virtually disappeared, and Kissam residents generally seem to be pleased with their living situation. Callie Jones, a sophomore and former Kissam resident said, "We (now) have a lot more resources." ■



COOLEST THING IN FITNESS!

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
6:00		6:00		6:00		
9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30
12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00		
4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30
6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15			6:15
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OPINION

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Pampered freshmen live easy



JUSTIN POYTHRESS

Columnist

Some things change here at Vanderbilt (I am, of course, referring to the loss of Stonehenge), while others stay very much the same. The freshmen class has, for many long years, been the golden child, the spoiled, babied, first-born pride and joy of the school. There are many reasons for this, one being that as emotionally volatile adolescents still waiting for their growth spurts or for their voices to stop cracking, they are reeling from homesickness and trying to figure out how many shots they can take in a row. This said, they are often prone to extreme violent or self-pitying behavior decisions. Many times, all at once.

I can't really complain much however, since as a senior, I come second on the totem pole of school priority. The school's logic isn't too difficult to understand, either. A university's level of prestige comes from the quality of the incoming freshmen class. What are the scores, the diversity, the attractiveness and what's the retention rate? Also heavily weighed in the evaluation is the success of each year's graduating class. In order to crack the U.S. News and World Report top 15, the Vanderbilt administration has to start treating its freshmen like Arabian oil tycoons, and they are well on their way, albeit at the expense of the rest of its underclassmen, particularly this year's sophomores.

To analyze this disparity of lavished affections, let's first take a closer look at the Commons experience. If you're not a freshman this year or are majoring in a subject that requires actual work, you may not have had

It is roughly equivalent in appearance and atmosphere to an ancient **Athenian** garden. 🎵

a reason to visit Peabody. short, it is roughly equivalent appearance and atmosphere to an ancient Athenian garden, complete with lattices, terraces bowls of fresh

begun to exclusively showcase the Peabody/ Commons area, offering up the irresistible piece of cheese on a mousetrap where the only consolation for us bitter upperclassmen is the loaded hammer of sophomore Kissam

Every time I set foot on the Commons, I feel like it has been significantly improved and renovated within the last week. To be fair, there have been modifications made elsewhere: the Pub's dinner menu is now ladling up a homeless shelter-style buffet, while there are no more dinners at Rand and off-campus housing is being revoked. Meanwhile, new amenities are being supplemented to freshmen living on an almost daily basis. Besides the best on-campus dining location, their own work-out facility, pool tables and a TV lounge, many of you may not be aware that each freshman is being assigned his own chef, personal masseuse and dormitory butler

And who, you might ask, is paying for this standard of living? Well, it's sort of like a campus-wide Social Security system, except with the teenage fast-food employees cashing the checks. Am I merely being a grumpy, embittered upperclassmen, reminiscing about his own days of pampered luxury? Probably — so freshmen, enjoy it while you

- Justin Poythress is a senior in Peabody College. He can be reached at j.poythress@ vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL

Personal coverage of **Palin shameful**

The media firestorm in response to Sen. John McCain's vice presidential pick, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, has been, for the most part, shameful. Fueled by left-wing blogs and the rumor mill, the talking heads on most networks and in the papers are discussing various memes, half-truths and falsehoods about the former mayor of Wasilla that reflect poorly on the likes of CNN and the New York Times.

The most disturbing lie that was floated began on the fringe DailyKos Web site, where an anonymous blogger suggested that Palin's infant son, Trig, could actually be the son of Palin's oldest daughter Bristol. The blogger used family pictures to "prove" the 17-year-old Bristol was pregnant, even going to the depths of scrutinizing the size and shape of her stomach.

Once-respectable bloggers like Andrew Sullivan picked up the story, and soon the template was set for the networks to start asking the question seriously. It was revealed later that the pictures used were dated from 2006, and Trig Palin was born in April 2008. On Monday, Palin released the information that Bristol is five months pregnant, further debunking the lie that the Palins had

deliberately misled the country and the McCain campaign about Trig's motherhood.

The scrutiny that has been placed on Palin's daughter (who is, by the way, not a candidate) was visibly absent when revelations about former presidential candidate John Edwards's indiscretions arose. While the National Enquirer insisted their story on Edwards was solid, the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times and other papers declined to cover it. This made these papers look foolish after Edwards came forward to admit he had had an extramarital affair.

How did the decision makers at these media outlets determine the Enquirer was less of a reliable source than one left-wing blogger? The double standard in media coverage is despicable, and leaves many questions open. In the coverage of Palin, is the media motivated by partisanship, sexism or simply a lack of credible ammunition to discredit a surprise vice-presidential pick?

Journalists should focus on Palin's policies, her positions, and her politics. Coming across a juicy story with innuendos is no justification for poor journalism. Ideology and partisanship have their place, but facts should always prevail.

Prof's response problematic

To the Editor:

At least some Ingram House residents who signed Tony Brown's "pledge" did so under duress — feeling the very group pressure he attributes to those who did not sign. What did he teach those who quieted the voices inside themselves, that warned they were signing an insulting pact of disrespect and distrust? What did he teach them about maturity by following with the sarcastic, punitive letter by "John B. Firstyear," meant to bully everyone else?

Ironically, a kernel of wisdom slipped into the letter when the fictional John wrote his parents, "Remember you raised me to be an independent thinker."

Independent thinking is the best defense against

peer pressure, drugs, drinking, date rape, scams, onerous contracts and many other bad things people can inflict on each other. Perhaps students were hesitant to put their names on that "pledge" because they weren't sure of exactly what it meant. Were they agreeing to no due process even in the event of a mistake, for example?

I caution all brand-new 18-year-olds: If alarm bells go off when you're about to sign something, don't. You are now at an age where your signature can legally bind you to anything from "10 free CDs" every week to fighting a war in another country.

Judy Bracher Carmichael Bristol, Tenn. Vanderbilt parent



Palin was a strategic pick Frannie Boyle, Columnist

Many right-wingers were not happy with McCain's victory in the primaries because of

his tendency to stray from the Republican platform now and then. Palin, as the more conservative vicepresidential candidate, will rejuvenate these voters. She is hard against wasteful spending and higher taxes, strong on the anti-abortion movement, procapital punishment and a lifetime member of the NRA. Yet, as proved by her resume in Alaska, she is

not afraid to go against the GOP grain when it is necessary. There are some questions about her experience, but if you want a rebuttal, just look at Obama's experience and see if you can argue about it then.

Palin is a flimsy form

Soo-Ryum Yang, Columnist

When McCain and his

selected Sarah Palin to be the second in line

for the highest national office, they seriously underestimated the intellectual capacity of the

American people. They assumed Hillary supporters

and independents disaffected with the Obama

campaign would actually vote for Palin. Two years

of governorship in Alaska, however, just doesn't

cut it as "experience." Her radical views are equally

unfit for national office. She believes evolution and

Christian creationism should be discussed alongside

one another in science classes. Her unreasonably

radical anti-abortion stances are not in line with the

mainstream views on the women's rights. Hillary

voters and moderate independents will look beyond

her gender and make the smarter choice.

of misdirection

vice-presidential vetting team



Will Palin be successful for McCain's campaign?

A stroke of genius **Elliot Hall, Columnist**

McCain's choice of Palin was a stroke of septuagenarian genius. McCain is old; Palin is relatively young. McCain has bucked the

party several times in the past. Palin has taken on corruption within her own Republican party, ousting several politicians from office. McCain may be seen as senile, but Palin is sharp, tough. But Palin's real strength is her experience, which is a debate she and McCain can't wait to have. Her executive experience

> is greater than both Obama and Biden. This political masterstroke took both pundits and politicians by surprise, and is a sign of good things to come from the McCain camp.



Palin's not ready Mervem Dede, Columnist

McCain has made a mistake in choosing Palin as a running mate. Having served as governor

of Alaska for only a year and a half, Palin has no experience with international affairs and little knowledge of politics on a large scale. McCain is now 72 and the life expectancy of males in the United States is 75. As much as I would like to see a woman become president, I do not wish it to be her. America has already had eight years of a president who fumbles over foreign affairs and I am not sure if our country can handle any more ineptitude.

—Interested in writing a Quick Shot? To suggest an issue or question, e-mail opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.

Ideology irks me



Day Manager

<u>THOMAS SHATTUCK</u> **Opinion Editor**

Over the past few days, my political affiliations have come into question for a singular reason: the opinion page. Apparently the content of the aforementioned section reflects on my personal principle, though I might contend that the opposite is in fact closer to the truth. I am not conservative in the least. In actuality, I rarely commit myself to politics in any tangible sense. From time to time I do leave my ivory tower, though in those few occasions I exhibit tendencies that would be characterized as liberal. In other words, I publish what I receive.

As I've been confronted with a question, I feel it is due time I reciprocate: Why does it matter? My party affiliation does not accurately represent my beliefs. Even the presidential candidates do not hold entirely true to the platforms their parties assert. It is simply foolish to believe anything will be that simple. When the chips fall, the chance they fall evenly is minute, thus allowing for a myriad of various assortments. Every person's system of ideologies differs. These differences range from the infinitesimal to the almost infinite.

When presented with such complications, assumptions essentially go out the window along with any answers. To put it simply, Republican and Democrat are simply names. In an idyllic world they'd be fair and accurate; in the real world, however, they've become convoluted with indelible connotations. We live by those names. We die by those names. And most importantly, we judge by those

Judgment — noun, the forming of an opinion, estimate, notion or conclusion

I have always felt the word "prematurely" should be tacked to the end of the definition to demonstrate the lack of wisdom in judgment. It is impossible to be knowledgeable of all facts at the time a decision is made. Ergo, it is idiotic to castigate those who do judge without recognizing that one is likely to fall into the same trap. Instead of quarreling and libeling each other in vain derision, interparty support should be encouraged.

Admittedly, I consider the "divided we fail" commercials tepid at best, especially considering the AARP's endorsement, but they do have a point. Party loyalties serve no purpose but social engineering — in other words, taking the power out of the hands of the people and forming a less than wholesome oligarchy.

To put it bluntly, by voting you are imposing your views on others. So stop and think for a moment, no matter how hard that may be. What do you want? What is for the best? Are you sure? Of course, no matter what you will serve your own bias; it is barely possible to do otherwise, but at the very least do consider others. We're all together in this sinking ship and it's rude to do anything but help.

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

Annoyed? Need to rant? Have an issue you'd like to voice your opinion on?

Email the Opinion Page at opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com



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. 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

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

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

CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2. Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@ vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS Your voice doesn't stop here.

The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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U.S. Sen. Bob Corker **United States Senate** Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-3344 (615) 279-9488

Rep. Jim Cooper U.S. House of Rep. (202) 225-4311 (615) 736-5295

Rep. Brenda Gilmore (615) 876-3665

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

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THE BACK PAGE

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Click the gold Hustler/Versus button at the bottom right of the home page



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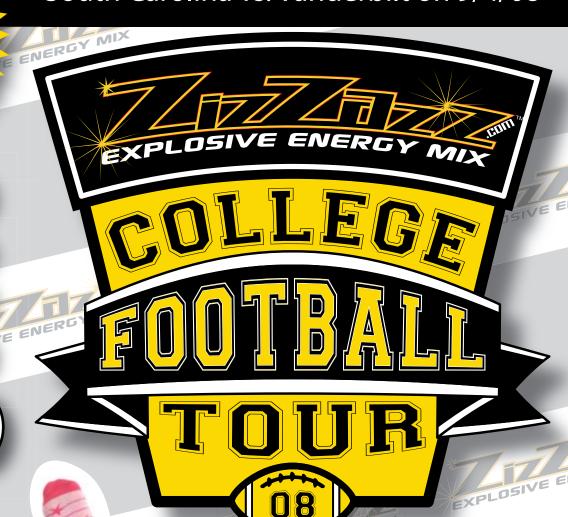
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Vanderbilt's defense is superior to South Carolina's

GOOD CALL

BAD CALL



MARY ANN CHASTAIN / AP photo Cornerback D.J. Moore led a punishing defensive effort by the Commodores in their 17-6 win over South Carolina last season, intercepting two passes and registering eight tackles.

by MIKE KRANZLER

Sports Contributor

Statistically, there is no question Vanderbilt had the superior defense in 2007. The Dores gave up 325 yards per game last year, while the South Carolina Gamecocks gave up 378.

South Carolina, however, returns 10 starters to their defense this year, whereas Vanderbilt returns only five full-time starters (with a sixth, junior linebacker Patrick Benoist, who started in four games last year).

But while the Gamecocks may have the edge in experience, Vanderbilt has enough stars in its defensive backfield, along with several promising newcomers, to boast a stronger defense going into Thursday's match-up at Vanderbilt Stadium.

This is a close call, but the edge goes to the Commodores due to one crucial mistake made by the South Carolina coaching staff in early 2006.

Coming out of high school, junior cornerback D.J. Moore was named South Carolina's Prep Athlete of the year for 2005. Not only a standout football player, Moore was also a star point guard on the hardwood and a state champion in the high jump.

Despite all this, South Carolina coaches were slow to offer him a scholarship, only tendering him an offer after he had already committed to Vanderbilt in January of 2006.

Moore made them pay for that mistake in last year's upset of the No. 6 Gamecocks, intercepting two crucial passes to keep them from reaching the end zone in a 17-6 Commodore victory.

Moore has continued to prove himself as a budding star with his performance against Miami (Ohio), and his teammates feed off of his energy. They are a better unit when he is on the field, as quarterbacks rarely test his side of the field with any sort of positive results.

By shutting down an opponent's best receiver, Moore allows his teammates to focus on bottling up the rest of the offense, while not having to worry about the part of the field he patrols. They trust him to be that dominating force, and he rewards their trust with big plays in every phase

But the Vanderbilt defense is not just the D.J. Moore Show. Redshirt senior safety Reshard Langford is an All-Southeastern Conference candidate, and redshirt junior defensive end Broderick Stewart looks poised to be one of the SEC's leaders in sacks this season.

Some young stars have also started to emerge on this defense, including a young, talented linebacking corps led by Benoist, sophomore John Stokes and redshirt freshman Chris Marve. Redshirtfreshman defensive tackle T.J. Greenstone looks like a potential star on the defensive line, and will only get better with more playing time.

South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier made a crucial mistake in misjudging a homegrown star in Moore. "The Ol' Ball Coach" made that same mistake in underestimating the Vanderbilt Commodores last season.

Moore and the Commodore defense will do everything they can to bring about that same result on Thursday night. ■



TRAVIS BELL / Sideline Carolina

Defensive end-turned-linebacker Eric Norwood, one of four Gamecocks on defense named to preseason All-SEC teams, set a school record in 2007 with 19.5 tackles for loss and also hjad six sacks.

by PETER LETARTE

Sports Contributor

While both defenses are coming off of impressive week one performances, the Gamecocks showed the nation why they will be one of the top units in the country this year, a level Vanderbilt is not quite ready to achieve.

South Carolina enters the 2008 season with sky-high expectations. Many experts have pegged them as a team with the potential to have one of the top defenses in the nation. The Gamecocks return 10 starters from last year's defense that finished fourth in the nation, giving them a plethora of talent and experience across the board. While they experienced some difficulties stopping the run last year, it was their smothering pass defense that paved the way for the Gamecocks to have the dominant unit they did.

This year's team, led by new defensive coordinator Ellis Johnson, looks to maintain their prowess in their defense against the pass while improving their ability to stop the run and rush the passer. Much of this improvement could be the result of the new defensive scheme Johnson implemented in his first year on the job. Citing the desire to be more balanced than last year's squad, the Gamecocks will run a 4-2-5 scheme under Johnson and coach Steve Spurrier's guidance.

However, the biggest boost South Carolina will receive this year will come from the return of the senior linebacker Jasper Brinkley,

who is a team captain despite missing all of last year with a knee injury. The 275-pound Brinkley, along with 270-pound Eric Norwood, a converted defensive end, represent the dominating linebacker corps Vanderbilt lacks.

The Gamecocks also seem to have the advantage on the defensive line where they will rely on the hulking pair of 300-pound sophomore Ladi Ajiboye and 292-pound junior Nathan Pepper.

The only place the Commodores seem to stack up with the Gamecocks is in the secondary, where both teams will return four starters from last year's respective squads. South Carolina returns last year's leading tackler in junior strong safety Emmanuel Cook. Junior cornerback Captain Munnerlyn will be solid for the secondary as well, and joins Brinkley, Norwood and Ajiboye as players with All-Southeastern Conference potential.

The Gamecocks certainly lived up to their preseason billing in their game last week against N.C. State, pitching a shutout in their first game of the season. They held the Wolfpack to 138 total yards and created four turnovers, two of which led to points for the Gamecocks. Their dominant pass defense from last season was out in full force, holding N.C. State's two quarterbacks to only 59 yards and intercepting two passes. The Gamecocks were so dominant that the Wolfpack never got past South Carolina's 32-yard line. It is clear South Carolina is one of the country's elite units, and Vanderbilt is just not there yet. ■

Commodores try for two in a row over Spurrier

by ANDREW BARGE

Sports Contributor

season, the Vanderbilt Commodores traveled to South Carolina and did something the program had never done before. It beat South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier.

This Thursday, the Commodores (1-0)will go for another first: beat Spurrier in front of reporter Erin Andrews and ESPN. The nationally televised game, kicking off at 7:30 p.m. CDT, will be a chance for Vanderbilt to win a game on ESPN's main network for the first time.

"It's great that ESPN is coming here, hopefully all of our students will be out there too," said Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson, a native of Columbia, SC. "The stadium looks fantastic right now — it should be a great atmosphere that's also great for our program. Hopefully we'll get a little exposure there."

No. 24 South Carolina (1-0) comes to Nashville after an impressive opening week win over N.C. State. Despite throwing four interceptions on offense, the Gamecocks managed to put up 34 points on offense behind a 101-yard rushing performance from senior Mike Davis. Spurrier has announced sophomore Chris Smelley will start at quarterback after weekone starter Tommy Beecher had a terrible outing, but Smelley could be replaced quickly if he struggles.

"With Coach Spurrier, when you're playing against his offense, you're really preparing for him — not necessarily the quarterback," Johnson said. "All three of their quarterbacks can play in his system, otherwise they wouldn't be there. That's the way we look at it."

Combating the Gamecocks offense will be a talented Commodore secondary. The group that picked off three passes against Miami (Ohio) last week will be counted on for another strong effort.

"They (the Vanderbilt secondary) are going to be tested. South Carolina has excellent schemes and excellent receivers," Johnson said. "They can light you up, so we've got to be ready

to play, but that's the case every week. They'll (the secondary) be pumped up for this one."

According to Commodore redshirt senior receiver Sean Walker, the Vanderbilt secondary's contributions exceed the defensive side of the ball. Walker believes the receivers will be more than ready against the stingy Gamecock defense since the offense will spend its whole week preparing against Vanderbilt's first-team defense.

"Honestly, not to say that the game is easier than practice, but I know going against guys like D.J. (Moore) and Myron (Lewis) that my release and technique are going to be on point," Walker said, who caught a touchdown in last week's game. "I know that releasing against those guys is like going against great players all the time, so we're all more ready because of it."

Walker and his fellow receivers will meet a secondary that absolutely dominated N.C. State last week. The Gamecocks allowed only 49 yards of passing during the entire game and added two interceptions. Johnson thinks of the leaders of the secondary, juniors Emmanuel Cook and Captain Munnerlyn, as two of the league's best.

"Emmanuel Cook might be one of the best tacklers I've ever seen in football. He does a form tackle every time when people break through the line he's always got them on the ground," Johnson said. "He's tough. Captain is a great cover corner too. They've got some quality on defense."

Despite their hyped defense, however, Johnson is only concerned about another balanced, strong Commodore effort on Thursday night.

"We played hard most of the way against Miami, and if we continue to do that, we'll be fine. The competition is going to pick up — we're playing South Carolina on Thursday on ESPN," Johnson said. "We're excited about it and we're ready to go."

Sounds like the Vanderbilt faithful, Erin Andrews and a national television audience could be in for a hard-nosed game come Thursday night. ■

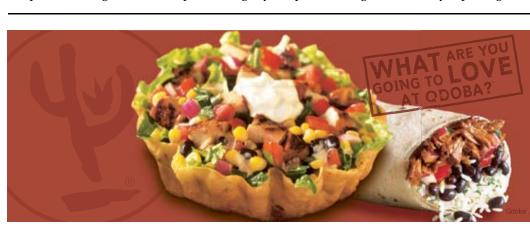


7:30 C.T. ON ESPN

For the first time since 1999, the flagship station ESPN returns to Nashville for a Vanderbilt football game as the Commodores battle the Gamecocks in both teams' conference openers tomorrow night.

Vanderbilt is asking its fans to participate in a Blackout of South Carolina. Fans are encouraged to wear all black, and the first 700 fans to arrive will get free Commodore Blackout t-shirts. Stop by the Vandy Fanatic tailgating tents on Natchez Trace outside Vanderbilt Stadium before the game for free food and other giveaways.

Also, don't miss the Vanderbilt Star Walk at 6:30 on Jess Neely Drive, where coach Bobby Johnson and the Commodores march from McGugin Center into Vanderbilt Stadium.



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PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Kristi Neumann with 10 Tall and Natalie Warner

12th and Porter

Kalispell, Mont., native and singer-songwriter Kristi Neumann lights up the stage tonight with tracks from "Capacity for Change," her debut album of folk and indie tracks. (\$5, 8

The Shoals — Douglas Corner Cafe

Warm southern rockers The Shoals have shared the stage with some of country's greatest (including Gretchen Wilson, Emerson Drive and Alabama) as they gear up for the release of their own debut album in spring 2008. (Cover TBA, 8:30 p.m., 2106-A Eighth Ave. South)

The Greencards — The Station Inn

In the six years since their inception, acoustic country crooners The Greencards have earned themselves a Grammy nod, headlined numerous prestigious musical festivals, and jammed alongside Willie Nelson and Bob Dylan. (\$15, 9 p.m.)

Terri Brinegar — F. Scott's Restaurant and Jazz Bar

Blues vocalist Terri Brinegar has an impressive resume, including attending The Juilliard School for vocal studies and performing at the Monterey Bay Blues Festival and the Catalina Island Blues Festival. (Free, 7 p.m.)

Tea Leaf Green — Mercy Lounge

Hailing from San Francisco, psychedelic rockers Tea Leaf Green are the proud owners of the Jammy Award for song of the year for the track "Taught to Be Proud" and have shared the stage with Trey Anastasio and Gov't Mule. (\$14, 9 p.m.)

Charlie Cushman and Friends — Station Inn

Renowned banjo player and Nashville resident Charlie Cushman is one of the most well-known musicians in Nashville, having played with Vince Gill, Merle Haggard, James Monroe and Jimmy Martin. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Debbie Ritter — Bourbon Street Blues and Boogie Bar

Memphis, Tenn., native Debbie Ritter is no stranger to the stage — she's been performing jazz and blues since she was 9 years old. Catch Ritter's unique breed of soulful blues when she performs with her energetic band, 4-40. (\$5, 9 p.m., 220 Printers Alley)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Ludo with Murdock — Exit/In

Rockers Ludo have been featured on Fuse TV's "No. 1 Countdown" and were guest performers on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." (Cover TBA, 9 p.m.)

The SteelDrivers — Station Inn

Local band The SteelDrivers were nominated for album of the year at the International Bluegrass Music Awards. The native Nashvillians blend country, soul and other influences to create their own unique brand of bluegrass. (\$15, 9 p.m.)

The Dynamites featuring Charles Walker — The Mercy

Ten-piece funk and soul band The Dynamites team up with the legendary Charles Walker to deliver a night of authentic, old-school soul benefiting The Community Foundation's Tomorrow Fund. (\$25 day of show, 9 p.m.)

Sweet Eastern Saint and HoneyLamb — The Basement

Members of prolific indie pop group Sweet Eastern Saint have shared the stage with a number of national touring acts, including Jewel and country artist Lee Brice. Joining them at The Basement is Franklin jam band HoneyLamb. (Cover TBA, 9 p.m.)

The Lasting with Ghost Runner on Third and Cactus's — 12th and Porter

Nashville band The Lasting team up with up-tempo alternative rockers Ghost Runner on Third for a night of sincere contemporary rock at an affordable

The Royce, Beautifully Crude and Blue Vega — The Rutledge

Lauded by both local and national media, epic modern rockers The Royce join Beautifully Crude at The Rutledge. Opening with a kickoff for their fall tour are Franklin rockers Blue Vega. (\$5 over 21, \$7 under, 8 p.m.)

Jedd Hughes with Eric Wilson — 3rd and Lindsley

Australian bluegrass/country artist Jedd Hughes has played at some of the genre's most respected venues and festivals, including the Grand Ole Opry and the MerleFest bluegrass festival. Eric Wilson will join him in a night of authentic country. (\$12 day of show, 8 p.m.)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Jessica Simpson, Loretta Lynn, Patty Loveless and more — Grand Ole Opry

It's Jessica Simpson's debut at the show that made country music famous. Some of the best acts of today and yesterday will also play on one of music's most renowned stages. (\$34-\$51, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., 2802 Opryland Drive)

Pat Green — City Hall

The Texas native will play his personal style of country-rock for likely his last time at this Nashville location. (\$20, 8 p.m., 405 12th Ave. South)

Hype presents The Loft, The Last Straw, Leslie and The Steepwater Band — Exit/In

Come out this evening as Hype Promotions presents another great round of Nashville's finest artists. (\$7, 10 p.m.)

Kevin Denney with Brandon Rickman, Aubrey Haynie, and Andy Ball — Station Inn

One of those serendipitous lineups that's as easy to find in Nashville as it is rare anywhere else, this combination grew out of songwriting collaborations between Kevin Denney and Brandon Rickman. (\$12, 9 p.m.)

Guilty Pleasures — Mercy Lounge

This cover band plays songs from every decade ranging from the '50s to the '80s. (\$10, 10 p.m.)

Jonell Mosser — 3rd and Lindsley

This Kentucky native has been on the Nashville scene for a while now, and she's still grooving to her indie Americana tunes. (\$10, 7 p.m.)

In the Round — Bluebird Cafe

The Bluebird special will feature Erin Ashleigh, Dan Demay, Daryl Burgess and Tonja Rose. They may not have hits yet, but it will be a great show. (Free, 6:30 p.m.)

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Versus Magazine

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FROM THE EDITOR



I heard you were looking for me.

Above, I share with you Lil Wayne's immortal words on his latest track with Jay Z: "Mr. Carter." It's clear to me that Weezy was writing about Versus' first return to the racks, or at the very least, would be very pleased that we are expressing our return to greatness through his rhymes. *In case you were wonder-ering.*

We know, we look a little different than we did last semester, namely because we are now printing side-byside with The Hustler on Wednesdays. The truth of the matter is, The Hustler and Versus have been an item for quite some time now. It's getting serious; we think we're in love. And Wednesday just seems to be a better day for all parties involved. Now we're giving you even more time to plan what bars you'll hit, what movies you'll see, what new restaurants you'll try. Fill your Vandy planners accordingly,

Wait, let's back track. For those new to the Vandy campus, or perhaps new to reading ("I" before "E"? What is this crap?), we are Versus Magazine, THE authority on entertainment and culture on the Vandy campus, downtown Nashville and beyond. To infinity and beyond, maybe. We cover everything from fashion to film, from art and theater to dating advice, and of course, from live music to live music to live music. And because we have several leather bound books and an office that smells of rich mahogany, it's only natural that we talk to some big names in the biz. Just this past week we talked to southern rocker Pat Green. You'll find his ingenious answers to our ingenious questions as you continue to peruse our lovely

We're still up to our old tricks, but we got some new kids, some new ideas and a new look. In fact, new badassery abounds.

What can we say? We feel big. Colossal.

Darcy Newell

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PIC OF THE WEEK



CHRIS GEARING/VERSUS MAGAZINE

FICTION

IF YOU WOULD BE A REAL SEEKER AFTER TRUTH, IT IS NECESSARY THAT AT LEAST ONCE IN YOUR LIFE YOU DOUBT, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, ALL THINGS.

-RENE DESCARTES



POETRY

Sturm und Drang Subway

Watching another minute tick by on her cracked leather watch, she decides that the only way to absorb New York is to stand beside the subway tracks, waiting for the loud shriek of the train. Underground, the air hangs like a soggy towel after a day at the beach: heavy, wet and musty. She remembers all of those times that people told her heat rises, that dusty attics in mid-July and Technicolor hot air balloons are supposed to set an example. But today, the heat is trapped in the pressure cooker of a Times Square tunnel, forcing the leaden air of the city into every pore and strand of hair.

Taking a short breath, a quick look down confirms her position on the platform. Through her faded, worn sandals she had sensed that she was on uneven ground. One glance showed a flash of yellow that had only been bright for three days before the barnacles of urban grime had latched on to slowly leech away the severity of the message. Her big toes aligned forming the apex of a perfect arc that was only inches away from the edge. The bumpy whimsy of the defeated yellow stripe awakened an instinct that she would later hate herself for even considering. It began as an itching twinge in her calves and migrated electrically into her knees and thighs. Before her mind could catch up, her body seemed poised to do it, to jump directly into the path of the unsuspecting shuttle. Her mind raced through a labyrinth of questions: Why am I thinking this? I would never do this! Do you think it would hurt? Would they think it was an accident or will someone else spend the rest of their days searching for the reason I jumped?

Knees still bent but heart racing, she shakes her head until her halo of overgrown bangs flops haphazardly into her eyes. After three deep breaths, the wind picks up and she feels every hair on her body elevate as the S pulls in. She wonders what to make him for dinner tonight.

HAIKUS

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

If I hear one more Bad pun on "Commons" or "Dore" My head may explode.

To two-thousand twelve: Welcome! And class of oh-nine: You are obsolete.

Tormented by confusing dreams? Wondering what it all means? Send your most puzzling dreams in to our extremely qualified, expert dream technicians at VersusVU@gmail.com

In my dream: I had a dream where my dorm room transformed into an art museum with a dance party. One of my girlfriends came over to dance with me, and she was not only drunk — but also Egyptian. I wasn't even mad, I was just impressed. Thoughts? Sincerely, Dreamer in Da-Nile

Why you're crazy:

Whoa. Where to begin. I'm just gonna go ahead and step over the giant sexual elephant in the room with you dreaming about your drunk friend coming over to sloppily dance on ... I mean, WITH you. I think that this dream is simply a cry for more fun. The art museum is most likely some representation of your schoolwork or academic life, and the drunk sloppy girl is a symbol for ... something else. I think you can figure that one out. Sincerely, Dream Doctor

Versus Madlibs

Hi! My name is	I'm from	The first week of
classes was so	, but this weeker	nd! I went to
and got totally	y! I woke	up next to a
in my Then I	totally!	

ENTERTA

MOVIES

'The Dark Knight' scores as a summer smash at the box office

BEN GRIMWOOD

Staff Writer

The sequel to the celebrated revamping of the Batman franchise, "Batman Begins," is Christopher Nolan's equally brilliant, "The Dark Knight," which turns the disrespected superhero film genre upside down.



minutes adrenaline and dark psychology. "The Dark Knight" may have become one of the best superhero films of all-time. In the film, the Joker (Heath Ledger) targets a bank in Gotham, where he manages to steal a tidy sum from a group of mobster and gangster investors who want to take him out. The Joker has other plans, as he becomes directly involved with them and offers to help them take out their collective enemy – Batman (Christian Bale). As Batman begins to capture them all, the Joker's plan turns to killing. As the Joker's plan becomes more dangerous and hits closer to home with Batman, he must work to take out the crazed killer clown before he takes out all of Gotham.

Written, directed and produced by Christopher Nolan, "The Dark Knight" is a work of genius. Nolan's script, written with his brother, is brilliant. The Joker presents several ethical dilemmas that force good guys and bad guys alike to make a choice, usually on who should live or die. It is clever that his presentation of choice rivals his protege Harvey Two-Face's style of using chance. I am certain Nolan considered this when he wrote "The Dark Knight," because every character from the Batman comic books is ingeniously adapted here. Because Nolan is consistent and has a clear vision for this film, his screenplay and direction are mature and flawless.

The character of the Joker is well-developed, and when played by a talented actor like the late Ledger, he becomes perfect. Ledger modifies the Joker from the killer clown we all know so well to make him less of a laughing madman and more of an unrelenting evildoer. (Take that, Jack Nicholson!) His darting eyes and the occasional flick of his tongue over his gooey red lips establish recognizably serpentine (read: evil) qualities for the Joker. In this way, Ledger transforms one of the most brilliantly-written characters in comic book history and offers him tangibly realistic qualities. Ledger's Joker is the Joker that diehard Batman fans will adore, as his complex psychology, killer instinct and creepy laugh prove unchanging in this film.

Meanwhile, Aaron Eckhart steps out as the other great actor in "The Dark Knight." Though I am wholly unfamiliar with his work, he strongly proves himself as brave Harvey Dent, a respectable district attorney, and later, Harvey Two-Face, a vengeful villain with a story that flows right into the film (and what makeup!). His performance is more subtle than that of Ledger, but he still surprises me with the vigor of his acting. Supporting actors like Michael Caine (Alfred) and Morgan Freeman (Lucius Fox) are evergreen, while Batman newcomer (and Katie Holmes' replacement) Maggie Gyllenhaal proves herself equally formidable. Bale is still great here in "The

Dark Knight," although I have to assert the same

complaint some film critics make against the Tim Burton "Batman" films — Batman takes too much of a supporting role. For a movie about the Dark Knight, it could have been re-titled "Harvey Dent and the Joker, featuring Batman."

Though runtime is my complaint against the film (a whopping 150 minutes), it is still tolerable, as the film grabs viewers and never lets go on one pulsepounding, action-packed thrill ride. It climaxes over and over and does not finally release until the last second of the film. And when it does release, viewers discover that it has totally been worth the ride. The tried and true blockbuster of the summer, "The Dark Knight" is still playing in theaters.₩



hilarious. Rogen and

screen and have

until you see it. I

that everyone needs

that's

incredibly

chemistry

MOVIES

Haiku Review

Here at Versus, we know that not every movie you see is going to be a good one. Over the summer, many of our writers wasted hours watching regretable cinematic endeavors. To spare our readers the same fate, the writers will not only tell you what films are missable, they've condensed the reviews into our favorite, brief poetic form:

"Disaster Movie"

Disaster Movie.

Really? REALLY? REALLY DUDES?? Eponymous much?

> "Step Brothers" Lazy guys are stars Sure I guess it's alright, but It's no "Anchorman"

"X-Files: I Want To Believe" It's hard to recall The days when "X-Files" was good I WANT to believe ...

> "Get smart" It is ironic That a movie called "Get Smart"

Made me feel so dumb

VERSUS MOVIE RATING:



Take a ride on the 'Pineapple Express'

CHRIS GEARING

Features Editor

There are a few films every generation that really encapsulate the feelings of the time.

"The Graduate" was one for our parents, while "The Breakfast Club" helped define the John Hughes generation. Their films spoke with such breadth and vernacular so as to capture the minds of everyone who saw them. I just want to be perfectly clear when I say that "Pineapple Express" will most likely not make such lists. It's more of the "Cheech &

Chong" of Generation Me. However, it's most definitely one of the best movies of the summer.

Our story begins with slacker process server Dale Denton (Seth Rogen) buying some of the rarest grass in town from his dealer Saul (James Franco). When Dale accidentally witnesses a murder, he scurries from the scene and tosses his roach out of his car window.

What's the catch? Remember how rare that grass was? The murderers are able to trace the "J" back to Saul and Dale and begin to hunt them to the ends of the Earth. What ensues is one of the funniest and drug-infested comedy romps we've seen in years dealing with manhood, friendship and the occasional slow-motion dance scene.

Where to begin with this dope opus, this chronic classic, this wacky weed wonderland? All marijuana puns aside, this

movie is absolutely Franco play together on very odd hard to believe also want to add to keep an eye on who plays a diedealer named Red. in last month's and seems to be on Hollywood's

I find anything in it's simply a fun crazy characters drugs. Rogen is fence acting (like he was

Danny McBride, hard, cake-baking He also appeared "Tropic Thunder" on the up-and-up "funny guy" list. it hard to hate on this movie since romp with some and a LOT of still sitting on the between funny and dramatic kind of serious in

"Knocked Up" but still had great moments. Just like that). However, the real highlight here is Franco. What a dramatic shift from "Spiderman" and the laughably bad "Flyboys." He is almost making fun of his suave, polished image by dressing in pajamas with grimy teeth, shaggy hair and a disgusting beard. It's like how some actors decide to "get ugly" for films to win Oscars (Nicole Kidman in "The Hours," etc.). This movie is just great all around. Its portrayal of the drug world is hilarious (if a tad bit unrealistic), and the oddly touching friendship of Dale and Saul really hits modern male friendships on the nose. Plus, the diner scene at the end is one of the funniest conversations ever in a movie.

It is safe to say that this was one of the summer's funniest movies and still gets me every time I see it (I'm up to five now). So when it comes to whether or not you should see this — just say, "Yes." #

VERSUS MOVIE RATING: ***

Rated R

Now Playing

NIGHTLIFE

The Villager Tavern: A snapshot of Nashville

BEN HARTWELL

Staff Writer

The first week of school is always my favorite. No one is too busy to go out on a Sunday, Monday or a Tuesday. At other points during the school year

this lifestyle may necessitate an appointment at the Student Health Center, but not today.

Last Tuesday, after becoming frustrated while waiting in line for Sportsman's upstairs pool room, my friends and I decided to cut our losses and head into the abyss. Unbeknownst to me, there is a small dive bar nestled between Sam's Sports Bar and Grill and Bookman on 21st Avenue South. The Villager Tavern, a quaint, smoke-filled, hole-in-the-wall provided a welcome haven from the havor that is a Sportsman's Tuesday.

I found it remarkable that by walking a mere block I traveled from the over- crowded Sportsman's to its polar opposite. Firstly, The Villager Tavern's clientele all appeared to be over 40. I am fairly confident that one female was drinking from a dog bowl, and the bathrooms appeared as if they hadn't been cleaned since the late '70s.

Ironically, I felt significantly less clean after exiting the bathroom than before I entered Nevertheless, my initial apprehension to The Villager Tavern's cleanliness was eased by the cheap

beers served in chilled glasses, the episode of "M*A*S*H" playing from the old television in the corner and the darts. The Villager Tavern is, as it turns out, a Nashville dart mecca.

Half of the bar is the darts fan's equivalent to a bowling alley. Six dart boards are provided with ample space, and complimentary darts are available on loan from the bartender. Dedicated individuals have the ability to hone their skills through repeated patronization, many have. Lining the walls and the ceiling are championship banners from dart competitions around the country. The Villager Tavern provides plenty of 40-somethings lying in wait to hustle both your pocketbook and pride.

I've never been one for darts - I've found that frequent dartplaying negatively affects my beer pong game. Yet after a few rounds of cheap beer I was in a very spirited match with a few friends, getting tips from an middle-aged man who could barely stay on his feet. Would I return to The

trips will likely be sporadic, inebriated decisions.#

Villager Tavern? Definitely. However, I fear that routine trips to The Villager Tavern could spawn an unwelcome case of emphysema. Therefore, my return



MUSI "And I know I'm paranoid and neurotic; I've made a career out of it." — Thom Yorke, Radiohead

TODAY Young country performers Jake Owen, Luke Bryan and Jedd **Hughes** team up to support the Miller Harris Foundation through their original musical styles. If you want to hear a fresh new spin on country music, come to The Bluebird

Cafe at 9 p.m. Ticket prices are

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Try out some folk and indie music and come out to see Kristi Neumann together with 10 Tall and Natalie Warner at 12th and Porter. Tickets are only \$5.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

If you're looking for a band that mixes country and soul to make a sound that is uniquely its own, then you should go see The SteelDriv**ers** at Station Inn at 9 p.m. Tickets are only \$15.

Best Albums of Summer

'Tha Carter III' Lil Wayne

CHARLIE KESSLERING Staff Writer

In today's troubled times, many have tossed the American dream into the same heap of hype as Santa Claus and Bob Dole. Some have become unsure if it ever

existed at all. Take some solace in this: In June, rapper Lil Wayne sold over 2 million copies of "Tha Carter III," an album that conveys his threat to kill a grandmother and an infant child within its first 40 seconds. Oh, the dream lives on.

In my semi-humble opinion, the sixth solo album from Lil Wayne, born Dwayne Michael

Carter Jr., towers over the other summer studio releases and deserves every accolade it has received. With the exception of a few songs ("A Milli"), the disc presents listeners with more classics than a car show. "Mr. Carter" epitomizes the perfect use of a soul sample (and guest spot, for that matter), and "Shoot Me Down" easily became my night driving track of choice. Needless to say, I had a few songs to add to my exclusive "People that Have Probably

Killed People" iTunes playlist. Unfortunately, while the album's beats

> and production proved to be the best from Weezy's camp yet, his lyrical prowess on "Tha Carter III" disappointed me. Sure, some bars are strong as the ones in prison (get it?), but most tracks fail to meet the lyrical standards set by his online leaks. For instance, lines like "I'm rare, like Mr. Clean with hair" (from "Phone Home") do not deserve

to be said out loud.

Such lyrics aside, Lil Wayne packed heat into a summer that desperately needed some extra fire and helped to rebuild the American dream from the rubble and ruin in the mind of this listener. **X**

'Feed the Animals' **Girl Talk**

CHRIS GEARING

Features Editor

Girl Talk is one of THE names in dance music, and he does it by sampling, cutting and re-orchestrating classics (both old and new) to create some of the most interesting

and most danceable beats of our generation. Seriously, this stuff is good.

Girl Talk is the stage name for Pittsburgh, Penn., native Gregg Gillis, who began his music career while studying to be a biomedical engineer. He has released four albums on the record label Illegal Art, including "Night Ripper," which earned him a notable fan base and a lot of hype.

It turns out, Girl Talk has only gotten better with time, and on "Feed the Animals" he's sampling and pasting things such as Kanye West's "Flashing Lights" and Blackstreet's "No Diggity." Think that's crazy? Try a mash-

up of T-Pain and Chris Brown in "Kiss Kiss" blended with "Jessie's Girl." Yeah, that just happened. It sounds nuts, but somehow it works. in a way that's oddly fulfilling.

In a technical sense, Girl Talk also has some serious skills. The transitions are flawless and seemingly natural, and there

> are enough different feels and textures to the music that it's impossible to get bored. In fact, Girl Talk urges fans on his MySpace page to listen to the entire album consecutively, as if it were one complete song.

Yet, the best part about "Feed the Animals" is that you can download the album off of Girl Talk's MySpace in a "Pay What You Want" offer.

You can pay \$20 or nothing, totally up to you. It's undeniable that this music is interesting if not downright fantastic. Get this disc (or download) immediately. Happy dancing. #

'Fate' Dr. Dog

CHRIS MCDONALD Staff Writer

Dr. Dog's summer release, "Fate," is easily one of the most impressive and captivating albums of the year. With a spectacular arsenal of styles and sounds, Dr. Dog takes

the listener on a wild journey through musical history, producing stunning, retro-sounding songs replete raw, pained vocals and driving hooks.

What makes "Fate" truly special, however, is not in its capturing a single, vintage sound, but rather in the incredible variety it offers. While songs like "Army of Ancients" immediately

bring to mind James Brown, other songs such as "The Ark" and "Hang On" sound so strikingly similar to The Beatles, The Band or Cream that they literally bring goose bumps to your skin.

Musically, "Fate" takes great leaps away from the rugged, lo-fi sound that the band has been known for. While it still maintains has a funny way of coming around." 署

a rather raw style, the album is much more refined and smoothly produced than expected. Ragtime piano, funky bass lines, string and brass sections, driving guitars, and electric organs all come together to create wonderfully composed tracks

that denote a level of skill and maturity that belie the band's age and experience (having been together for less than a decade and really only coming into the mainstream in the last four or five years). Vocally, the band stays true to form, maintaining soulful, raw and at times pained singing split between Scott McMicken and

Toby Leaman.

Aptly described by the band itself as the album that they were destined to make, "Fate" is, in my opinion, the most interesting and praiseworthy album of the summer. The lyrics of the song "The Beach" describe it best: "You know fate



TRIP COTHREN Staff Writer

The multi-instrumental supergroup is back at it again.

Coldplay released their newest album this

past June. "Viva La Vida or Death and All His Friends" is truly a work of art by any standard. The 12-track masterful mixture melodies (Ah! Alliteration!) has much more to offer than the title track, which we've all heard on those damn Apple commercials. But don't let Apple ruin this for you. The rest of the album is just as good as "Viva La Vida" was the first time you heard it.

The lyricless "Life in Technicolor" is, in my opinion, the band's greatest achievement to date. The way the notes seamlessly fit together is something that fans have been waiting for since the debut album "Parachutes.'

The inquisitive "Lost?" and exclamatory "Lost!" are an interesting pair. The two songs are not consecutive tracks but are instead

separated by a few other great head-banging epics. Okay, maybe not "head-banging" but certainly nothing to be scoffed at. "Cemeteries of London" might possibly be one of the saddest songs this summer, and "Yes" is an up-tempo, fast- paced hit for all

ears to enjoy. Now, I cannot sit



here and tell you, with a straight face, that Coldplay is the greatest band of our time, that their lyrics are incredible or that this album is the greatest ever. What I can say is that Coldplay is an incredible band unimaginable talent and an ear for excellence. This album

is their greatest achievement to date, and I encourage all to give it a spin or two.

=If you must choose a few songs, I recommend "Cemeteries of London," "Lost!" and either "Viva La Vida" or "Violet Hill." These tracks should be sufficient reason for you to click that "Complete my Album" button on iTunes. 🕊

Breakout Artists

Duffy delivers

ALLENA BERRY Staff Writer

Is it just me or has there been an uncommonly high influx of British artists in the past few years?

We've always loved our cousins across the pond, especially as far as music is concerned, but it's as if, all of a sudden, I can't throw a rock without hitting an ultra-new, ultra-hip U.K. musician. The Brits are rapidly producing "must-hear" artists that have won the favor of some wellknown so-and-so in the music biz. However, as a savvy and skeptical American consumer, I wasn't ready to buy into the hype without testing the goods. So when I heard musical acclaim about this "Duffy" character (as in Aimee Ann Duffy), I was ready to delve deeper into the vibe of the Welsh, blue-eyed soul singer.

The catchy single "Mercy" from the album "Rockferry" was my first introduction. Its

high energy, 1960s girl group quality made it easy to sing along to in the car (oh, like you don't do it). Duffy's raspy voice is less Aretha Franklin and more Stevie Nicks, and her oldschool tracks make other soul singers, such as sometimesstable Amy Winehouse, look like the new kids on the block: Duffy is all the sound without the drama.

Except when it comes to her lyrics. Songs like "Stepping Stone" and "Warwick Avenue" are not quite "lover, ya done me wrong,"but there is an overlying theme of poor relationships and self-empowerment. The title track, "Rockferry," is what validated Duffy as a real vocal powerhouse among a wave of mediocre artists. As one of the most emotional songs on the album, it is both heart-felt and technically impressive.

Duffy's CD is a great choice for music fans who appreciate strong female vocals and have a taste for something a little less mainstream. 🕷

She kissed a girl — and the world took notice

LAKENDRA SCOTT Music Editor

She kissed a girl and she liked it. More than likely these words have reached your ears more than once this summer, probably leading to an image of pseudo-lesbianism commonly produced after a few to many shots of Jose Cuervo. "I Kissed a Girl," the breakout hit for singer-songwriter Katy Perry, has become a summer anthem for girls regardless of sexual preference, propelling the unknown songstress to the

top of the charts. While best known for her bi-curious single, the genius of Perry's album "One of the Boys" lies in her sass-filled lyrics lamenting her less than joy-filled past relationships. Despite her upbringing as a daughter of two preachers sweet-as-apple-pie exterior, Perry's lyrics have a tendency to push people outside their comfort zone.

The song "Ur So Gay," a tribute to the metrosexual and painfully emo tendencies of Perry's ex-boyfriend, explains her disgust using colorfully stinging imagery. Perry sings, "I hope you hang yourself with your H&M scarf / While jacking off listening to Mozart," and in just two lines expresses both her frustration with the past and her obviously comedic means of expressing this annoyance.

While Perry has been producing music since 2001, it was her shift from Christian crooner to pop princess that made her a widely known artist. As Perry settles comfortably into her relationship with Gym Class Heroes frontman Travis McCoy, her innovative lyrics are sure to take a turn from boyfriend bashing, but we can only hope that they don't lose any of her signature punch. 🔀

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Head to City Hall to see Pat Green play his highly acclaimed version of country-rock at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Come see Nashville native Ben Folds perform his quirky style of music that he writes, performs and composes. He will play at the Nashville Symphony at 7 p.m., and tickets start at \$40.

MONDAY, SEPTEMER 8

Fans of Western swing will enjoy a performance by The Time Jumpers, a group of 11 Nashville natives. Tickets are \$10, and the show kicks off at 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 Check out Ingram Hill and

Graham Colton at Exit/In and be ready hum along to songs that are both smooth and rough. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$13 the day of the show. The performance begins at 9 p.m.



Kelly Hughes, co-chair of The Music Group shares with Versus and the Vandy community what she's been listening to. Might we see these groups at Quake or Rites, Kelly?

- "GAMMA RAY" Beck
- "LOOK OUT YOUNG SON" **Grand Ole Party**
- "SHE LOVES EVERYBODY" **Chester French**
- "RECKONER" Radiohead
- "SEX ON FIRE" Kings of Leon
- The Raconteurs

"CAROLINA DRAMA"

- *"Jager Yoga"* CSS
- **Peaches** "SIMPLE TWIST OF FATE"

Bob Dylan

"DOWNTOWN"

"GOLD LION" Yeah Yeah Yeahs

SUMMER FESTIVALS

Peace, love and chocolate mushrooms: Bonnaroo at its best

ELIZABETH DIAZ-ESQUIVEL

Staff Writer

For many, sleeping in your car and not showering for an entire weekend might not be synonymous with "best weekend ever," but my Bonnaroo experience was exactly that.

Bonnaroo is a four-day, multi-stage, music and arts festival on a 700-acre farm in Manchester, Tenn., and it's been one of the biggest live music festivals since its inception in 2002.

In keeping with its jam-band roots, Widespread Panic headlined, while My Morning Jacket, Tiesto, Jack Johnson and Lupe Fiasco were just a few of the other artists representing a very diverse lineup. My favorite discoveries were The Avett Brothers, Mason Jennings and the Icelandic band Sigur Ros, whose ethereal brand of music (sung in Icelandic, heady to say the least) sounds like it's from another planet

And you can't talk about Bonnaroo without talking about Kanye, whose highly anticipated, glow-in-the-dark set left fans waiting in a field until 5 a.m. When Kanye did emerge on stage, he didn't even muster up an apology but later blamed the festival's organizers for the five-hour delay in an angry online rant. Make love, Kanye, not war.

Yet, the "experience" of Bonnaroo is as much about living in your car and meeting the random assortment of fellow attendees as it is about the vast collection cleverly named "What Stage" and "Which Tent," "That Tent" and "The Other Tent." Despite the hilarity of these monikers, imagine the absolute chaos this creates in conversation:

- "Which stage is M.I.A. at?"
- "What Stage."
- "Wait, Which Stage?"
- "No, What Stage."

This confusion combined with poor cell phone reception and the prevalent drug culture at a festival like Bonnaroo should



of performers. The music stages are give you a taste of the mayhem which ensues when trying to keep track of friends. I met Stage," while the tents go by "This countless other festival-goers who (perhaps

after one too many mushroom chocolates) somberly claimed to have been abandoned by their friends, when in actuality their tent was only a few feet away.

My favorite crazy neighbors were the two 40-something guys who liked to sit in their camp chairs and pound beers at 6 a.m. highly typical. But what was a-typical about them was that their third chair belonged to a 3-foot-tall inflatable monkey named Montgomery, which they talked to like it was no big thing. ("Montgomery, I think you raged too hard last night, so you'll have to stay in the car for today.") Later in the weekend I saw the three of them at the Aimee Mann show with Montgomery sporting his very own Bonnaroo t-shirt. I said favorite neighbors, not sanest.

Still, the people and atmosphere of Bonnaroo are truly just as important as the music. My car door opened into what was basically my neighbor's living room. You would think that would foster frustration with 80,000 people living almost on top each other in the middle of a field, but I experienced what was as close to a functioning utopia as I will ever see. A lot of concerts I have attended have been marred by an aggressive, get-out-of-myway-I'm-getting-to-the-front attitude. I'll admit I've used the "But my boyfriend's up there!" line once or twice before at other shows, but I didn't see this occur once the entire weekend at Bonnaroo. In fact, I don't really think I ever saw anyone angry. Bonnaroo is a place where you can have a funnel cake while listening to B.B. King on your way to see Ben Folds; now that's all right with me. This peace, love and happiness business is legit. #

Loving Lollapalooza

LAUREN RICHMAN Staff Writer

Some people may describe their Lollapalooza 2008 experience as one of sun-slapped skin, aching backs, sweaty bodies and claustrophobia. My experience was far different.

Entering Chicago's Grant Park well into the 95-degree day on Friday, I arrived ready for a day full of today's most cutting-edge and popular artists.

First on my group's list was Cat Power, a.k.a. Chan Marshall. We followed her intimate, passionate and raw performance with Grizzly Bear, who offered a richly layered performance viewed from under the shade of some of Grant Park's only trees.

After Grizzly Bear was CSS, who completely transformed the stage. Donned in a feral costume, lead singer/ wild stage spectacle Lovefoxxx unleashed an explosion of electronic energy.

performances, we walked to the massive AT&T stage to experience Radiohead (I say "experience" because "see" or "hear" could not possibly be worthy enough words to describe their performance). My anticipation for this show was like waiting to open what you know will be your favorite Christmas present after a sleepless, wideeyed Christmas Eve. Starting just as the sun began to go down, Radiohead stepped on stage, all English and nonchalant, racing

into "15 Step." Their set was comprised

mostly of their 2007 album, "In Rainbows,"

but also included vintage gems such as "The

Keeping in line with changing musical

Bends," "Fake Plastic Trees" and "Airbag." The stage was lit with LED light shards, comparable to icicles, just the distraction we needed from a day in the Grant Park sauna. Despite being surrounded by 75,000 plus people, Radiohead presented an intimate, life-changing show. Needless to say, I listened to solely Radiohead for three weeks straight after that.

Day two was drastically different: cooler, less dream-like and perhaps less impressive compared to the epic set the night prior. We started with MGMT, one of the few bands I was excited about. I was looking forward to an exciting, vivacious performance but instead received a tired, dull attempt at a good time. Moving on,



we completely shifted moods and lay on a grassy knoll for the latter bit of a trancelike performance by Explosions in the Sky. As the day wound down, we worked our way up front to see our favorite Chicago natives, Wilco. As always, they ruled the stage with confidence, camaraderie and the wisdom of seasoned veterans of solid live performances.

Enjoying Wilco but weary from our travels, we decided to leave a bit early to beat the colossal crowds of shirtless men, lost children and out-of-towners. The past two days had been some of the greatest of summer, filled with epic performers, radical shows and time well spent with friends. #

Aug. 23: Dr. Dre's son, Andre Young Jr., was found dead in his California home.

Aug. 24: Leona Lewis and Jimmy Page joined performers from around the world at Beijing Olympics closing ceremony.

Aug. 26: Britney Spears' manager announced that America's little sweetheart will not be performing at this year's MTV Video Music Awards.

Aug. 27: A blogger was arrested after leaking unreleased Guns N' Roses tracks online.

Aug. 28: The first new AC/DC single in eight years, "Rock 'n' Roll Train," was released to the



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ART

Snapshots of Warhol's legacy live on



MURIELLE WYMAN
Staff Writer

The Fine Arts Gallery selected a bombshell of an exhibit to introduce its 2008-2009 exhibition season. "Line Up, Strip Down, Fade Out," on display until Oct. 10, features a selection of original Polaroid photographs recently gifted to the Fine Arts Gallery by the Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts. Accompanying these images are the photographic works of two contemporary artists working from New York City David Horvitz and Grant

Worth — whose images and

videos "defy and reflect one

another, much like Warhol's

'Line Up, Strip Down, Fade Out'

To view this exhibit, stop by the Fine Arts Gallery, located in the Old Gym at the corner of West End Avenue and 23rd Street, Monday through Friday from 12 to 4 p.m., or from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

public and private persona" said Joseph Whitt, assistant curator at the Fine Arts Gallery.

The images of Worth and Horvitz build on the lush, mythical ideologies behind Warhol's works — and even somewhat pick up where he left off — by creating art that not only contains hints at pop decadences from his era but also by elaborating on the contemplative aura that Warhol was known to have.

"Worth's photographs and kaleidoscopic videos lead the viewer into a baroque, almost occult meditation on classic pop themes of sexuality, glamour and urbanity," Whitt said, "while Horvitz's stark documentation of his own life provides a quieter and more prosaic counterpoint."

Worth, who graduated with a bachelor's of fine arts in photography and imaging from the New York University Tisch School of the Arts, may not seem a likely candidate to be shown alongside Warhol,

left off — by creating art that not only contains hints at pop decadences from his era but Whitt explains that the exhibit came together in a very natural way.

"The exhibition was organized very intuitively," he said. "Worth's photographs and videos sparkle with an innocent approach to decadence that wouldn't feel foreign in Warhol's factory of the mid-'60s."

The same can also be said of the inclusion of Horvitz's works — they reflect the quieter and more isolated aspect of Warhol's private life.

"Horvitz's self-documentations are more detached, poignant and lonely," Whitt said. "(He) speaks with the voice of a diarist." #\$

Rocking out to ethical, eco-friendly fashion

OLIVIA KUPFER
Staff Writer

About three years ago, Bono took his passion for philanthropy and put it together with fashion. The result? Edun.

Edun's mission is to design and manufacture trendy, high-fashion clothing in an ethical environment. Conceived by rock star Bono and wife Ali Hewson, who teamed up with Irish designer Rogan Gregory, Edun is a socially conscious way to bring commerce to developing regions, especially Third-World communities in Africa, an area of Bono's focus. But it is the mantra of Edun that serves as its backbone: respect for the people who make the product, for the community where it's

If you want to check out Edun's eco-friendly fashions, check out edunonline.com or edun-live.org, Edun's sister site. Edun Live produces organic cotton t-shirts in an ethical work environment.

made, the materials used and the consumer.

I was fortunate to have interned this past summer at Edun and learned about its goal of producing ethical, sustainable clothing. Edun identifies itself as a socially conscious clothing brand with an emphasis on fostering "trade, not aid" in developing countries. "Trade, not aid" follows the concept that bringing commerce to developing nations provides a long-term solution, while giving aid only provides temporary relief.

Edun has achieved its goal of bringing trade to developing regions (such as Sub-Sahara Africa and parts of South America) by setting up its factories in these areas, paying its workers fair wages and creating communities in order to combat the most pressing issue in these nations. And industry and the creation of new jobs benefits the women of these countries who may not have other work opportunities, utilizes more of the labor force to increase a country's productivity and efficiency, and helps combat the AIDS epidemic.

The connection between the creation of new jobs and the AIDS epidemic may seem bizarre, but it is fairly simple. Many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, a part of the world most affected by the AIDS

crisis, owe debts to other nations as a result of past regimes or having once been colonies. Instead of being able to use social aid granted for public health programs, countries must allocate their resources to this debt repayment, only perpetuating their problem. Through the creation of new fair wage jobs and industry, (like those made by Edun), countries affected by the AIDS epidemic have the opportunity to allocate fiscal relief to the crisis because the new profits, as a result of trade, can be used for debt repayment.

It's also no secret that the apparel industry relies on East Asia for inexpensive labor and materials. Edun rejected this business model in favor of a more ethical one. Hewson and Bono are pragmatic

businesspeople — they conceived of a way to create a competitive, edgy brand while creating industry in developing nations. Edun's factories are in countries like Madagascar and Kenya, which allows for these developing nations to regain trade lost to factories in China, where artificially low labor costs allow for inexpensive production.

Some may argue that since the owners of the company are wealthy, Edun is either a pet project or a publicity stunt. But Edun is a forprofit business whose clothes have been featured in fashion magazines such as InStyle and Vogue. As an ethical fashion brand, the Edun designers typically incorporate "green" fabric (primarily organic cotton) into each season's collection. How about that for a rock star? #











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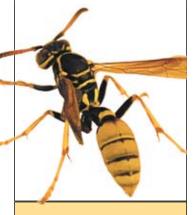
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Each week, our resident **Angry WASP** sounds off on things that make him buzz. (see what we did there?)



Dear Vanderbilt,

Look Vandy, we've been together for a good solid three years together — a change of almost 5,000 people, fraternities coming and going, our abandonment by Gee – lots of things. things so difficult in our last two semesters

First off, did you SERIOUSLY just put a first-year student in the same mailbox as me? I have FAR too many hours for that! Look, I could have graduated last December, but instead I continue to fill your coffers with thousands of dollars. The LEAST you could do is give me the privacy of my own mailbox. And really, didn't you think to put in some extra mailboxes when you were pouring so much into your newly

Another thing: doing away with Pub food. What the heck? The veggie quesadilla with added grilled chicken was one of my few comforts in this maze you call "the meal plan," and now it's gone. Gone like my ability to get ice cream using a meal at the Munchie Mart. Gone like CX2. Gone like that semi-popular gelato place in Branscomb. Gone like Stonehenge

And on top of that, you make all of this in the name of "progress"? Really? You think some hiking trail indicators and a new sign on the medical center will make it better for me? You're wrong. All that's left for me to do is brood in the beautifully designed Commons Dining Center over my delicious brick-oven pizza and surround myself with the smartest incoming class ever.

Sincerely, **An Angry WASP**

stuff; I keep things as lighthearted as possible. I'm not much

into preaching or giving sermons or telling people about my

politics. I figure that when people go to a bar to have a few

drinks and listen to some music, they would feel the same

way. They just want to enjoy themselves. 光

To listen to the Pat Green interview, go to:

(insideVANDY

now. We've seen a lot So why must you make together?

beloved Commons?

... you bastards.

SOUNDTRACK TO THE ISSUE: 1. "Let the Beat Build," Lil Wayne **2.** "Get Like Me," David Banner, Young Joc and Chris Brown 3. "Always Feel This Way," Tristan Prettyman 4. "My Worst Enemy," Forever The Sickest Kids 5. "Stitched Up," Herbie Hancock feat. John Mayer 6. "Stuck In The Middle With You," Stealer's Wheel 7. "Play Your Part (Pt. 2)," Girl Talk 8. "Life In Technicolor," Coldplay 9. "Mercy," Duffy 10. "Fire and Rain," James Taylor To find in iTunes, go to iTunes Store > Music > iMix > Search for Versus Magazine "Soundtrack to the issue 9/03"

FLIP SIDE

OVERHEARD

Some people on this campus just don't think before they speak. Sometimes we are lucky enough to overhear what they say.

Compiled from the Facebook group "Overheard at Vanderbilt'



In a Visions meeting, talking about Econ 100: "So, does Buckles get hard?"

Organic Chem professor: "A rhinoceros is not a unicorn. And it's not a dinosaur."

Guy walking through Sarratt to his friends: "Dude, what we were talking about in economics today was JUST like Batman!"

Wandering Commons visitor: "I hear they modeled this place after HOGWARTS."

Girl getting off of elevator in Towers: "Do you ever look at Towers and think it looks like subsidized housing?"

Guy 1: "If you had to have sex with any animal, what would it be?"

Guy 2: "I think I'd have sex with a monkey, just to see how freaky she'd get."

At Rand brunch: Me: "What is that chicken?"

Girl: "Like, seriously, you don't even understand. I PUT OUT for Taco Bell!"

Student worker: "Who knows? It's Rand."

Guy: "Sometimes I steal trays from Bread &

Co. and give them to Wendy's. I feel like Robin



HOROSCOPES



VIRGO 8/23-9/22 Virgo, eh? Not for long.



LIBRA 9/23-10/22:

You broke a mirror seven years ago, so that bad luck should be ending right about now ... unless you're a loser. Sorry.



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21:

Those green arrows around campus are actually directions to Gee's hidden treasure! Follow them!



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21:

Feeling lost? Got the itch to find your niche? The organization fair is over, so sucks for you.



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19: Your motto for the day: Do it sexy.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18: Don't go to The Pub today. Trust us, you'll thank us. (This one can be



PISCES 2/19-3/20:

applied every day.)

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. Flip a coin and that's what today is.



ARIES 3/21-4/19:

Born under the sign of the ram, eh? Hehe, "ram."



TAURUS 4/20-5/20:

Haven't found a lady friend, yet? Looks like ya gotta grab the bull by the horns. (Get it? You're a Taurus).



GEMINI 5/21-6/21:

When you really think about it, you're just pre-CANCEROUS. Better get that looked at.



CANCER 6/22-7/22:

How's it feel to have your sign be a deadly disease?



LEO 7/23-8/22:

Considering seppuku? Don't. Classes are over in three months.

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