For more, see **Sports**, **page 6**







The Handerbilt Hustler

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2007 • 119TH YEAR, NO. 46

THE WALL

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

TODAY

All-American Block Party

The party, which supports Soldiers' Angels, will be held from 5 until 7 p.m. on Kensington Place. It will feature Chris Young, Blue County and Will Bowen.

TODAY Yearbook portraits

Portrait sittings for the 2008 Commodore yearbook are in Sarratt 112 through the Baseball Glove Lounge. Seniors must make appointments on the yearbook Web site, while non-seniors do not need to make appointments and can walk in any time between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 7 p.m.

TODAY Tennessee State Fair

The annual event kicks off today at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. The fair runs through the Sept. 16.

TODAY 'Fiddler on the Roof' auditions

Auditions for the only student-run, full-length musical are in the Branscomb Rec Room from 2 to

TODAY AND SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

Athenian Sing tryouts

Tryouts for Athenian Sing will be held in Sarratt Cinema today from 4 to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8 Auditions for Rhythm & Roots Performance Company

Auditions will be held between 2 and 4 p.m. for dance and 4 and 6 p.m. for drama in Memorial Gymnasium Dance Studio C.

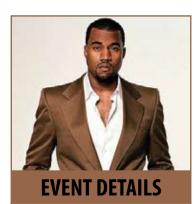
SUNDAY, SEPT. 9 Fraternity and Panhellenic sorority recruitment

registration

Registration for men and women interested in joining fraternities and sororities will take place in the Student Life Center Ballroom. Registration for fraternities will take place at 2 p.m., sororities at 3 p.m.

See http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu

Kanye West kicks off college concert season



WHEN: Oct. 12, doors open at 7 p.m.,

WHERE:

show at 8 p.m.

Memorial Gymnasium

HOW MUCH:

\$15 for Vanderbilt students, \$35 for members of the Vanderbilt and Nashville communities; tickets go on sale Friday, Sept. 14 at 10 a.m. at all Ticketmaster locations. by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS

Staff Reporter

Grammy Award-winner Kanye West will headline the sixth annual Commodore Quake as part of this year's Homecoming activities.

Also performing on Oct. 12 are pop-rock band Guster and singersongwriter Brett Dennen. Both have previously performed at Rites of Spring. David Silverstein, co-chair

of the Music Group, which is responsible for coordinating concerts on campus, said he is excited for this year's Quake and is confident other students will look forward to the concert.

"Every year, we strive to bring the best talent to Vanderbilt's campus and the Nashville community," he said in a press release. "We are looking to put together compelling and unique lineups, blending genres and talent to give students and the general public the ultimate music experience."

Another co-chair, Emma Starks, emphasized the broad appeal and rarity of the lineup.

"We're really excited for this Quake. Last year we had Ludacris, and while that was groundbreaking, this tops him," she said. "Having Kanye and Guster is incredible. This has never been seen before, especially on a college campus. ... It's really exciting to have this caliber of artist."

Rumors of West's performance have circulated campus for several days, but students still said they are excited about the confirmation of his appearance.

"I heard rumors that (West) would perform, and I heard rumors about Guster too, but I'm looking forward to Quake. I think it's going to be really fun and diverse," said senior Samantha Schreiber.

"I haven't really heard any rumors," said sophomore Nancy Tan, "but I'm so excited for Kanye. I can't wait, and I'll definitely be there."

Neither Silverstein nor Starks could comment on the budget for Quake, but Silverstein said the expenses will not affect the Music Group's ability to attract big names for April's Rites of Spring.

"All the money in the Music Group's budget is for the year, and we don't operate on an event-byevent budget," he said. "There will be ample funds for a stellar Rites."

Although some students are already speculating about specific artists they would like to see perform on Alumni Lawn in the spring, others said they hope for a diverse lineup like Quake's.

"I think Rites should have a lineup that attracts a lot of different fans like (Quake) will. I think these venues should bring new experiences for the artists as well as the fans," Schreiber said.

Starks said events like Rites and Quake are important to the campus, and a varying lineup attracts a greater number of students.

"We want to get the whole campus out for Quake," she said.
"It's about school spirit and bringing everyone together." ■



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

'iChancellor' Zeppos

by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKSStaff Reporter

adjusts to life at the top

Nick Zeppos has hit the ground running, adjusting to his new role and making plans to improve the university in his first month as "iChancellor."

"We're through the transition, and nothing energizes and invigorates everyone like the beginning of a new school year," he

Zeppos, who retained his position as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, assumed the post when former Chancellor Gordon Gee resigned Aug. 1 to return to The Ohio State University as president.

Delegation has been imperative, said Zeppos, also a faculty VUceptor.

a faculty VUceptor.

"Everyone is pulling more of a load, more people are pitching in. Everyone has been great," he said. "It's always been a collaborative effort between students, faculty, staff and the administration."

Although Zeppos said he misses seeing Gee every day in Kirkland Hall, he also said the transition has gone smoothly and the semester looks promising.

"(Faculty and students both) miss Gee, but we're moving forward quickly," he said. "A new semester is always a challenge, but the students got moved in and are making it through the shock."

A number of projects and plans Zeppos hopes to initiate, many announced last week at the Faculty Assembly, will propel the university forward, he said.

And he will focus first on housing and increasing financial aid for students.

"Although there are plans for the demolition of Kissam, we're making some shortterm improvements so it is livable for the students that have to be there," Zeppos said. "I also want to make Vanderbilt more affordable and make sure students can

leave without a lot of debt."

His multi-faceted plans also include changes to academic departments and a concentration on energy and

environmental issues.

Zeppos would like to see an "internationalization" of the university and an increase in "global education," he said, achieved by creating a Middle Eastern and Islamic studies department and bringing more international scholars to Vanderbilt.

Although Zeppos said the transition has been seamless, some students have noticed Gee's absence.

"I haven't noticed any major changes (since Gee left), but usually around this time of the year, Gee is everywhere. I don't even know what Zeppos looks like," said senior Colette Hunt

Though Zeppos often has been compared to Gee, he said, "I am who I am."

"I just have to be true to my abilities, strengths and weaknesses and just keep doing what I've been doing here for the last 20 years," he said. "(Gee) left big shoes to fill, but the people who really fill them are the community and the students."

HISTORY OF THE CHANCELLOR'S

Landon C. Garland 1875-1893

OFFICE

James H. Kirkland

1893-1937

Oliver C. Carmichael

1937-1945 Madison Sarratt

chancellor pro tempore

Harvie Branscomb 1945-1963

Alexander Heard

1963-1982

Joe B. Wyatt

1982-2000

E. Gordon Gee 2000-2007

Nicholas Zeppos interim chancellor 2007

Restrictions placed on student tailgate lot

by GLENNA DEROY Editor-in-Chief

Students will tailgate under new regulations this weekend due to several instances of misbehavior in the student lot.

The two Vanderbilt University Police Department officers assigned to the area last Saturday observed lewd dancing, public urination, bottle throwing and fights, said Chief of Police Marlon Lynch.

The officers attempted to break up the fights but were outnumbered and

physically overpowered by students in the crowd. "People actually faced them, put their hands on

them, put their nands on them and began pushing them away, allowing those that were involved in the fights to leave the area," Lynch said.

Detailed reports of the altercation did not reach Dean of Students

Mark Bandas and Vanderbilt Student Government President Cara Bilotta until Wednesday. VUPD does not know the students or organizations involved.

Dialogue

Discuss the new tailgaiting

policy with fellow students

by commenting on

InsideVandy.com

"Unfortunately, this incident, coupled with other ridiculous behavior such as numerous instances of public urination, destruction of property and breaking of bottles, have jeopardized our relationship with those who are here to ensure our safety," Bilotta said.

Administrators considered closing Lot 73A to student tailgaters before VUPD, VSG, dean of students staff and Athletics settled on a collaborative policy.

"I was surprised and shocked that students physically interfered with officers acting in the performance of their duty and attempting go help our students," Bandas said.

VUPD officers and a student-led party patrol staff will enforce university alcohol policy, consistent with current oversight of Greek Row, Bilotta said.

Liquor and glass containers will be prohibited, and the tailgate area will close 10 minutes before kickoff. The pregame conclusion of tailgating shows respect

The pregame conclusion of tailgating shows respect for the athletes and athletic staff, Bilotta said.

"Unfortunately, we do not have a tradition of attending the game on time, but Bobby Johnson has set a priority of going to a BCS bowl game this year," Bilotta said. "An integral part of making that happen is student support and attendance." ■



ARTEYOU PAURIOUNCE

All-American Block Party

To commemorate 9/11/01
TODAY 5PM-8PM, Greek Row



Odps & ENDS

WEATHER

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN



Isolated T-Storms, 92/71

SUNDAY



Isolated T-Storms, 91/72

MONDAY



Partly Cloudy, 91/71

VUPD CRIME LOG compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

officers requested.

Sunday, Sept. 2, 10:17 p.m. A person was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and drunkenness after refusing to leave Towers West during a fire alarm when

Sunday, Sept. 2, 1:27 a.m. A person was charged with public intoxication and underage consumption after being asked several times to leave 2500 Kensington Ave. and refusing.

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2 a.m. An intoxicated person was arrested in the 2525 garage and charged with drunkenness after damaging the parking gate.

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 12 p.m. A person was found attempting to open mailboxes without permission.

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 4:50 p.m. A person was arrested for operation a motor vehicle without a license at West End and 24th Avenue South.

Check out http://police.vanderbilt.edu/ crimelog.htm for complete listings

SERVICE GUIDE

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

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

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours

IN THE KNOW

The news you need — in brief

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

WORLD

Bin Laden plans new video in advance of Sept. 11 anniversary; first video in 3 years

Osama bin Laden plans a new video to be released in the coming days ahead of the sixth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks in what would be the first new images of the terror mastermind in nearly three years, al-Qaida's media arm announced Thursday.

The al-Qaida leader has not appeared in new video footage since Oct. 29, 2004, and he has not put out a new audiotape in more

One difference in his appearance was immediately obvious. The announcement had a still photo from the upcoming video, showing bin Laden addressing the camera, his beard fully black. In his past videos, bin Laden's beard was almost entirely gray with dark streaks.

Rita Katz, director of the SITE Institute, a Washington-based group that monitors terror messages, said bin Laden's beard appeared to have been dyed, a popular practice among Arab leaders.

"I think it works for their (al-Qaida's) benefit that he looks young, he looks healthy," Katz said.

SOURCE: AP

Bush speaks on trade, global warming before meeting with Putin

President Bush on Friday urged Asia-Pacific nations to lead the way toward a worldwide trade agreement and a plan to combat global warming while also banding together against terrorism.

In a speech to business leaders, Bush prodded Russia and China to honor democratic principles and allow more freedoms. He appealed for international pressure against the military government in Myanmar to stop its crackdown on pro-democracy activists in the Southeast Asian nation. Bush spoke optimistically about the war in Iraq and urged other nations not to turn away, according to text of his remarks that the White House released in advance.

SOURCE: AP

NATION

Productivity rebounds, wage pressures ease

Worker productivity rebounded, growing at the fastest pace in nearly two years, while wage pressures eased sharply in the spring developments that should reduce inflation worries.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that productivity, the amount of output per hour of work, jumped to an annual growth rate of 2.6 percent in the April to June quarter, even better than the 1.8 percent increase that was originally reported.

Wage pressures, as measured by unit labor costs, slowed to an annual growth rate of 1.4 percent, slower than the initial estimate that labor costs were rising at a 2.1 percent rate.

Rising wages are good for workers, but if those gains are not accompanied by increased productivity, they can trigger unwanted inflation. If productivity is growing, it allows businesses to pay their workers more out of the increased output rather than by raising prices.

The increase in productivity and the reduction in labor costs were better than had been expected, raising hopes that the Federal Reserve will have the leeway to cut interest rates at its next meeting Sept. 18.

SOURCE: AP

Searchers expand search for lost aviator Steve Fossett; no sign of plane after 4 days

Search teams dramatically expanded their hunt for adventurer Steve Fossett to encompass 10,000 square miles of rugged mountains and desert Thursday after nearly four discouraging days yielded no trace of his single-engine

"As you can imagine, trying to make that needle stand out in a haystack that big is going to be a real challenge," said Nevada Civil Air Patrol Maj. Cynthia Ryan. "It's going to be frustrating for a lot of people who were hoping for results

Ten airplanes and helicopters made repeated passes over a search area the size of Massachusetts known for its 10,000foot peaks, strong winds and unrelenting harshness.

Despite the massive search, there have been only a few false leads and no signals from the emergency locator beacon aboard Fossett's Bellanca Citabria Super Decathlon.

The best hope was that the world-famous adventurer used his long-proven survival skills to stay alive, rationing the food and water that was in the plane.

CAMPUS

Vanderbilt maintains position among top-25 universities in the national competition for federal research dollars

Vanderbilt University maintained its rank of 23rd in the nation in the total value of federal science and engineering research grants awarded to campus researchers, according to an annual report compiled by the National Science Foundation.

This is the fourth year in a row that the campus has placed among the top-25 universities in Federal Obligations for Science & Engineering Research & Development, the report that contains the most accurate figures on the distribution of federal S&E research and development dollars.

"It's gratifying to see our faculty's great ideas and hard work are paying off so well, bringing them the resources they need to pursue those ideas," said Dennis Hall, associate provost for research and graduate education.

"Even though this particular ranking does not catch all of the federal funding Vanderbilt receives, it is a good indicator of our progress because nearly all of the funds this ranking does catch are awarded on the basis of quality and merit, by means of peerreviewed competitive processes," Hall said.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

THEY CALL THIS NEWS?

Legitimate news outlets report stories every day that make the average American ask: Why should I care? News stories like these fill dead air and provide little informational value. But they're good for a laugh.

compiled by SARA GAST

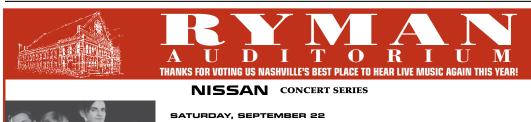
- Thieves steal garden gnome. The twist? Gnome weighs 120 pounds and was cemented in place.
- Yoko Ono wants to know, "Can someone make hybrid cars as comfortable as a Bentley, please?" At least she asked nicely.
- Critic forces himself to read every newspaper comic strip for two weeks, finds "all but a relative handful were creatively slack, unoriginal and as amusing as an attack of intestinal distress miles from the nearest restroom."
- In a story about a school ban on personal electronics, a student, who gave her name to the reporter, said, "I'm going to bring it, I'll hide it. They won't be able to find it. I'll leave it in my
- A 20-year-old man's arm was stuck up to his shoulder in a meat grinding machine for about 2 1/2 hours. He was alert and talking during the ordeal.
- In London, one man beat another man with a stiletto heel. The victim had five fractures to his cheek and a broken nose. A police spokesman said, "We do not know where the shoe came from but it is possible it may have been discarded by a woman customer of the club who found it uncomfortable."
- The mayor of a Russian town bans phrase "I don't know" and "I can't."
- A man told police he set his parents' home on fire Wednesday afternoon to chase away burglars he claimed were creeping around the attic.
- Large bull elk picks fight with swing set and loses.
- A 20-year government effort to restore the population of an endangered native trout in Colorado has made little progress because biologists have been stocking some of the waterways with the wrong fish, a new study says.

SNAPSHOT

PARTY ON, PATRIOTS



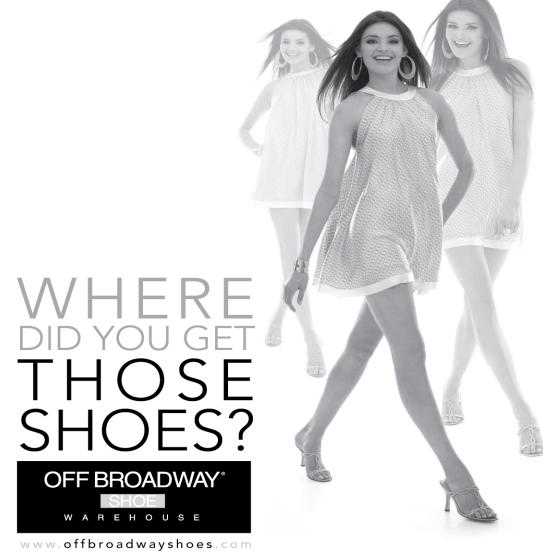
Sophomore Kelly McIlhattan and senior Mark Mason promote the upcoming All-American Block Party to freshman Sarah Robinson.



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I'm with the band

Three freshmen begin the year with music and dancing.

by SARA GAST

ELLINGTON GRIFFIN

—To watch an audio slideshow of the drumline and a video of band camp, go to:



For a group of freshmen, the week before school was filled with more than unpacked boxes and half-decorated rooms. It was also filled with music. The Spirit of Gold Marching Band practiced three times a day — two of those times outside — during band camp. Hundreds of students came from schools all over Nashville to participate. The three freshmen featured here had a special song to sing — and play and dance.



Freshman Katie Guess has played the piccolo since grade school. Now she plays for the Spirit of Gold Marching Band after surviving a life-threatening car accident.

THE SURVIVOR

Piccolo-playing Katie Guess overcame more than most to attend

Guess survived a car accident on April 24 that shattered nearly every bone in her face.

"There was a high-cycle, which is like a huge, ginormous tractor, that was swerving out in the road to miss a mailbox, and I couldn't have stopped," Guess said. "I hit the spraying equipment. I went through the windshield and broke all the bones in my face except my lower jaw, and I got a fractured skull and a clotted artery. Most people with the damage that I had been through, they don't make it

Doctors doubted Guess would remember how to walk and eat, much less play the piccolo.

"They said I had had a stroke and I had had brain damage and that I was going to have to learn how to walk and eat and stuff," Guess said. "I proved them wrong."

Guess spent 15 days in the intensive care unit and a total of 24 days in the hospital before being released just in time to graduate as salutatorian of her class.

Once home from the hospital, Guess' parents made her walk around daily to get in shape for marching band season. Doctors told her late in the summer she would be able to join the band.

"They knew I wanted to be here," she said



ELLINGTON GRIFFIN / The Vanderbilt Hustler Freshman Tonika Huff did not even know what color guard was before high school, but now

THE GUARD

she hopes to perform as long as possible.

Tonika Huff performs with a lesser-known area of Spirit of Gold Marching Band: the color guard.

What started out as a casual hobby has turned into a passion for

"I have only done (color guard) for two years in my high school marching band," Huff said, "but I fell in love with it, so it is something I want to keep up."

The opportunity to be on color guard at Vanderbilt was a draw for Huff, whose mother graduated from Peabody College.

"The fact that they had a marching band was a plus," Huff said, though band is not her primary interest.

"I am here to go to college and go to med school. I want to be a



ELLINGTON GRIFFIN / The Vanderbilt Hustler Freshman Moriah Lutz-Tveite practices by herself during band camp since her teammates both attend Belmont University. The three practice together to coordinate their routine.

THE LONE TWIRLER

Many lonely moments can fill the beginning of freshman year. Freshman Moriah Lutz-Tveite, however, experiences a unique

Just three students, two of whom attend Belmont University, make up the baton-twirling division of the band.

Without a coach but with more than 12 years of twirling experience, Lutz-Tveite is left alone on the field during practice to invent routines that complement the music.

"I have already learned the basics," Lutz-Tveite said, "so I listen to the music the band plays, and I put tricks together for a routine. I just come up with it on the spot."

Later, Lutz-Tveite practices with her teammates to work out the routine that will be performed on game day.

And she keeps an important fact in mind for performing in front of

"People don't care how hard the tricks you perform are, but if you drop (the baton), that is all people will remember," Lutz-Tveite said. ■

ITS director heads up **Belcourt Theatre board**

Wiliams excited, challenged by position.

by LILY CHEN

Contributing Reporter

F. Clark Williams Jr. spends his days solving computer problems, but at night he shows his artsy side as president of the Board of Directors at The Belcourt a Theatre.

Williams. director of technology information support for the dean of students office, believes working at Vanderbilt and serving at Belcourt can only be a positive connection.

other is a volunteer activity, Williams said. "Being president of the board provides a way for me to serve and connect with the Nashville community. However, both present challenges and rewards, each in its own way."

In addition, Williams will look to form a partnership program between the theater and film studies students.

"We're looking to build stronger connection between Vanderbilt and the theater. There will be an announcement from the Office of the Dean of Students regarding the program in the future," Williams said.

Williams said although "One is a job, and the the Belcourt has historical

significance due to its inception in 1925, his chief interest has to do with it being a world-class art house cinema.

"Belcourt compares to any art house cinema in New York, Berlin, even Paris. People who come to Nashville make these comparisons," Williams said. "I think the theater is an incredible resource and has so much potential."

Williams has been a part of The Belcourt since 1999, when it was threatened with closure. As part of a grassroots effort to save it, Williams and eight other people created a board of directors to get a charter for the non-profit theater. Since then, he has served

as secretary and now as

"At first I was apprehensive about serving as president," Williams said. "I enjoyed serving as secretary, but surprisingly, being president has been less stressful than I initially thought."

Williams says fortunately his term comes at a time when the theater operations run smoothly and finances are in excellent shape. However, there are still many things to do to sustain The Belcourt over time and keep it moving forward.

"Our long term goal is to renovate the theater," Williams said. "We want to renovate the infrastructure and the utilities operated by current operators." ■

Summer crime stayed low

by JOSLIN WOODS

Contributing Reporter

Crime on campus this summer remained consistent with usual summer trends: the number of violations reported decreased in comparison to the school year and the types of offenses differed.

Alcohol violations were not as common, and bike theft, which has already heated up on campus since the start of school, was not an issue, said Director of Crime Prevention Andrew Atwood.

"There is a little difference in what we respond to (over the summer) because the bulk of our undergraduate population is not here." Atwood said.

The summer community at Vanderbilt was mainly composed of faculty, staff, students taking summer classes and people attending summer conferences.

"We have a lot going on in the summer, but the population is transitory," Atwood said.

Even though campus life changed during the summer, the number of Vanderbilt police officers on campus did not.

"We actually have the same staffing during the summer as we do any time of year," Atwood said.

As a general consensus, students on campus over the summer felt just as safe as they do any other time of

Freshman football player Garrett Snoeyenbos said his feeling of security did not change at all when he came to school early for preseason

Junior David Rodriguez agreed, saying he felt there was no difference in his safety while at the university in the summer months. He only remembered one serious incident from the summer, a robbery that occurred near Buttrick Hall when a victim was threatened with a

Rodriguez said even over the summer he saw VUPD officers all around campus.

"I also saw them more around West End, like they were extending their perimeter around campus," he



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OPINION

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OUR VIEW

Rites should be time to reminisce

If members of the Music Group are spotted walking around campus today, they should get a pat on the back from all of us. The pairing of Guster and Kanye West may be the most inspired and impressive lineup to grace a Vanderbilt stage in quite some time. Though the Music Group will not release financial details, West could not have come cheap. Organizers assured us there will be enough money left over for a good Rites of Spring. And if nothing else, the spot-on Quake selection seems like a good omen for what Rites might hold.

As the Music Group moves past Quake and begins the Rites planning process, we would like to share a few bands we would like to see take to the Alumni Lawn stage. It should be noted that few of these selections could be described as up-andcoming or cutting edge. On the contrary, what we like to see at these events are bands and performers that we all know well and can sing along to. Especially as the spring semester draws to a close, stress release in the form of screamed song lyrics

can be especially cathartic. In essence, think more Hootie, less Wolfmother.

If it were up to us, for example, Rites would look something

- Oasis
- Third Eye Blind
- T.I.
- Dashboard Confessional
- Journey
- Hanson
- The Eagles
- U2
- Counting Crows
- The Fray • The Flaming Lips
- Matchbox 20

Predictions for the 2007 NFL season **Top 10**

NATHANIEL HORADAM

Columnist

The NFL season started yesterday, so in its honor, I will make a few predictions. I will not be telling you the Patriots will defeat the Eagles in the Super Bowl, not the Saints or Bears. Or that Larry Johnson will disappoint his fantasy owners. I'm not here to say Edgerrin James is poised for a comeback in the desert, or that my beloved 49ers will win the NFC West. All of that is too obvious; these are bold predictions...

- Tom Brady gets a new girlfriend Bridget Moynahan wasn't good enough for a three-time champ, and Gisele Bundchen isn't good enough for the greatest quarterback in NFL history. After Brady wins his fourth Super Bowl in seven years and takes that title from Joe Montana, he might upgrade again. My money is on Jessica Alba.
- The Panthers manage to stay healthy this year Now wasn't that funny? The Panthers perennially send more guys to the injured reserve than the Bengals do to prison.
- Carson Palmer becomes the last man standing The Bengals desperately needed a franchise quarterback when they took Palmer in 2003. Not only is he a top-three signal caller, but look at the other ones taken in the first round of the same draft. Kyle Boller is done in Baltimore. Bryon Leftwich proved a starting job is never secure (and a roster spot for that matter), even when the coach says so.
- Tiki Barber destroys what's left of his credibility At least he hasn't accused his teammates of cheating yet, so he remains one level above Jose Canseco. But that could change as he reveals more from his upcoming, tell-all book. I'm just waiting for him to blame Tom Couglin's sour demeanor on "roid rage."
- The Chargers will have a new head coach next year Norv Turner is a very good assistant coach. He did great things as an offensive coordinator in Dallas, Miami and most recently, San Francisco. But, he might be one of the worst head coaches in NFL history. At least Marty Schottenheimer won in the regular season, Turner can't even do that.
- to force more turnovers in the Super Bowl than Chicago's stellar unit. And not surprisingly, I won. No player embodies inconsistency better than Grossman, and a few games into the season; the Bears will be wishing they had cut him instead of fellow ex-Gator Chris Leak.

Rex Grossman will lose his starting spot — He's so bad that I felt comfortable betting on the horrible Colts defense

- The Atlanta Falcons will be the worst team in football Even with Michael Vick, this was not a very good football team. I was never a fan of Vick, but now that offense is in the hands of Joey Harrington, who might just be worse than Rex Grossman. Which brings me to my next prediction...
- Neither the Oakland Raiders, the Cleveland Browns, nor the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will be the worst team in football
- Vince Young will not break the Madden Curse The in-Vince-able one will show some growing pains this year as he leads the Titans in a struggle to take Houston's crown as the worst team in the AFC South. Yet, this is coming from the same die-hard Longhorns fan who, after Vince dominated Michigan in the 2005 Rose Bowl, said he would never be a great college guarterback and should move to receiver. What the hell was I thinking?
- Brett Favre will finally calls it quits Then again, I've said this the last two years as well, mostly out of my dislike of Favre than any real intuition. Just like the fool on Yahoo! Sports who picked the Cardinals to win the NFC West for the third consecutive year in his latest column, I think this year will be different. We all know why Favre keeps coming back; he wants to break George Blanda's interception record, and he only needs four more to do it.

LETTER

Manhood threatened by European

After reading Andrew Solomon's recent column about his experiences at a bar in Houston, I wanted to write in and apologize on behalf of the people of Europe for launching an assault on "American manhood" through our nefarious style of drinking beer. You see, both the beer (Stella Artois) and the drinking glass (the "chalice") that the article equated to castration are European in origin - both Belgian, in fact - and had any of us from across the pond known how singularly unmanly it is to drink in this manner, we would have stopped long ago rather than risk causing apoplexy in red-blooded American men such as Solomon.

I was also grateful to Solomon for pointing out just what it was that constituted "American manhood" - after five years of living here, I long thought it a rather complex and intriguing phenomenon. Now I realize it largely consists of the ability to aggressively argue points that lesser minds would consider contradictory ("drink beer because you like it, not because you think it will impress people" / I only drink beer out of certain types of containers to make sure people know how much of a man I am), spending entire nights in strip clubs and dealing with things that anger you by getting blind drunk. If only the rest of the world's men could learn the value of such a lifestyle.

Most importantly, now that I understand how "real men" are supposed to have a proper appreciation of how to drink beer, I have come to realize just how misconceived are European ideas on this subject. I had always been under the impression that brewing beer with distinct flavors and significant levels of alcohol and drinking it out of traditional glasses, was perfectly acceptable. I hadn't realized that it is actually more "manly" to drink beer-flavored water with the alcoholic content of a cherry cordial out of a cheap, brightly colored plastic cup, but I am grateful for the correction on this point.

I fear, however, that Solomon's warnings will not be heeded by all those suffering from similar delusions unless they are made aware of his argument. I therefore hope that he will take the next opportunity he has to visit a bar in Antwerp and explain to the 250-pound Belgian dockworkers mistakenly drinking "hog swill marketed to posers" out of a "goblet stolen from Elton John's dinette set" that they look like pansies and offer them a refreshing Solo Cup full of Natty Lite as a more suitably masculine beverage.

> Tim Boyd Lecturer **Department of Political Science**

COLUMN

Hustler drops standards with latest Solomon column

MATT GRIMES

Guest Columnist

Andrew Solomon, why are you still

I must claim befuddlement as my initial reaction upon reading Andrew Solomon's attack on questionable figures drinking alcohol from suspect containers ("Don't let your beer emasculate you," 9/5/07). It was not that the subject matter perplexed me; rather, it was the utter disregard in which The Vanderbilt Hustler, a publication considered to be the "voice of Vanderbilt," printed such an expose of inconsequence and irreverence.

Solomon has been voicing his opinion since I arrived on the scene as a first-year student, and I applaud his efforts. He has a unique and amusing writing style, engaging and so far the opposite of other blase examinations of campus life that I find myself compelled to sit down and read every last word. It is a shame, then, that I disagree with just about every article. At least in past issues his commentaries managed to ground themselves in something pertinent to the Commodore community without having to resort to employing the word "whore," let alone twice within one

There is a place for irreverence, and

The Hustler is not it. Whereas many of Solomon's previous works focused on an aspect of the university, his latest piece seems to be a foray into his own pompous boasting of masculinity. I expected to peruse the column and unearth some cloaked message concerning a warning against the ills of image and perception. Instead, I discovered an editorial bent on telling a story that wasn't terribly funny in an inappropriate venue.

The Hustler is meant to be about the issues affecting school and greater Nashville community. It is not meant to be a self-indulgent soapbox for Solomon's exploits. Reading the article made me double-check that I had not picked up the

latest copy of The Slant by mistake.

A piece on the death of DoreWays took up a tiny chunk of the front page; an article on faculty meal plans was a below-the-fold story. Editorials on hot-button topics such as the troops in Iraq and the remembrance of 9/11 barely occupy the pages.

Solomon's chastisement of lessthan-manly men, with its homophobic undertones and lofty arrogance, on the other hand, took up almost a full page. I might have let this all but pass, until Solomon proceeded to take a stab at Elton John's more flamboyant side. Now, I will admit, I partake in low blows oftentimes. That was too low, Solomon. Here is a man who has

Please see **GRIMES**, page 3

OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, quest 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

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via e-mail to opinion@vanderbilthustler.com. Letters via e-mail must either come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editor-in-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity. Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a quest column at the editor's discretion.

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

CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2. Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@ vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at (615) 322-3757.

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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Sen. Douglas Henry Jr. Tenn. District 21 11 Legislative Plaza Nashville, TN 37243-0021 (615) 741-3291

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DoreSteps exhausting but worthwhile as freshmen adjust to college life

NIKITA RODRIGUES & STEPHANIE WELLS

Columnists

Freshman year epitomizes novelty — new friends, classes, atmosphere, food. Even familiar experiences take on a different appearance. Freshmen begin to perceive their lives differently and define their own world — which is usually subject to change.

The first week at Vanderbilt restricted freshmen from enjoying the freedom of college life. Instead, the DoreSteps program herded first-year students into groups and led them with a cowbell.

Although the preassigned VUcept groups resembled a kindergarten class, with the girls socializing quietly with one another and the boys aimlessly wandering, the students immediately formed relationships amongst the group members.

Fortunate enough to have an enthusiastic VUceptor, I enjoyed bonding with my group: The 72 Crew. The girls of the crew bonded over line dancing at the Wildhorse Saloon and singing obnoxiously loud on the General Jackson cruise. In any other scenario, these situations would be awkward for newly formed acquaintances, but DoreSteps provided an excuse for immature behavior before classes began.

While girls can be satisfied with the simplicities of singing and dancing, freshman guys seek a little more than "a VUcept bond" to find friends.

Chris Cole explained that his VUcept group has a "middle school feel to it" with the guys and girls mingling separately, but that the outings helped to break the ice.

"Even though the group was initially awkward and people complain about it, it is good in the long run as another venue for meeting people," Cole said.

Although the VUcept groups provided opportunities for quickly formed friendships, they were restricting, and groups remained isolated. As Riley Strong put it, "I think the program was useful for some people, but it was excessive. I didn't have enough time to meet people on my own terms."

Most freshmen found the DoreSteps

program to be a positive experience; however, many felt the lack of free time was a disadvantage.

Kelley Smith said, "I thought it was fun, but it was too packed. I didn't really have time to unpack or meet people in my dorm."

While many Visions groups formed immediate bonds, some freshmen didn't like the seclusion of their groups.

Evan Kelly said, "It wasn't my style. I don't really meet friends that way. I would rather just go to the dorms and to school — rather than being separated from it."

It seems that while freshmen enjoyed the DoreSteps program, many left orientation exhausted and somewhat overwhelmed. Due to the lack of sleep, many students like Anne Hopkins suffered from strep throat or head colds.

Furthermore, groups should have been allowed to merge occasionally, which would have been a welcome breather for those not as keen about their group members.

However, no complaints were found about VUcept leaders. Freshmen found their leaders informative, open and honest when it came to dealing with any questions about life at Vanderbilt.

One group leader, Jennifer Thomas, sent

daily e-mails with reminders about events on campus. She also contacted school advisers about specific questions, asked about scheduling, and even baked cookies and made goody-bags for each member in her group.

Ashley Williamson said, "VIIcent leaders

Ashley Williamson said, "VUcept leaders were amazing! They gave two sides to every question — the Vanderbilt-approved answer and the 'real' answer, which is what we really want to hear."

Overall DoreSteps seemed to leave a positive impact on the Class of 2011. While students poured into class on last Wednesday morning slighting dragging from their intensive orientation, most were relieved to find a few of their group members scattered throughout campus. A friendly hello and a smile from new friends and acquaintances made the packed first days well worth the lost hours of sleep.

—Stephanie Wells is a freshman in Peabody College and Nikita Rodrigues is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science.



"Who ever decided to replace all the paper towels in Peabody with blow dryers needs to be shot."

"When I started looking at colleges three years ago, Vandy was dead last on my list in terms of dining arrangements. It has only gotten worse. "

"No brunch on The Commons. Is this some sort of creative ploy to get me

to eat at Rand? Because that won't work."

"I hope the university is making lots of money on the extra cars it fit into

lot 77 for making the parking spaces the size of matchbox cars."

"What is Andrew Solomon overcompensating for???"

"Is it that hard to put up the new honor codes? The Class of '06 is still up there!"

"If people want to read more topical columns, then instead of taking time to write a complaint about the lack of topical columns, they should write some topical columns themselves. Be the change you want to see in the world and all that."

GRIMES: Solomon crosses line with

pompous attitude, pretension

From **GRIMES**, page 4

THE RANT

What is on your mind? The Rant is

your place to anonymously sound off

on any issue you want. Send in your

rants with the subject "Rant" to:

opinion@vanderbilthustler.com

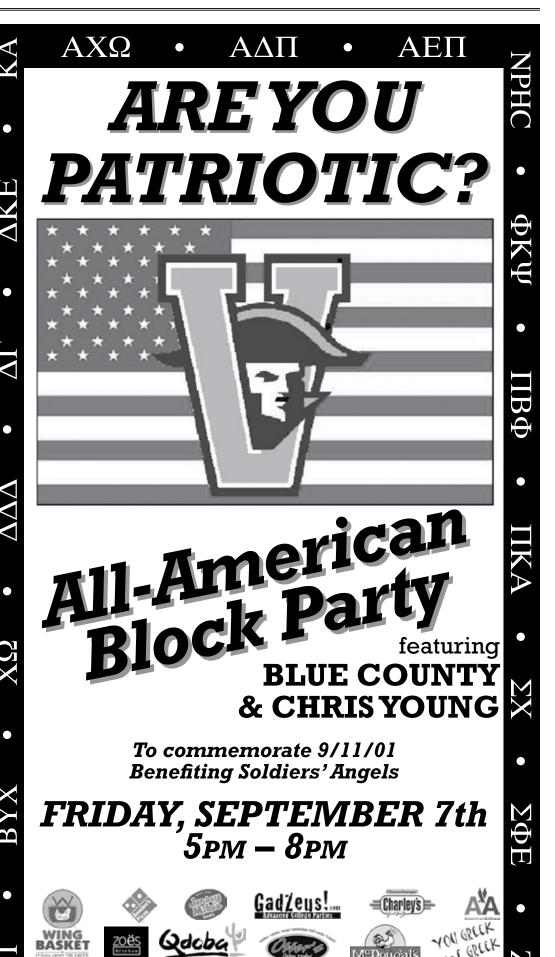
entertained millions, and you are taking a jab at his sexual orientation?

Irreverence is a part of life; humor makes the day more bearable. However, there exists a fine line between social commentary and pompous preening and gloating. The Hustler is an establishment at this university, a trademark fixture since 1888; yet, somehow I doubt this article was what Cornelius had in mind. And I do realize that, yes, by writing this immaterial editorial that I, too, have contributed to senseless page-filling, and thus rendered myself hypocritical, perhaps even pretentious. No more so, however, than Solomon and his instruction manual on how best to consume your beer.

To add to my own pretension, I must point out that cans and bottles, Solo cups, and glasses make four items acceptable for alcohol consumption and not three, as previously stated by Solomon in his article. Perhaps he was drunk when writing his article, having just emerged from a strip club with his bouncer buddy, a chalice of Stella Artois in hand.

—Matt Grimes is a sophomore in Peabody College.





Vanderbilt College Republicans VSG B00 (00) Vanderbilt College Democrats

ΚΑΘ

SPORTS

GAME KEYS

by JONATHAN FELDMAN

Sports Reporter

Vanderbilt When has the ball...

1. Establish the run

With the return of Jeff Jennings, Vanderbilt has three running backs to line up behind a senior-laden offensive line. Despite this, Vanderbilt struggled to run the ball against Richmond. On paper, 168 rushing yards seems impressive, but 44 of those yards came in relief duty by backup quarterback Mackenzi Adams. Jennings recorded a solid 67-yard game last week, but counterparts Cassen Jackson-Garrison and Jared Hawkins must step up this week.

2. A second option for Earl Bennett

The kind of defense played by Richmond against star wide receiver Earl Bennett unfortunately will not continue this week against a Nick Sabancoached Alabama defense. Vanderbilt must utilize speedy wide receiver Sean Walker in order to stretch the field and keep Alabama's defense honest.

3. Open up the playbook

Bobby Johnson correctly chose not to open up the entire playbook against Richmond, but with Alabama rolling into town, it's time for the secrets to come out. Vanderbilt must commit to aggressive play-calling that will keep the Alabama defense off guard. If Vanderbilt plays conservative, Saban will win his first SEC game as Alabama's head coach.

When Alabama has the ball...

Pressure the

quarterback Coming into the season pressuring the quarterback was a huge question mark for the Vanderbilt defense. After the Richmond game, Vanderbilt fans must be worried about whether the defensive line can put any pressure on Alabama quarterback John Parker Wilson. If Wilson is allowed to find a rhythm, it will be difficult for Vanderbilt to stop the Alabama offensive

2. Make Terry Grant

feel like a freshman tailback Terry Grant rushed for 134 yards, three touchdowns, and an average of 7.4 yards per carry in Alabama's opening game. This combined with Vanderbilt's struggle to stop the run last week against Richmond must be cause for concern for the Commodores' defense. Vanderbilt must prevent Grant from running wild.

3. Create turnovers Last year in Tuscaloosa Vanderbilt kept themselves in the game as a result of timely turnovers. The story must be the same this year. Senior linebacker Jonathan Goff must lead the defensive troops to the ball and force turnovers the way he did last year when he forced two fumbles. If Vanderbilt can win the turnover battle the Commodores have a good chance to spoil Saban's first SEC game since coming back from the NFL.

Onimson TIES

The Saturday showdown with the Crimson Tide will have greater meaning for Earl Bennett, Reshard Langford, Chris Nickson and the eight other Alabama natives on the Commodore roster.

science. It's also given that if a state school has a successful program, it should be the top choice for the players graduating high school in that state.

So how is it that three standouts such as wide receiver Earl Bennett, safety Reshard Langford and quarterback Chris Nickson, all Alabama natives, didn't end up with the Crimson Tide?

"We don't compare our recruits to any others as far as who rates them," coach Bobby Johnson. "All we say is, 'Can that guy play football for us and help us win?"

Thankfully the Commodores, Alabama might have missed the boat these three, all of whom chose black and gold over the crimson of Tuscaloosa. It wasn't long ago that they were prep legends down in the Heart of Dixie, lighting up the football field on Friday nights.

As Alabama rolls into town for a Saturday

showdown with Vanderbilt, each of these players has the opportunity to square off against their friends and adversaries from their prep days.

dores' gain as the two Alabama natives are thriving in the black and gold.

"With a lot of us from Alabama, I guess guys just love playing against them," Bennett said. "I played against a couple of (their players) in high school, and I'm really getting riled up for this week."

While none of these three Commodores ever seriously considered attending Alabama, Nickson might have come

n college football, recruiting is known as an inexact the closest, growing up a diehard Tide fan and putting up numbers in high school that attracted the attention of many SEC teams.

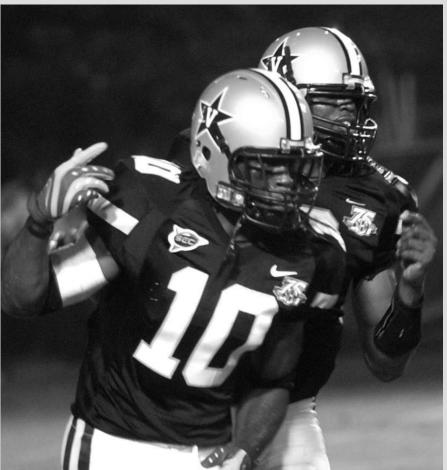
> Attending tiny Pike County High School in Brundidge, Ala., Nickson led his team to the 3A state title as a senior in 2003 and earned the title of Mr. Football as the state's top high school player. That year, he passed for 2,300 yards and racked up 42 touchdowns, 30 of them in the air.

> > "I actually had a couple of close family members who played for Alabama, so they were always my team growing up," Nickson said. "Last year, I might have been more affected by the emotions of this game, but this year, it's just another game against a tough team."

> > Still, there will be some bragging rights on the line Saturday as Nickson squares off against his second cousin and high school teammate, Nick Walker.

"It's going to be real big to play against him again," said Walker, the starting tight end. "All I want is to come out on top. No matter what happens, no matter how good or bad I do, I just want to win."

In total, 11 Commodores hail from Alabama. No matter what they say, there is no denying that a victory on



VIJ MEDIA RELATIONS In the case of wide receiver Earl Bennett and quarterback Chris Nickson, the Crimson Tide's loss was the Commo-

Perhaps no one knows more about the emotions of Friday night football in Alabama than safety Joel Caldwell, who attended the now-immortal Hoover High School near Birmingham. Caldwell was a teammate of Alabama starting quarterback John Parker Wilson and star safety Cory Reamer.

Saturday will be sweeter than most. ■

conversation

friday GABE HALL

A week after picking off a pass in his first career start, senior defensive tackle Gabe Hall took some time to talk to The Vanderbilt Hustler about the impending contest with Alabama.

team handled its business against Richmond last weekend?

GABE HALL: Yeah, I think we really took care of business. Of course we still have some kinks to work out, but that's how it's gonna be during the first game of the season. We watched the film on Sunday though, and I think we learned from our mistakes that we made during the Richmond game.

VH: That being said, how do you think the defense held up?

GH: I think it did pretty good. We had a pretty solid game plan. Richmond came in there trying to stall us and make us jump offside.

We just have to learn how to be more patient because some teams might try to slow the game down. Once we settled down in the second half and figured out what they were trying to do, it was pretty much a wrap from

VH: I know this game meant a lot more to you, being that it was your first career start. How did you handle that?

GH: It was my first start ever, so I was trying to come out there and play as hard as possible. I've been waiting for this for a long time, so it was good to get out there and get it rolling.

VH: And how about that interception on the first play? Most people weren't even in

their seats yet. **GH:** It was crazy, our defensive

coordinator sent a blitz, pretty much

VANDERBILT HUSTLER: Do you think the the house — we smacked them in the mouth, and the ball came out. When I saw it, I just went for it.

> **VH:** I was talking to (defensive tackle) Theo Horrocks. He said you caught it while you were stumbling backwards, but he told me you said you were building up momentum. What exactly happened there?

GH: I was off balance when I caught it, but the plan was to get to the sideline where my help was and try to go to the house, but it never works out the way you plan it.

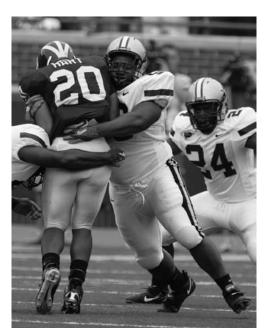
VH: You must have put a lot of hard work into getting the starting job this year. How did you get to this point?

GH: I knew it was my senior year, I didn't wanna leave anything to chance. I did a lot of extra running on my own. Bottom line is that you gotta pay the price. If the coach said, "Do this," I did that times more.

VH: Obviously, this weekend is a big game with Alabama coming here. How are you looking at this matchup?

GH: Man, we're treating this as a huge opportunity; we already know Alabama's coming in here, and they probably have no respect for us, and we know that, but we accept that as a challenge. We didn't overlook Richmond at all, but we also knew that Alabama was coming in here Sept. 8. You know, it's time to get it rolling here, but the preparation in practice is just to go hard. Bottom line is whoever

goes hardest and whoever makes the



least mistakes is gonna win the game.

VH: I think it's safe to say you've been doing a lot of hard work this week, but what are you doing to unwind before the game now?

GH: Just relaxing, talking to the folks, praying. I believe in the power of prayer. Just understanding, we've put the work in, and we're approaching the game the same way we do every week. The biggest thing for us is to stay focused and relaxed, getting the body ready to go as hard as possible.

VH: And how do you suggest the fans should prepare for the game?

GH: Just come out and get ready to get jacked up. We're fired up; we've been waiting for this moment to give the fans something to cheer about.

We feel like we already have our 12th man that's been here and been waiting to come out of the dogpen, so just come out and get fired up 'cause we're gonna be ready to go.

COLUMN

Vandy aims to spoil Saban's return to SEC

WILL GIBBONS Senior Sports Reporter

In scouring the message boards this week to see the fans' perspective on Saturday's clash between Alabama and Vanderbilt, I couldn't help but notice posts such as this one:

"Are we Alabama (or) what? When do we sweat Vandy? Are

you friggin kidding me?? We are Alabama. If we are sweating (Vandy)

then we have



truly slipped not only in the SEC but also nationally. Some here need to be talked to by Saban." This says the perception of

Vanderbilt football is pretty much the same it has always been. Sure, close observers notice the improvements in talent,

speed and strength that have occurred during coach Bobby Johnson's tenure. But to the outside world, it's still the program that has not

played in a bowl game since That's why Saturday provides

an opportunity to gain a little more respect across the South and the country. "I just treat it like it's

another SEC team, which it is, said junior wide receiver Earl Bennett. "I just go out and play hard; I don't worry about who I'm facing."

From a player's perspective, this is the right attitude. But don't tell an Alabama fan that they're "another SEC team." Nick Saban is not taking in \$4 million per year for Alabama to be "another SEC team."

They haven't been dominant in recent years, but they still have the richest history in the SEC. Losing to a Southern Ivy like Vanderbilt would crush the Crimson Tide faithful.

Would Saban get Vanderbilt to a bowl? Possibly, but so can

Would Johnson win at a school like Alabama? Quite possibly yes.

Should it be viewed as an upset if Vanderbilt wins? Not really.

While Alabama is always going to have a wider pool of players to recruit, these two teams are fairly even in talent level this season.

It will be another two or three years before Alabama is in the same class as Auburn and LSU, and the Commodores should be highly motivated for

So while it wouldn't truly be an upset victory for the Commodores to come out on top, the sound of "Vanderbilt beats Alabama" is enough for some to view it that way.

On Saturday, Vanderbilt has a chance to not only knock off a quality SEC opponent, but also do it in front of its home fans. A victory would be huge for the program and also move the Dores one step closer to the six wins needed to become bowl eligible.

If Alabama fans aren't sweating these Commodores, maybe they should be. ■

Commodores prepare for first true test

by WILL GIBBONS

Senior Sports Reporter

The beginning of this football season would be like having your first exam of the semester in your easiest class, then a week later having a test in one of your tougher classes.

The Commodores warmed themselves up against Richmond. But Saturday, the margin for error is much smaller.

"Obviously, (the 41-17 victory over Richmond) wasn't perfect," said coach Bobby Johnson. "I thought we did some good things and reacted pretty well. We're going to have to play a whole lot better with the rest of our schedule. We all know that. We'll continue to work hard and see if we can improve everyday."

The same holds true for Alabama, who, after trouncing Western Carolina 52-6, faces its first Southeastern Conference clash of the Nick-Saban era. The intensity steps up for a team looking to start conference play on the right foot

"When you play teams like this, your preparation has to be supreme because they are a well-coached team, they don't make a lot of mistakes, and they have a lot of experience and a lot of confidence in their scheme," Saban said. "Our readiness to learn has to be at a fever pitch right from the beginning so that we're going to master what we can execute and do the things we need to do and not make mistakes that would create an advantage for them."

Although it is just Saban's first year, the attitude has already begun to change for



MARK HUMPHREY / AP Photo

Vanderbilt safety Reshard Langford is fired up for the Commodores' Southeastern Conference opener Saturday against Alabama.

the Crimson Tide. The spring and summer workouts have set the tone for the expectations of Alabama football players.

"You didn't really have a choice: you either finished or you finished," said cornerback Simeon Castille. "They wouldn't let you quit. There was a lot of running. One of things they want us to learn is that you have to outwork your opponent, so they would simulate a lot of that in training. I definitely think it will pay off."

For Castille and his fellow defensive backs, the focus has been on shutting down Earl Bennett.

"Last year he didn't really have a great game against us," Castille said. "I thought we did a pretty good job of containing him. Nonetheless, he is still a really great receiver. We are going to have to contain him. We are going to have to do that all over again this year."

nat all over again this year." In a 13-10 defeat at Alabama in 2006, Bennett caught five balls for 45 yards and a touchdown. To anyone who's been watching, however, the chemistry between Bennett and quarterback Chris Nickson has greatly improved in the past year. Alabama plays an aggressive 3-4 defense, but there is reason to have confidence in Nickson's ability to handle it.

"I think it's just maturing into an SEC quarterback as a starter," Johnson said. "People are much more sophisticated in blitzing and zone blitzing. It's just a tough job. I'm very pleased with the way he managed the games late last year and against Richmond. He had a wonderful game. If he can continue to make that kind of progress, I think the sky is the limit."

And for a Vanderbilt football program trying to establish itself as a winner, it's games like these that provide the chance to make those steps. ■

Double trouble

Kinsella twins thrilled to join women's soccer program.

by DAVID NAMM

Sports Reporter

Twins in general have a tendency to overshadow each other. Whether one twin outshines the other in academics, athletics or fashion sense, the differences between them are often scrutinized in the public eye.

A blatant exception to this rule happens to be on campus, and it can most often be found on the soccer field.

Molly and Megan Kinsella, freshmen on the soccer team, embraced the opportunity to play together for four more years. Instead of outshining each other, their goal is to outshine their opponents.

"We considered it a priority to go to the same school because we thought it was in our best interest to play at the same place, but we told ourselves it wouldn't be a deciding factor," Molly Kinsella said. "It was important to decide individually so that we were both happy with our decisions."

After being pursued by schools such as Memphis, Ole Miss, University of South Carolina and UAB, Vanderbilt stood out as the best fit for both of them.

"The deciding factor for me was the combination of great soccer and a great school," Megan Kinsella said. "There wasn't just one thing that made Vanderbilt my final decision, but a combination of everything."

One of the key points for both was the presence of coach Ronnie Coveleskie, who already had experience coaching the two before they arrived at Vanderbilt.

"Coach Coveleskie was definitely a big part of coming to play soccer for Vanderbilt," Molly Kinsella said. "We had been coached by her for (Olympic Development Program) and had a great experience."

Entering into a soccer program with such high expectations for the upcoming season — let alone a school with the reputation of academic rigor like Vanderbilt — has been a difficult process, but not one without progress.

"I realized during the first week of classes that it is going to be a challenge to balance all of the demands of academics, soccer and having fun in college, but I think I'm starting to get the hang of it," Megan Kinsella said.

Upperclassman players have tried to ease the burden on the Kinsellas and the rest of the freshmen, which does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

"The upperclassmen have had a huge role in the development so far because of all the freshmen's lack of experience. They have been great leaders both on and off the field," Molly Kinsella said. "I feel really comfortable playing with them because they are always positive and willing to help."

With the season underway, the twins have been able to turn their attention to the playing field, where they hope to continue developing the standard of excellence of Vanderbilt soccer.

"We've set a team goal of making it to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament," Megan Kinsella said. "Hearing the coaches and upperclassmen be so committed to working towards this goal makes it easy to think we can get there if we work hard and, more importantly, work together. With this team and coaching staff, I'm confident that we'll do really well this year." ■

VANDERBILT HUSTLER PICKS THE WINNERS						
MATCHUPS	JARRED AMATO (4-1) Sports Editor	WILL GIBBONS (4-1) Senior Sports Reporter	GLENNA DEROY (2-3) Editor-in-Chief	REEVE HAMILTON (2-3) Opinion Editor		
Alabama @ Vandy	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY		
#9 Virginia Tech @ #2 LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU		
South Carolina @ #11 Georgia	SOUTH CAROLINA	GEORGIA	GEORGIA	GEORGIA		
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INDEX

The Week Ahead

Exit/In isn't the only party in town. Start the year off with something fresh like a night of stand-up comedy or a mid-day play at the Darkhorse Theater. For the last half of the week, just camp out at the Ryman for all the shows there.

FRIDAY 9/7

Why not mix up your usual party routine by heading down to Zanies Comedy Club tonight? Sheryl Underwood will be performing two shows, one at 7:30 p.m. and another at 9:45 p.m. Although the ticket price (\$23) is a bit steep, there's nothing as priceless as a good laugh.

SATURDAY 9/8

The Last Goodbye will rock out at the Exit/In at 8 p.m as part of Next Big Nashville. Spend your evening there to see several other bands, including local favorite The Gabe Dixon Band. A \$30 cover gets you six bands and a good night. But sorry, freshmen; the show's 21+.

SUNDAY 9/9

Spend your Sunday relaxing at a theater matinee! At 3 p.m., the Darkhorse Theater will play host to "The Desire," about a successful attorney whose world is turned upside down when his cousin, a Katrina survivor, takes refuge at his East Hampton beach house. Tickets are \$15 at the door but only \$12 in advance.

MONDAY 9/10

Interested in songwriting? The Blair School of Music begins a 15-week class this Monday featuring a variety of speakers well known in the music world. Registration for the full semester program is only \$40. Call 322-7651 for info.

TUESDAY 9/11

Here's your first of several days at the Ryman: see Pete Yorn take the stage with Crowded House and Liam Finn. Yorn just released his first new album in three years, so the show will likely be full of as yet unfamiliar hits. Tickets are a spendy \$40 to 45, but the show should be well worth it.

WEDNESDAY 9/12

Get some cab cash for your return to 5th Avenue to see Ben Harper and the Innocent Criminals at the Ryman. Harper's signature mix of rock, soul and funk promises a great live show. Tickets range from \$29.50 to 49.50.

THURSDAY 9/13

Make yourself at home and head back to the Ryman for a performance by Damien Rice. In case you live under a rock, his song "The Blower's Daughter" was a hit for the "Closer" soundtrack, and his most recent album "9" gives similar mellow and interesting sounds. Tickets for this show range from \$25 to 45 and are going quickly.

Green never looked so good

'Green' clothing becomes haute couture for the environmentally conscious.

bv OLIVIA KUPFER Life Staff Writer

As members of a consumer society, we are inundated with messages about the products we should buy and why we should buy them. Among these are messages to save the environment by becoming



Photo courtesy of LORETTA GLEN

more environmentally conscious. As your fashion expert, I'm here to tell you that there is a practical and easy way to become environmentally friendly: buy "green" fashion.

Green fashion used to be as much of an enigma to me as it is to you, but for your sake, I did some research and found green clothing for today's fashionista that is both responsible and stylish.

What is fashion? Green fashion is the use of organically grownorrecycledfibers to produce garments that are durable and

environmentally friendly. For instance, organic cotton, one of the most commonly used organic materials, is not sprayed with pesticide, and is considered durable, sustainable and obviously more earth-friendly. The use of environmentally safe farming practices, such as using manure instead of synthetic fertilizers on cotton crops, also contributes to the health of the soil and our environment.

As consumers who see only the finished product, we probably don't appreciate the enormous volume of toxic by-products of the manufacturing process. Green fashion employs manufacturing procedures that reduce the amount of energy used to produce clothing. Green fashion also uses uncommon textiles, such as bamboo, recycled silk and even hemp, that can be blended into other fabrics to produce garments. While buying clothing made of recycled textiles may seem foreign to us, it's not a new concept; companies like Patagonia, known for its outdoors clothing, have been using recycled materials to create eco-friendly products for years.

Green fashion has even reached couture clothing, the forefront of the fashion industry. For example, during last fall's New York Olympus Fashion Week, couture designers Oscar de la Renta and Diane von Furstenburg both sent eco-friendly designs down their runways. Other contemporary clothing designers implore the use of organic and

Amanda Shi, head designer of the Los Angeles-based clothing company Avita, has introduced natural fibers like bamboo and recycled cashmere

to create trendy knit pieces. The recycled cashmere is cashmere thread, a material typically wasted in the manufacturing process, but which can be recycled into stylish garments retailing for a fraction of the price of a 100-percent-cashmere garment. The line is fashionable, has been

worn by numerous celebrities, and is every bit as responsible as turning off the water while brushing your teeth.

The Avita includes shirts, dresses and tunics that are classic and comfortable yet also environmentally responsible. Plus, the cashmere, silk and bamboo knits lightweight, means they're perfect for warm weather. The cuts of the garments vary: some of the shirts are simple staple knits, some dresses boast detailing. intricate



Photo courtesy of LORETTA GLEN

Either way, the cuts and clingy knit fabric flatter almost every figure and come in an array of colors.

Is there really any way to be more environmentally conscious and

stylish at the same time? I think not. Avita's message: "Luxury meets ecology."

So why wear green fashion? With all the options that exist today, it's socially irresponsible to buy clothing that is not environmentally friendly. Green clothing is typically stereotyped as being more expensive than regular clothing, and many people do not necessarily believe the environmental benefits effectively outweigh the monetary costs. But just because we don't see immediate benefits

Photo courtesy of LORETTA GLEN buying green

doesn't mean those benefits don't exist. If we don't transform our buying habits, the future of our environment will be grim. By wearing green fashion, we can help secure a healthy environment for posterity and look stylish doing it. ■

MOVIE REVIEW

'Death Sentence' just cruel and unusual punishment

by MICHAEL YOUNG

Vigilante revenge flicks are kind of my thing. I like the idea of a good guy being wronged and taking matters into his own hands. Whether it's stylistic ("Kill Bill"), over the top ("The Punisher") or shockingly realistic ("Man on Fire"), as long as the movie involves one person shaping his own destiny rather than relegating the task to a faceless court system, I find it intriguing.

You can imagine my excitement, then, when I first heard about "Death Sentence." Kevin Bacon plays a middle-class father whose son is murdered in a fit of senseless gang violence. When the courts fail to imprison the wrongdoer, Bacon is forced to gear up and dole out some punishment of his own.

The problem with this movie is that nearly every aspect of it is a lie. For the first 20 minutes, things seem to be going smoothly. The tone is serious, and the dialogue sounds natural. It's when the action starts to heat up that the movie reveals itself for what it truly is — a slasher film. Even that wouldn't be too terrible if it were properly executed, but the way the tone shifts is incredibly awkward.

Without revealing too much, what should have been a short evasion with Bacon dodging a gang member turns into a far too long chase sequence that is neither exciting nor believable. Every time Bacon got in a fight, I kept wondering how this graying corporate risk analyst was able to go toe-to-toe with ripped and vicious thugs. Most movies of this type would have some sort of training sequence where the hero gains the skills necessary to fight his enemy. The director of "Death Sentence" seems to have overlooked this detail.

Even so, it's not unreasonable to ask for a little suspension of disbelief, something I would have been more than willing to grant were the rest of the movie not equally ridiculous. Halfway through the film, the dialogue plummeted to the point where every time a character opened his mouth, I would instinctively

The story tries too hard to add extra elements to a simple revenge tale, making it feel bloated and unnecessary. A cliche subplot involving the younger son feeling overshadowed by the dead older one comes out of nowhere, making for an awkward scene ending with the father cursing out his own son.

Continuing this trend of misfires, the melodramatic music feels out of place in every scene. The opposite is also true, and sometimes, like during the chase mentioned above, I was aware of a lack of music and wondered what had happened to it.

In every sense of the word, "Death Sentence" is a mistake. It's difficult to sympathize with the characters, the plot twists don't work, and technical limitations, such as the music and strange cinematography, make it impossible to extract any enjoyment from the botched fight

Forget the gang members. Whoever gave this movie the green light deserves some serious capital punishment.

ALBUM REVIEW

The point of M.I.A.'s new album is nowhere to be found

by KATHERINE MILLER

Asst Life Editor

I'm the mainstream music listenerthatyour music-geekfriend hates. I like my music accessible and easy to understand. Throw in some good beats and a fun rhythm, and I'm sold. So M.I.A.'s new album "Kala" — full of intense, migraineinducing beats and indecipherably political lyrics - was a bit outside my musical realm.

M.I.A. is British artist and Sri Lankan refugee Maya Arulpragasam "Kala" is the follow up to "Arular," which sold over 130,000 copies in the United States and channeled a Missy Elliot-like vibe. After her first album's success, M.I.A. was slated to work with producer Timbaland on her sophomore effort, but unfortunately, she was denied a visa into the U.S.

This sent her to record "Kala" around the world — from London to India to Jamaica - producing an album The New York Times called "electrifying." Still, while it has been heralded an artistic accomplishment, it may not be a commercial smash.

She kicks the album off with "Bamboo Banga" which seems kind of crazy-cool at first — like if Timbaland were a British woman, on crack in the jungle chanting something about power. At almost five minutes, however, the beat drags on and on until you're having trouble seeing out your right eye. This seems to be a trend of the album; on multiple tracks the beats do their best to kill you.

Though not intended to be a collection of hot singles, there are a few that stand out despite

the murderous beats. The glamdisco Bollywood beat on "Jimmy" is fantastic. It manages to be a melancholy disco track that's still pretty hot and somewhat radio acceptable. On "Come Around," the one track Timbaland is featured on, the listener gets a taste of what this album might have been had he been present throughout — a far better version of the latest Nelly Furtado album. In the interest of full disclosure, I will say "Boyz" and "Hussel"

improved me after several listens. If it were just a battle between ear-splitting beats and good ones, the album might grow on me. M.I.A., however, incorporates some startling political elements that pull the listener out of the album. Take the track "Paper Planes" for example. A nod to The Clash, the lilting track's beat is the sound of gunfire and cash registers.

Or "Mango Pickle Down River" which features the rapping of children, who sound somewhat like little boy soldiers. As M.I.A. beats you over the head with her political messages, it's hard to focus on the music.

So, call me the ignorant music fool as you will, but I can't decipher a point to "Kala."

I regret taking a utilitarian, Dane Cook "I just wanna dance!" view on anything reputable critics are deeming art, but what is the listener supposed to do with this? M.I.A. makes it perfectly clear that her goal here is not simple profit. Still, the album exists awkwardly between electronic dance rhythms and political messages, and it won't appeal to most people outside of that very specific niche.

Britney, you still drive us

by ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS Life Columnist

Oops, Britney did it again. She made another album, that is. The as yet untitled record has an expected release date of Nov. 13, although two of the singles were recently leaked on the Internet, and one of them - "Gimme More" — just hit the radio.

Multiple sources are calling this Britney Spears' "comeback" album, but I'm pretty sure a lot of the public would be OK if she just stayed away for a while. She needs some R and R and maybe some more time for her hair to grow out.

The only reason I'm even remotely interested in hearing Britney's new record is to find out if her split from Kevin Federline has done anything to turn her back toward the "...Baby One More Time" days — the days before she was, well, trashy. And before her life sucked. Anyone who ever said Justin Timberlake was bad for her was dead wrong. Dead. Wrong.

Britney's life with and (finally) without K-Fed has been tumultuous, to say the least. If you were ever so fortunate enough to see "Britney & Kevin: Chaotic," then you already have some idea of what I'm talking about. And if you didn't see it? Well, I'm glad there is still a sensible part of the popula-

Shortly after her marriage, Britney gave birth to Sean Preston, then Jayden James not long after that. Less than two months later, she was filing for divorce. The divorce has entailed a custody battle between the couple, about which Gossip Girls said, "Oh joy, we get to sit on the edge of our seats for four more months while a judge decides if these two kids will go to their mentally unstable, head-shaving, crotch-flashing mother, or their money-grubbing, gold-digging deadbeat father." It's a tough choice, really.

But my money's on Britney. Why? Because she has some.

According to the New York Post, Britney makes almost \$738,000 per month, while K-Fed makes about \$738,000 less than that (even though Britney's coughing up about \$20,000 per month in spousal support). Basically, if K-Fed wins custody of the children, Britney is going to pay for everything. And if Britney gets custody, she'll still pay for everything, which will probably include K-Fed's bus fare to his fast-food job.

I do believe we're all familiar with Britney's, um, crazy (and I don't mean the song) spell, which involved shaving her head and doing a short stint in a Malibu rehab facility. She also attacked a photographer with an umbrella in early 2007, for which she apologized on her Web site, saying, "I apologize to the (paparazzi) for a stunt that was done four months ago regarding an umbrella. I was preparing my character for a role in a movie where the husband never plays his part so they switch places accidentally. I take all my roles very seriously and got a little carried away. Unfortunately I didn't get the part."

My point is that the post-K-Fed Britney has a lot of work to do, both personally and professionally. Good for her for "coming back" (though I don't think she was ever really gone ... except maybe in a psychological way) with a new album, but she really ought to give herself a break.

I'm not asking her to "Gimme



...FOR THE BEST IN **ON-CAMPUS FOOD**

Fortunately, thanks to the addition of the new dining facility at The Commons, students now have the opportunity to expand their taste palates. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner most days, The Food Gallery provides studentswithapleasurable dining experience. The building itself is built with high ceilings, clean lines and large windows that brighten the entire facility. Though The Commons dormitories are intended for the Class of 2012, The Food Gallery allows all Vanderbilt students to reap the benefits of The Commons — especially those living on Peabody.

Even the quality of food is unmatched anywhere on campus, and people seem to be impressed by the menu.

Sophomore Chip Robie said, "The food here is much improved, and the atmosphere makes you forget that you're in a cafeteria."

Tired of the soggy pizza at Rotiki? The Food Gallery's Brick Oven station is a haven for the pizza connoisseur. Made from scratch, the pizzas and pastas available at lunch are like cheap plane

Besides Brick Oven, The Food Gallery boasts three other stations: The Grill, Center Island and Chef's Table. The Grill serves burgers, chicken and sandwiches while Chef's Table is the source of made-to-order stir-fry and other such entrees. And while The

For most Vanderbilt students, eating at Rand night after night Food Gallery prides itself on serving healthy meals, the salad is about as exciting as an 8 a.m. biology lab on a Friday morning. bar on Center Island offers health-conscious students a variety

> of salad accessories that are far tastier than those offered at Rand. And of course, for those of us who are not so nutritionally inclined, Center Island also offers a dessert station.

Freshman Kristen Godfrey said, "Even though having classes on Peabody is a hassle, just knowing that as soon as class ends I can pop in here for lunch makes the trek from Branscomb that much easier. The food is so much better than at Rand, and I love that everything is so eco-friendly."

Anotherdistinguishing feature of The Commons Center is its dedication to the environment. Common Grounds, a small coffee shop located in the same building, is a 24-hour coffee and snack shop. It serves to-go sandwiches, drinks and a sampling of organic health food. The majority of the products are biodegradable or made from recycled products.

The Commons Dining Center is a new step for Vanderbilt and will hopefully spur the entire campus to focus more attention on health and recycling. An innovative center, The Commons is making all students jealous of next

year's freshman class.

NIKKI OKORO / The Vanderbilt Hustler

"If only I had deferred a year," joked freshman Erin Loeb as he sat down to a burger.



Each week the Hustler staff will weigh in on a certain subject pertaining to arts and entertainment. This week, staffers and students choose their most anticipated TV show.

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Senior

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VICTORIA OTTUSO

Freshman "Grey's Anatomy"

Next week, staffers will choose their favorite Kanye West song. Readers are also invited to weigh in by e-mailing the Life editor at vibe@vanderbilthustler.com



Black Cultural Center showcases diverse art for cultural development

by ELIZABETH ROBIE Life Staff Writer

Interested in seeing art displayed on campus? You may be surprised to know that some of the most interesting and thought-provoking art isn't held in one of the many on-campus galleries,

but instead, in the hall of the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center. To many students, the BCC is a celebratory and educational outlet for black students on campus.

However, under the leadership of Director Frank E. Dobson Jr. and Assistant Director Jeff S. King, the BCC has become a strong presence on campus, aiding and influencing students of all ethnicities.

In 1984 the center was dedicated in memory of the first black student admitted to Vanderbilt, Joseph Johnson, who entered the school in 1954. Though the original mission has largely remained the same, King says the center

is "growing with Dobson's vision."

According to King, the BCC has three primary goals: First and foremost is the development of all students by assisting them in academics and other pursuits. Second, the center hopes to make an impact in the broader community by mentoring and tutoring students at Nashville public schools and by working with the YMCA. Finally, Dobson and King hope their efforts give students of all backgrounds a glimpse into black culture through the visual and performance arts.

Upon entering the BCC, one is immediately struck by the contrast between the case of Aboriginal masks and indigenous African art and the modern space in which the art is displayed. Light pours through large glass windows flanking the vibrant gallery, comprised of pieces Dobson has collected in hopes of enhancing student development. King chuckles as he admits "there isn't an exact science" in choosing the art, but Dobson has a specific taste and travels around the world to find art, choosing

pieces from as far as way as Ghana and as nearby as Atlanta, Ga, One of the highlights of the collection are the several works from Charlie Palmer, an artist whose painting "We Are All from One" leaps out among the other works.

He depicts influential black Americans throughout history, such as John Coltrane and

> Martin Luther King Jr., both of whom can be found in

collection even The features art from Vanderbilt students.

Dobson's eclectic vision leads viewers down a narrow hallway, concluding with several large blackand-white photographs of black history at Vanderbilt.

Among the pictures is a shot of Perry Wallace, a scholarship athlete who became the first black varsity basketball player in the Southeastern Conference. Other photographs include the first black student in Vanderbilt's ROTC program as well as pictures of Vanderbilt's history in the

civil rights movement.

"We Are All from One" — CHARLIE PALMER

Because Nashville has such a rich history in the fight for civil rights, the BCC has utilized the city in its quest to attract distinguished speakers for its unique lecture series.

Though the speakers are somewhat sporadic, the Living History Luncheon Series and Distinguished Lecture Series feature black icons from Nashville and around the country. Past speakers have included Angela Davis, legendary former member of the Black Panther Party, noted author Kevin Powell, and Buck O'Neil, the first black coach in Major League Baseball.

King said he likes to "pick the pockets of obscurity" by exposing the untold stories in history at the BCC.

Nashville provides the BCC with endless opportunities to celebrate racial diversity. Through lectures, community service and the arts, Dobson and King are expanding the influence of the center, hoping to broaden the presence of black history through the placement of art all over campus.





FUN & GAMES





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1	8	4	3	6	9	5	7	2
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CROSSWORD

20

- 1 Real cool, once
- 4 Slightly moist
- 8 Spring bloomer 14 Hurly-burly 15 Self images
- 16 Cat mysteries author, _____ Jackson Braun
- 17 Repudiates
- 19 Eveballers 20 Jobs of
- computers 21 Division of a
- poem 23 Charge with excitement
- 25 House seller 29 Made invalid
- 32 Russian writer Maxim
- 33 Make things happen
- 36 Bedevil 38 Type of tide 39 Lackluster
- 41 Inert gas 42 Open-mouthed
- stare 43 Oven setting
- 44 Obscures 46 Foil material 47 Regions 49 Disrespect
- 51 Bedtime visitor? 53 Absolution
- 57 Tarry 60 Hokey
- 61 Apprentice doctor 64 Liquor libation 66 Total washout
- 67 Bill Clinton's hometown
- 68 Sound as a cow 69 Like melting snow 70 Muscat's place
- 71 Massachusetts cape
- **DOWN** 1 Old-style verb
- form 2 Mrs. Bunker Artist's model
- 4 Build up
- 5 Way back when 6 Clips the lawn 7 Hey, over here!

- 8 Single-handedly 9 Turn from side to side
- 10 The whole time 11 Stretch out
- 12 Musician's organ 13 Response to a
- ques. 18 Tel __-Jaffa 22 Backbreaking
- 24 Pale purple 26 Pick up the tab
- Giraffe's cousin
- 28 Age 30 Sweetheart 31 Push
- 33 Some Egyptian clerics
- 34 Barton of the Red Cross
- 35 Abducted 37 Eventually become 40 Like the
- Sleepy Hollow 45 Let up on

48 Discredit

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- 9/3/07 SOLUTIONS
- 50 Race pace
- 52 Bug 54 Serious play
- 55 Leek relative 56 Synthetic fabric
- 58 Sound on the rebound
- 61 Contingencies 62 Nothing at all 63 Letter following sigma 65 Numbers

59 Space



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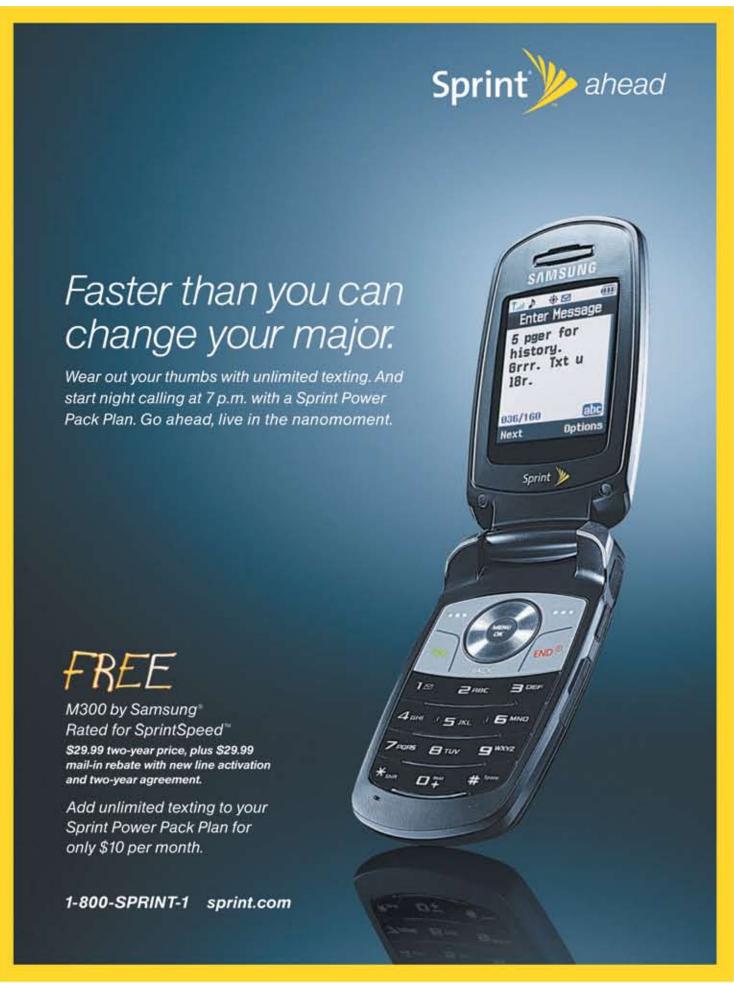
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