



Beating South Carolina has been the best moment of the year so far for quarterback Mackenzi Adams. . .  
For more, see **Sports**, page 6

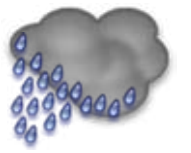


Why do so many freshmen like former Chancellor Gee?  
For more, see **The Rant**,  
**Opinion**, page 5

Watch aspiring teacher and now part-time songwriter Amanda Havard play the piano and discuss Deanna Walker's class on:



TODAY'S WEATHER



Showers, 61/45  
Extended forecast, page 2

# The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2007 • 119<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NO. 66

CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

## THE WALL

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

### TODAY McGill Halloween party

The party and costume contest are open to all students and will be from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in McGill Hall.

### TODAY Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies Coffee Conference

Six coffee experts will discuss the multifaceted coffee industry in Latin America. Following the panel discussion, there will be a coffee tasting courtesy of Bongo Java. The conference will be from 1 to 3:30 p.m. in the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center Auditorium.

### TODAY 'One Night, A Thousand Lights'

Masala-SACE will present their annual Diwali show in Ingram Hall at 7:30 p.m., preceded by a dinner on Alumni Lawn at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 to see the show or \$11 to attend both the show and the dinner. Tickets can be purchased on the Wall or at the Sarratt Box Office.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 28 Theta BBQ

Kappa Alpha Theta's annual barbecue will feature the Sophomore Stomp and benefit Court Appointed Special Advocates. The event is from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Student Life Center.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 28 Vandyville Horror: III

Sigma Phi Epsilon's annual Youth AIDS benefit is co-sponsored by National Pan-Hellenic Council and Alpha Delta Pi sorority this year. The benefit will be held at the NPHC house from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 28 OCTUBAFEST

The concert will feature students, faculty and guests playing solos on tuba and euphonium. It will be held in the Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall from 2 to 4 p.m.

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

## Sharing their songs

Professor brings professional, personal experience to songwriting courses.

by ADAM WEINSTEIN  
Staff Reporter

Deanna Walker thinks everyone has a song to sing — or in this case, write.

The challenge is teaching them how to get it out.

An adjunct professor at Blair School of Music, Walker teaches songwriting classes for both beginners and advanced musicians.

Some of the students don't even play an instrument. They only need to sing.

"The lyric is a really easy place to start in terms of communicating, because it's easier to talk about words than music," she said.

Her goal is to help people take an idea or a concept for a song and find the right words and phrases to express it.

"I felt like what I wanted people to learn were a few ways for people to get started writing," Walker said. "I wanted to give them a lot of creative writing exercises."

Senior Amanda Havard started out in the beginner class and is now in the advanced.

"The workshop element of the class is enormously helpful," said Havard, who also works as a teaching assistant for the beginner class. "You get so much from getting to analyze other people's songs, and then (having) them do the same for yours."

Please see **SONGS**, page 3

—To view a video of Amanda Havard discussing her songwriting class, go to:



SAM KIM / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Amanda Havard, a student in the advanced songwriting class, plays an original composition on the piano.

## Peabody professor advises Brazil on education

by EVE ATTERMANN  
Asst News Editor



DICKINSON

Peabody researcher David Dickinson is using his knowledge of early childhood education in America to help Brazil's government.

Dickinson, who is a specialist in literacy development for children up to age 3, said last week's trip taught him a lot about the politics of education in Brazil.

"Educational policy is shaped there by an interweaving of economic, political and educational agendas," Dickinson said.

Dickinson said he was called to Brazil because of his work specifically in the 0- to 3-years age bracket. This section of early childhood education is becoming increasingly important to Brazil.

"Brazil has no national resources in early childhood education," Dickinson said. "In a way similar to the movement in the 1970s in the U.S., business people, driven by national interests and concern about international competitiveness, want to change that."

Dickinson said his visit would likely have a direct impact on many of the major language development programs funded by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the state because his talk motivated them to change programs that studies have shown to be ineffective.

"We want to avoid a waste of resources on programs that don't work," Dickinson said.

Dickinson's visit resulted from the influence his two literacy handbooks have had on early childhood education and not from a formal program in the university, he said.

However, it comes while Vanderbilt and Brazil enjoy a well-established relationship that began in the 1940s.

When then-

Chancellor Harvey Branscomb went on a trip to Brazil in the summer of 1945, he was impressed by what he called "the key to the future of South America." Branscomb applied for a Carnegie Grant and in 1947 founded the Institute for Brazilian Studies, now known as the Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies.

The center remains well known in Brazil to this day, and two weeks ago, former President Cardoza came to campus to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the program.

History professor and the center's Executive Director Marshall Eakin said the program has increased Vanderbilt's visibility in Brazil, and over the years, several hundred Brazilians have come to study primarily economics and business at Vanderbilt.

"There's a whole alum group now in Brazil that has graduated from Owen in the last 20 years," Eakin said.

Some notable Brazilian alumni include former head of the Bank of Brazil Ibrahim Eris, former Director of the Census Bureau Charles C. Mueller, and Dean of economics and management at the University of Sao Paulo Eduardo Vasconcellos.

In addition to the center, Vanderbilt is also part of the Brazilian Studies Association and has made a commitment to exchange programs with several universities there, finalized by former Chancellor Gordon Gee's visit in 2003.

"In the last 10 years, we've really ramped up this investment in the Brazilian connection," Eakin said. ■

## Festival of lights showcases South Asian culture

by TAYLOR DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

This year's festival of lights will focus on family.

The Diwali theme centers on how a family typically celebrates Diwali and will be integrated into the festival by a skit that will be performed between acts.

Diwali is a festival of lights celebrated in South Asia around this time of year, and the festival at Vanderbilt will celebrate the culture of South Asia.

Diwali provides entertainment and cultural learning with students of all backgrounds, said junior Chinmayee Tambe, co-chair of the Diwali committee.

Please see **DIWALI**, page 3

### DIWALI

Oct. 26 and 27

Dinner at 5 p.m. on Alumni Lawn

Performance at 7:30 p.m. in Ingram Hall



LISA GUO / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Seniors Kinjal Shah, Kristen Walker, Beth Arnold and Swati Bansal (left to right) prepare for a dress rehearsal Wednesday in Wilson Hall. They will perform at Diwali tonight at 7:30 p.m.

## Fisk nearly out of cash as it seeks quick ruling on O'Keeffe sale

Associated Press

A trial to determine whether Fisk University can sell a stake in an art collection donated by Georgia O'Keeffe will not begin until February despite the historically black university's precarious financial situation, a judge ruled Wednesday.

A lawyer for Fisk said Tuesday that the historically black school could run out of money by Dec. 15 if it is unable to sell its stake in the collection.

Attorney Stacey Garrett told the judge that Fisk would not be able to pay its bills or meet payroll without selling the collection. Even with new revenue from next semester's student tuition, the school will not be able to operate beyond February, she said.

Fisk asked Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle to set a trial date before the end of year to determine whether the school will be allowed to sell a 50 percent share of the 101-piece collection to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American

Art for \$30 million.

But lawyers for the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, N.M. — which represents the late artist's estate and opposes the Crystal Bridges deal — said they could be ready for trial in February.

Lyle agreed with the O'Keeffe museum and state attorney general's offices that such an early trial date would not leave enough time for lawyers to prepare.

Please see **FISK**, page 3



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# Odds & Ends

## WEATHER

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

### SATURDAY



Partly Cloudy 66/48

### SUNDAY



Partly Cloudy 61/40

### MONDAY



Sunny 62/41

## VUPD CRIME LOG

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

### Monday Oct. 22, 5:05 p.m.:

Subject was seen vandalizing posters at 2415 Vanderbilt Place. Subject smelled strongly of alcohol and admitted to drinking, and then was arrested for public intoxication and illegal consumption.

### Monday, Oct. 22, 5:38 p.m.:

A bike and lock were stolen from a bike rack at 465 21st Ave. 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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### AFFILIATIONS

The Hustler is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, Columbia Scholastic Press Association, College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers, Southern University Newspapers and the Southeastern Journalism Conference and is an associate member of the Associated Press.

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Entertainment news: Call 343-0967 or e-mail [vibe@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:vibe@vanderbilthustler.com)

Sports results: Call 343-0967 or e-mail [sports@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:sports@vanderbilthustler.com)

### CORRECTIONS

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

### PRINTER

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### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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One semester's delivery via U.S. Postal Service is available for \$125 or \$200 per year. Checks should be made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

### BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

## IN THE KNOW

### The news you need — in brief

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

## WORLD

### Lebanese troops open fire on Israeli warplanes flying over Lebanon

Lebanese troops opened fire Thursday on Israeli warplanes flying low over southern Lebanon, but no hits were reported, Lebanese officials said.

Israeli warplanes frequently fly over Lebanese airspace in what Israel says are reconnaissance missions, but this was the first time the Lebanese army has fired on the aircraft since an Aug. 14, 2006, cease-fire ended a monthlong war between Israeli and Hezbollah guerrillas.

Lebanese soldiers opened up with machine guns and light anti-aircraft weapons mounted on armored vehicles at two planes that flew by just east of Marjayoun town near the border at midmorning, a Lebanese security official said.

An army statement later in the day said "the Lebanese army's ground anti-aircraft guns confronted the hostile Israeli aircraft during its violation of Lebanese airspace over the regions of Marjayoun and Bint Jbeil, forcing it to leave over the town of Alma Chaab in the direction of the occupied lands."

SOURCE: AP

### Putin strongly warns against new international sanctions against Iran

Russia's President Vladimir Putin on Thursday warned strongly against new international sanctions on Iran, saying they would lead to a dead end.

Putin, in Portugal for a summit with leaders of the European Union, said the standoff over Iran's nuclear program should be resolved through talks, pointing at North Korea as an example.

"Why worsen the situation and bring it to a dead end by threatening sanctions or military action," Putin said in a veiled reference to the U.S. push for harsher international sanctions against Tehran.

"Running around like a madman with a razor blade, waving it around, is not the best way to resolve the situation," the Russian leader said.

SOURCE: AP

## NATION

### Wildfire death toll rises as crew finds 2 burned bodies in gutted home; calmer winds aid firefighters

Crews found two burned bodies in a gutted house, authorities said Thursday, and flames drew perilously close to thousands of homes in Southern California's firestorm despite a break in the harsh winds and a massive aerial assault.

Medical examiners were trying to establish the identities of the man and woman whose bodies were found near Poway, north of San Diego, said Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Jan Caldwell. They were believed to be related, officials said.

Neighbors told officials they last saw the pair around midnight Monday when they told the two to evacuate, Caldwell said. They were reported missing sometime after that.

SOURCE: AP

### Discovery docks with space station for construction mission

The crew aboard the international space station greeted Discovery's seven astronauts with hugs and handshakes on Thursday after the shuttle arrived at the orbiting outpost to begin an ambitious construction mission.

It was an extra special moment for Discovery commander Pamela Melroy and station commander Peggy Whitson, the first women to simultaneously manage two spacecraft in the 50-year history of spaceflight. They warmly embraced one another when Melroy floated into the station.

With Melroy at the helm, Discovery snuggled up to the space station and latched on after performing a giant somersault to give engineers a close look at the ship's belly and make sure it wasn't damaged during liftoff.

SOURCE: AP

### House Democrats accuse Rice of mismanaging diplomatic efforts in Iraq

House Democrats on Thursday accused Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice of grossly mismanaging diplomatic efforts in Iraq and concealing information from Congress, putting a visibly frustrated Rice on the defensive.

At a hearing by a congressional watchdog committee, Democratic lawmakers said the State Department under Rice had been too lax with armed security contractors, ignored corruption at the highest levels of the Iraqi government and was sloppy in overseeing construction of the costly new U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., and other Democrats said they would not call on Rice to resign, noting their frustration is with the Bush administration's policies rather than Rice alone.

"If you just change the deck chairs, it's not going to change the policy," said Rep. Peter Welch, D-Vt., a committee member.

SOURCE: AP

## CAMPUS

### Leadership training for students makes magazine's 2007 'best' list

Leadership Excellence, a magazine founded by well-known leadership and management consultants, has added Vanderbilt University to its list of the best leadership development programs for the second year in a row.

Vanderbilt moved up a spot this year to 14 from 15 in the magazine's ranking of universities and schools of management and business. The magazine recognized the university for its leadership development programs for students, which are run by the Office of Leadership Development and Intercultural Affairs in the Dean of Students office.

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

- For about \$25, students and employees can buy excuse notes from the Excused Absence Network that appear to come from doctors or hospitals. Other options include a fake jury summons or an authentic-looking funeral service program complete with comforting poems and a list of pallbearers.
- The crisp, black bow tie and blue hat of the Washington State Patrol troopers won the award for America's "Best-Dressed State Law Enforcement Agency" from the National Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors.
- Update: Apparently stealing bras from Victoria's Secret is becoming a national trend. The store in Fairfield, Conn., says this month there have been seven to eight drawers of reversible bras, 100 bras from the Pink collection and 50 additional bras stolen in three separate incidents.
- On "best of craigslist" Monday, Posting ID: 449401719 wrote a note to "a few patrons of the Multnomah Post Office." It seems that some of the customers, including "Trailer-Trash Wannabe eBay Businesswoman" and "Forty-Five-Year-Old Cell Phone Tard," irritate him or her.
- A Florida man was charged with petty theft after taking about 10 jelly beans out of a bin at Albertson's and eating them.
- A task force of local and national marketing experts in St. Louis spent \$47,000 on a brand campaign to replace the old slogan, "Hello. My Name is St. Louis," with a new one: "St. Lou is All Within Reach." Two other cities have the same motto.
- Recent studies from Australian scientists indicate that Atlanteans, the people who lived on a legendary island first mentioned by Plato, may have been the ancestors of dolphins.
- The Boston brewers of Sam Adams beer objected when they learned a mayoral campaign in Portland, Ore., had Web sites invoking the name of their product — but they failed to realize the reason is because the candidate is City Commissioner Sam Adams.
- On Thursday, the editors at Gawker.com received an e-mail from Atlanta John Fitzgerald Page had sent to a potential suitor who rebuffed him on Match.com and named him "The Worst Person in the World."
- Residents wearing masks in certain public areas this Halloween could be arrested as part of a police crackdown in the wake of dozens of robberies committed by men in disguise. According to a Florida law, wearing a mask in public is a misdemeanor.

## SNAPSHOT

### PRACTICING PERFECT PITCH



BRETT KAMINSKY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Members of the Concert Choir practice in the Music Rehearsal Hall Thursday afternoon for their upcoming performance. The concert will be Sunday, Oct. 28 at 2 p.m. in Ingram Hall.

## October is Information Security Awareness Month

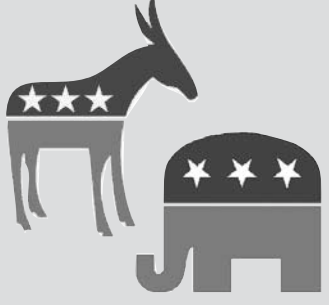
### Protect yourself and your computer by following these rules of the road:

- Know that your identity and computer are a target for identity theft and malware. (Phishing, SPAM, malicious websites, and IM are all ways that hackers use to compromise your computer and eventually your identity.)
- Use Anti-virus and Anti-Spyware (Vanderbilt offers it free for your download and use at: <http://its.vanderbilt.edu/antispymware/> and <http://its.vanderbilt.edu/antivirus/downloads.php>)
- Use a personal firewall for your computer (Most new computers come with a free firewall, just turn it on)
- Patch your operating system and applications regularly. (Every second Tuesday of the each month Microsoft releases security patches for its operating systems and applications. Apply these patches)

If you are a student and need help, please call the ITS Helpdesk at 343-9999. Faculty and staff should contact your local service support staff.



## UPDATE: Iowa Caucus road trip schedule set



The Iowa Caucus road trip will leave campus Jan. 1 and drive to Des Moines. The trip will last from Jan. 1 to 4, during which time students will attend rallies, volunteer on campaigns and attend the Republican caucus on Jan. 3.

More details are still to come. The schedule may be flexible based on the date of the Democratic caucus.

There will be an information session Monday, Oct. 29 at 5 p.m. in the Community Partnership House.

—For more information on the Iowa Caucus road trip, see News on:



## SONGS: Student critiques improve quality of work

From SONGS, page 1

Walker composed music and wrote song composition books for piano before she joined the Blair faculty in 1998 to teach the instrument — she actually has a piano in her office — and eventually to establish the songwriting courses. Originally the classes were aimed at adults, but the classes soon began including Vanderbilt students, even those not enrolled at Blair.

When Havarad joined the beginner class, she already had composed songs. But hearing others' compositions and critiques helped improve her own work and broadened her as an artist.

Walker's approach lets everyone participate and still allows for a wide array of voices, styles and personalities show through.

And her familiarity with the music industry also adds to the experience of her students.

A songwriter and performer herself, she brings in publishers to critique the songs of her students and give them an idea of what they can add if they do plan to go mainstream. The representatives of the publishing companies seem to enjoy coming to the class, said junior Daniel Novick.

Both Walker and her students benefit from their presence.

"The feedback that I get from my publishers on my own songs helps me learn more about feedback to give to my students," Walker said.

Walker teaches people that a song can have only so many words, so you have to choose powerful ones to deliver your message or theme. She makes it clear to her students that there is a difference between songs for personal expression and songs for commercial success.

"A lot of people in class are writing really personal songs, and they don't ever have to be measured by the commercial standard that exists in the world," Walker said. "You have to be really careful and be able to draw a line between something that is an expression of someone's personality and creativity, and something that they want to try to sell."

But for many students there is more to Walker's class than mainstream song writing.

"Kids come into class not knowing a thing about music, and they'll come out of it with a knowledge of that and so much more," Novick said. "She really builds your confidence and makes you realize that your potential is so much higher than you ever thought it could be — not just as a songwriter but as a person." ■

## Columbia University professor speaks about Southern cities' past, future

by KELLY SWOPE  
Staff Reporter

Nashville's future is being built on its history.

Last night in "A Tale of Four Cities," a Chancellor's Lecture Series event, Kenneth Jackson discussed the necessity of understanding the history of American cities, and, more specifically, an individual's city of residence.

"If you don't understand the past you can't make intelligent comments about the present or the future," Jackson said. "The future of the United States is in the inner city, (and) I think Nashville is building on its past."

Jackson, a widely published author and professor of history and sociology at Columbia University, delivered the keynote address Thursday night for the Southeastern Society for Historical Architecture's annual conference, which is being held this year in Nashville.

The event welcomed more than 100 members of the SSHA as well as the general public.

During the presentation, Jackson discussed the history and urbanization of New Orleans, Houston, Memphis and Nashville with a comparative focus on urban planning initiatives, cultural diversity and population density.

"I thought it was very interesting



LAUREN FONDRIEST / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
Kenneth Jackson, speaking as part of the Chancellor's Lecture Series, discussed the history and future of four Southern cities.

that he portrayed Southern cities in a context of competing against one another," said Christine Kreyling, an architecture and urban planning critic who works in Nashville. "Any chance you have to put it in that broader perspective is really useful."

Jackson began by emphasizing the level of crime that now exists in the city of New Orleans due to the massive hardships caused by Hurricane Katrina. He also criticized the city for being unwelcoming to foreign-born inhabitants and encouraging a closed, mostly white aristocracy.

"Corruption is deeply entrenched in the culture," he said, citing a tradition of political dishonesty in

the historical port city.

Of Houston, Jackson spoke of an "entrepreneurial, energetic city" that has "ambition and greed in a good sense."

Jackson spoke next about Memphis, his hometown. According to him, Memphis has not done enough to refute its growing stigma of being a "dying river town," a classification he said has deeply hurt the citizens of Memphis.

In contrast, Jackson emphasized Nashville's ability to "merge high culture with popular culture."

He complimented the local government for the 1980 merger with Davidson County and also for its city planning decisions, such as the prominent location of the Schermerhorn Symphony Center across from the Country Music Hall of Fame.

He did, however, criticize the crime rate in comparison with Nashville's population density.

"There is no excuse for the crime rate to be as high as it is in Nashville," he said.

The lecture attracted numerous Vanderbilt students, including freshman Daniel Cunningham, who was drawn to the lecture after being exposed to Jackson's work in an American Studies class.

"I like the idea of listening to someone we've read in class," Cunningham said. ■

## FISK: Vanderbilt expresses support

From FISK, page 1

"Basic and essential pretrial procedures and trial preparation cannot be accomplished, even on an expedited schedule, by the end of the year," Lyle said in her order.

A three-day trial is now scheduled for Feb. 19. A Fisk spokesman did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

Vice Chancellor of Public Affairs Mike Schoenfeld said Vanderbilt expresses both concern and support for Fisk's future.

"Fisk is a vital institution for Nashville and for the country," he said. "We value the many relationships that have developed over the years between Fisk and Vanderbilt, and we are supportive of the many efforts to secure Fisk's future."

Interim Chancellor Nick Zeppo agreed.

"Clearly, the Fisk-Vanderbilt relationship is very important to both universities, and I am

hopeful that it will continue for many years to come," he said. "We are particularly committed to ensuring that all students in Vanderbilt programs, like the Master's-to-Ph.D. Bridge, have the opportunity to be part of this unique and extraordinary partnership and program that will build the diverse faculty of the future."

Under the proposed arrangement, the O'Keeffe collection would travel between Nashville and the Bentonville, Ark., museum founded by Wal-Mart heiress Alice Walton.

Officials at the O'Keeffe museum say Fisk has violated the terms of O'Keeffe's gift to the school, which mandated the artworks not be sold and that they be put on public display.

As a consequence, the O'Keeffe museum wants the entire collection removed from Fisk's control and sent to New Mexico.

Fisk's Carl Van Vechten Gallery, which houses the

Stieglitz Collection, has fallen into disrepair, and the entire collection has been in storage at Nashville's Frist Center for the Visual Arts since November 2005.

Fisk, which was founded in 1866 to educate former slaves, has struggled financially throughout its history. All Fisk's buildings at the school have been mortgaged, and all other loan options have been exhausted, Garrett told the judge.

Pressed by Lyle on how dire the school's financial situation is, Garrett said the school is making a final effort to find up to \$1.5 million that could keep it afloat until mid-January.

The New Mexico museum had previously blocked the school's attempt to sell two of the collection's most prominent paintings, O'Keeffe's own 1927 oil painting "Radiator Building — Night, New York" and Marsden Hartley's "Painting No. 3."

Lyle later rejected a proposed settlement between

Fisk and the O'Keeffe museum that would have sent "Radiator Building" to New Mexico for \$7.5 million and allowed the school to sell the Hartley painting on the open market.

Experts estimate the two paintings could fetch more than \$45 million on the open market.

O'Keeffe in 1949 divided the bulk of her late husband Alfred Stieglitz's nearly 1,000-piece collection of paintings, sculptures, prints and photos among six institutions. The artworks given to Fisk also included works by Pablo Picasso, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, George Grosz, Arthur Dove and John Marin.

Schoenfeld said he hoped the community rallies to support the university.

"Fisk is really an anchor of higher education in Nashville," he said, "and (it) deserves strong support from the community." ■

—Lisa Guo contributed reporting to this article.

## DIWALI: Show features dances, skit

From DIWALI, page 1

"Diwali is really educational and informative about South Asian culture," Tambe said.

The program will start with a full Indian buffet of appetizers, entrees and desserts, and both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options will be available.

At the show there will be a wide range of performances including dancing, singing, spoken word and a South Asian band. Four distinct styles of dance will be represented: classical, raas, bhangria and filmi.

This year's festival includes an additional oldies style dance that resembles filmi and uses songs from the 1920s.

Planning for the festival started last semester, and students have been practicing for the performances since the third week of school. They have had a shorter amount of time than usual to prepare because the festival will occur three weeks earlier in the school year than it has in the past.

"Students have put in extra energy with the shorter amount of time to give the same amount of intensity (as past years)," Tambe said.

Masala-SACE

has consistently received a positive response for Diwali, and the group invites students of all backgrounds to participate in the event, Tambe said. No knowledge of the culture or dances is required to be part of the performances.

"Diwali is a chance for students to come and enjoy good music and food while exploring another culture that is present in the Vanderbilt community," said Jessica Islam, freshman representative to Masala-SACE. ■

## Professor represents U.S. at Special Olympics in Shanghai

Fuchs served as part of diplomatic envoy.

by SYDNEY WILMER  
Asst News Editor

When professor Lynn Fuchs learned she would be part of a delegation to the Special Olympics in Shanghai, China, she admits she wondered how it all would work.

"Honestly, I was honored, but I was more concerned with the specifics of traveling and what it would take to be able to leave for a week," Fuchs said.

But a week after returning, she said the trip, which took place earlier this month, ran smoothly and was an eye-opening experience, although it got off to a hectic start.

"I didn't have an itinerary until the night before," Fuchs said. "I couldn't really anticipate what was going to happen."

Also in the special delegation representing President George W. Bush, who appointed the members, were Olympic figure skater Michelle Kwan, United States Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, baseball Hall-of-Famer Ernie Banks, Executive Director of the Special Olympics Tim Shriver, Eunice Kennedy

Shriver, Disney and ABC News President Anne Sweeny, Chairman of the Virginia Republican Committee John Hager, and former Special Olympian Jennifer Polk.

"I spent a lot of time with the people in the delegation," Fuchs said. "I got to know Michelle Kwan."

Many popular icons used their power to promote worthy causes, she said.

"One of the neat things about going to the Special Olympics is seeing all of the celebrities that are there to support the cause," she said.

Though Fuchs' specialty is in learning disabilities, not intellectual disabilities, she said it was an interesting and educational experience.

"There is a really strong community of supporters," Fuchs said. "I enjoyed being a part of it." ■



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# OPINION

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### OUR VIEW

## The Rave brings optimism to campus

Researchers at New York University claim they have isolated the part of the brain that generates optimism. But based on the recent Vanderbilt Hustler/Vanderbilt Student Government poll, it seems that this part of students' brains may be experiencing a period of prolonged inactivity, though not without reason. Over 70 percent of students at least somewhat disapprove of President George W. Bush, and approximately two-thirds believe the country is on the wrong track.

A sense of pessimism definitely pervades the country, this campus included. Perhaps this explains why anonymous student contributions to The Rant, our weekly opinion feature,

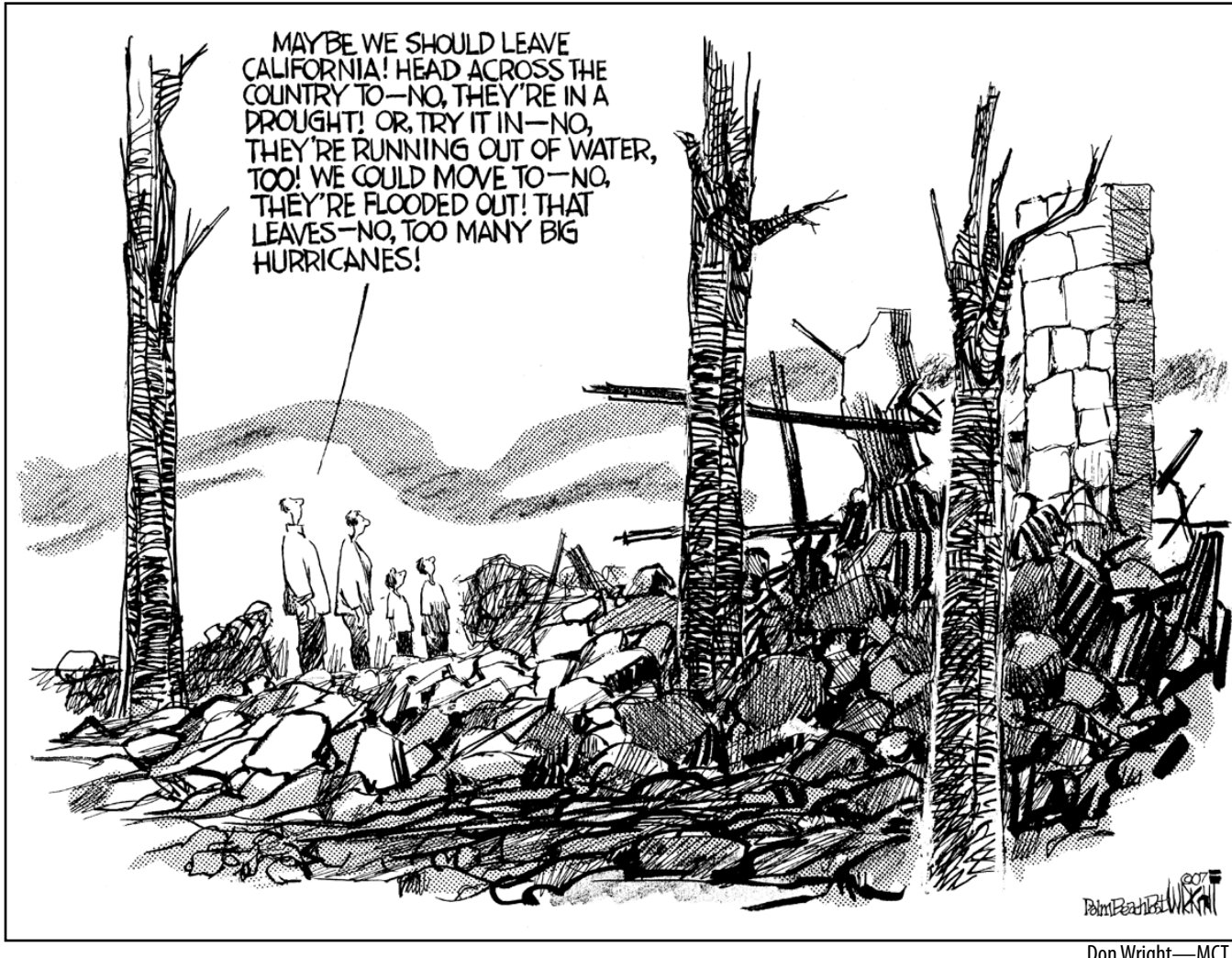
have been particularly downbeat and, some may say, harsh as of late.

In an effort to inject some optimism into the campus dialogue, we have decided to create a new feature in the opinion section that will, hopefully, provide a contrast to The Rant and its occasionally acidic negativity. This feature, dubbed "The Rave," will debut this coming Monday and will operate in a manner identical to The Rant.

But instead of sending in anonymous complaints and criticisms, students are encouraged to contribute anonymous compliments and celebrations. It is our hope that people will take this opportunity to appreciate their classmates, professors and the many

positive aspects of their lives here at Vanderbilt University.

Our rostral anterior cingulates, the part of the brain that generates optimism, become quite active when we think of the possibilities for this new feature. However, like The Rant when it was first introduced last fall, it cannot succeed without student support and participation. Therefore, we encourage all members of the Vanderbilt community and beyond to send their positive energy to us by sending anonymous messages to opinion@vanderbilthustler.com with the subject heading "The Rave." There is a lot to be happy about here at Vanderbilt, so let's celebrate it.



Don Wright—MCT

### COLUMN

## Uncommon level of concern for Greek prospects seems unjustified

SEAN TIERNEY  
*Commons Sense*

Fifteen minutes. The College Halls initiative has been imagined, re-imagined, debated and discussed for nearly a decade, and in the end, it is almost undone in 15 minutes.

This is approximately how long it will take first-year students to walk from The Commons to main campus. These 15 minutes remain one of the biggest arguments against The Commons, and nowhere is this truer than along Greek Row. It is this quarter of an hour that terrifies Greek life like no suspension ever could.

No longer will fraternities be situated near the geographic and population centers of first-year housing. Many believe that fraternities will no longer be the social life of choice for first-years. Hardly a day goes by that we do not hear from the doomsayers predicting the end of Greek life at Vanderbilt.

This, of course, is ridiculous. In all likelihood, The Commons will have little impact on recruitment numbers for Greek life. There will always be the legacies who were going to pledge without question before they even arrived at Vanderbilt. If all goes well, a revamped Vandy Van system should make next year's trip from The Commons to Greek Row quick, simple and safe.

Yes, The Commons hopes to instill a sense of community among first-years, but a community of 1,650 students is different from and not in competition with the small, close-knit communities Greek life aims to foster.

Furthermore, while many contend The Commons will only isolate first-years from upperclassmen (a farfetched concern; first-years will not suddenly stop being involved in extracurricular activities) and thus from Greek life, such isolation will only help Greek life. Unless the university finds a way to remedy this, fraternity parties would be one of the few chances first-years get to hang out with older students.

The result? Most of their upperclassman acquaintances will be Greek.

If that does not allay fears, it may help to look at future recruitment on sororities and fraternities independently.

Sorority women are allowed very little natural interaction with first-years. First-year and sorority women get to know each other through classes, activities and Facebook stalking, so the location of sorority chapters has little bearing on recruitment anyway. It is not as if Branscomb first-years can stop by a chapter on a whim simply because they live close by. Besides, first-year women regularly go through enormous pains to get into sororities already. If they are willing to restrict their dating pools, spend an inordinate amount of time dressing to impress and sacrifice a week of winter break, they will be able to manage an extra-long walk to main campus.

The Commons' impact on fraternities is less obvious but more or less the same. The biggest recruitment tool for fraternities is their parties. Sure, these parties will not be as conveniently located as they are now, but that should have little effect on party attendance. It is an axiom as old as co-ed colleges that first-year men will go after first-year women, and first-year women will go after upperclassman men. Guess where the upperclassman men are?

An even older axiom is this: College students like to drink. Guess where students can find free alcohol at a (still relatively) near and safe environment?

If that does not ease the mind of Greek life, then there is only this left to say: If fraternity parties are not good enough to get first-years to take a 10-minute Vandy Van ride, then it is not Vanderbilt's fault that recruitment takes a hit.

When it comes to The Commons, Greek life has little, if anything, to worry about these extra 15 minutes.

—Sean Tierney is a junior in the College of Arts & Science.

### COLUMN

## Religious reactionaries prevent global spread of democracy

CHRIS DAVIS  
*Guest Columnist*

In decrying the human rights abuses continuing in the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, some have asked why the Jewish people are doing to the Palestinians what they would not want done to their own people, terrifying things that have happened historically. Good question! As if the Jewish people were guilty of the current atrocities occurring under the reign of terror imposed by Ariel Sharon.

The truth about it is that the Jewish people, the same Jewish nation that suffered through the Holocaust, are not guilty of anything. The blame must fall squarely on the shoulders of the Muslim and Arab right wing.

Religion has been described as the "opiate of the masses." It also can be a hallucinogenic drug akin to LSD in the hands of fascists and the right wing. Many reactionaries today are duped into thinking they "see God's will" when they are actually watching the machinations of the world's greatest charlatans. These people in reality aren't concerned about religious messages of well-being and happiness; they are only concerned with the capitalist domination of the masses and the resources of the world.

The right wing of all major religions pervert an innocent belief in a higher power. They impede the progress of humanity for purposes having nothing do with God but with greed. They understand how easy it is to "slip a Mickey" into the fountain of faith from which others drink. However, many people use faith to gain strength for battles against this very same right wing, the imperialist polluters of those faiths.

We should examine all religious movements carefully. Do they seek to help the very needy, or do they hoard wealth for the sake of gaining more? Do they seek to bring about a society in which absolute equality is a reality by fighting racism, sexism and homophobia, or do they perpetrate age-old stereotypes and hinder understanding?

Faiths are polluted not with the aim of getting all God's children to heaven, but to whip them into a frenzy that would see them kill or be killed, grabbing for their ruling class another people's lands and resources, a cheap labor force and, oh, maybe, while the imperialists are at it, an oil pipeline near the Caspian Sea. Those temporal concerns outweigh any other concerns by those who use religion as a tool to sway the masses to join wars against terrorism or "against the infidels" — wars that kill, starve, terrorize and turn to ashes the lives of workers worldwide.

Millions of workers' lives are caught in the crossfire that blazes around the world. Those wars blaze, not because some higher being wants them, but because the small percentage of human beings who control the world's wealth decree they happen. Only by seeing through the machinations of the right wing of the world — and saying, "No" to the right wing's wars — will we move past the stage where vicious humans can use God as a stalking-horse for imperialist and/or reactionary power.

Behind the smokescreen of Christianity, the Christian right-wingers support imperialism and work to deny women the right to control their own bodies. Behind the smokescreen of Islam, the Islamic right wing denies rights to protesters and women and is a reactionary force that commits acts of terrorism against liberal democracies. It seems as if all of those claims would create a god who is less than honest, sort of a jokester.

Please see DAVIS, page 5

### OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, 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 our Web site.

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 guest column at the editor's discretion.

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

### CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2.

Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at (615) 322-3757.

### 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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# ((OVERHEARD))

on  
insidevandy

Submitted in response to comments posted on:  
**"University should scrap Webmail"**  
 by Hustler Editorial Board

**The Vanderbilt**

Submitted by Dhew on Wed, 10/24/2007 - 11:43.

The Webmail system received some hate last Friday (Oct. 19), and I'd like to comment on this issue because I feel it is misunderstood.

The articles start by stating that this Webmail "problem" is universal to all Vandy students. Now, I have only been here half a semester, but I have a good amount of experience with Internet and e-mail. I know a good deal about mail servers and their inner workings from a user and administrator point of view. Drawing from this experience, I feel as if some are misunderstanding the system and how it works.

It is necessary to understand that the term "Webmail" is nothing more than a fancy way to describe what you see. No matter who you get your e-mail from (Microsoft, Google or ITS), you will be using the exact same e-mail systems. ... They will just look different. What if the interface for Vandy is not super cool or slick? It works. Not only does it work, but I'm sure it doesn't take a lot of system resources either. Thus, it is much more reliable. By the way, the Webmail system we use now (called SquirrelMail) is a standard of the Web community right now. Almost every Web site online today has this Webmail system as an option.

Plus, if we outsource our e-mail and something goes wrong, we are in a bad spot. If our current e-mail system breaks or goes down for whatever reason, ITS can simply "pop the hood" and fix the issue within minutes. If we had our e-mail with Google, we would have to call them up and have them look into the issue. This takes time and energy. Not to mention the fact that we would have no real clue as to the security of our e-mail or the integrity of their servers. If something every happened to Google's mail servers, we would all be helpless.

So even though Vandy's interface is not the best looking, it's effective. Other e-mail services don't offer "chatting" or "who's online" inside their e-mail section. On these e-mail services you get redirected to another portion of their site for that. Vandy could do this if they really wanted, but why when there are so many good IM services out there already? Would you really stop going on AIM or Messenger if Vandy had its own IM system? I wouldn't.

You also should not even use the Webmail on a regular basis. I mean you can, but why would you when you could use a free POP3/IMAP e-mail program instead? You can get your e-mail delivered to your computer instantly and automatically. Mulberry is one such e-mail client. But it's dead software! It tells you this on the Web site. Yeah, it looks like it is from the '90s because it is ('95 to be exact)! Since it is dead software, it won't ever be updated so I wouldn't suggest using it ever. Too much of a security risk for one thing. Check out Mozilla Thunderbird (PC) or Apple Mail (Mac) if you want a good, free e-mail program. Once you start using one of these programs (which is what POP3 and IMAP mail was designed for), you won't care about what the Webmail portion of your e-mail looks like. You can even set them up to automatically erase old messages to save space.

As for the quota issues, if ITS keeps this system, they would have to include increasing space and thus quotas for everyone. Increasing space is so cheap today that everyone here could get near unlimited space (simply more space than you could ever need) with no upset in the budget.

So, as I see it, the reasons stated for changing are not very good reasons. Keeping our own e-mail servers and e-mail system run by the school would be much better than outsourcing. If we controlled it, we would have much more control and security than if Microsoft or Google managed it.

I mean, if you don't like the Webmail interface, don't use it. Use free e-mail clients instead. But right now our system now is simple. Simple = stable. I'd much rather have a simple looking system that was online 99.9 percent of the time than a flashy system I couldn't access at the most critical times.

## THE RANT



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

Compiled by Reeve Hamilton

"In the survey that was released today concerning opinions on Chancellor Gee and the direction of the school, I was shocked to see students have such a favorable opinion of him and like the direction in which the school is headed.

Ninety-three percent of my fellow freshmen think favorably of him? Is ranking the only thing that matters? Gee might have increased the school's endowment tremendously, but that is the only positive thing I can say about him. I came to Vandy because I loved its reputation and unique identity as an excellent academic institution that is very Southern and with an unrivaled Greek social scene.

Sure the academics are on the rise, but he took a lot of steps towards destroying Vandy's identity. Making the school fully residential, implementing a three-strikes rule, and moving the freshmen to Peabody are all clearly aimed at mitigating the school's social scene. All he seemed to care about was making this school an IVY in the South that is in the top 10 in the U.S. News rankings.

Good job Gee, you set us on the path to becoming another Duke, an elite Southern school that isn't Southern anymore."

"I just missed a deadline on CareerLink because I tried to update my resume, and it says I have to wait for my resume to be approved even though my resume has already been approved once. Thanks for the 'service' of reviewing my resume before I can use it."

## DAVIS: Students must embrace role as future world leaders and act accordingly

From DAVIS, page 4

We must be serious. It is time for Christians and Muslims both to stop using "God's promises" as a weapon of mass mayhem and destruction towards humanity.

There is much to be done on the earth. Every day, 30,000 children under the age of 5 die of preventable causes. Combined, 3 billion humans in the world have less in total assets than the richest 300 people in the world. Whose "will" is that?

Let's look at the human thievery, chicanery and warmongering criminality that would create such ungodly statistics. What's happening here is no great mystery. The small percentage of the world's people who have grabbed land, hoarded wealth and amassed weapons through owning the means of production are determined

in their greed to have it all, even if it means blowing up most of the world and the world's workers to do so.

For the imperialist charlatans, their true definition of hell is a united international working class and their allies willing to battle toward universal rights and equality. Now is a great time, as young students and future leaders, to begin this battle, and give them a taste of that right here on Earth. And to do that, we must courageously take up arms against such reactionaries so we can continue forth in the bright future of social democracy.

—Chris Davis is a junior in the College of Arts and Science.

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## SPORTS

## GAME KEYS

by JONATHAN FELDMAN  
Sports Reporter

When Vanderbilt is on offense...

1. Score a lot and score quickly

In Miami's four losses this season, it has given up an average of 38.5 points a game. In contrast, in Miami's four victories this season, it has only given up an average of 14 points a game. The Vandy offense needs to score and score quickly. The Commodore attack was held scoreless in the second half against Georgia two weeks ago and did not score after the first quarter against South Carolina last week. It must change that this week.

2. Avoid a let down

This is the year of the upset in college football. Vanderbilt is coming off a historic win in Columbia and cannot overlook the RedHawks on Saturday. The Commodore offense needs to continue using trick plays on Saturday. Including D.J. Moore in offensive packages has proven successful the last two weeks and needs to continue.

3. Time for Earl to shatter the record

The last few weeks have been frustrating for Earl Bennett. The standout receiver is only two receptions away from breaking the Southeastern Conference record. Mackenzi Adams needs to get the ball to Bennett and let him work his magic on Saturday.

When Vanderbilt is on defense...

1. Contain the Raudabaugh-Harris connection

Last week against Temple, Miami quarterback Daniel Raudabaugh threw Eugene Harris three touchdown passes. The Vanderbilt secondary has been a strength all season. Moore and Myron Lewis always need to be aware of where Harris is on Saturday and keep him from having a game-changing type day.

2. Continue to force turnovers

The Vanderbilt defense played incredibly well last weekend in South Carolina. Moore picked off two passes, and Jonathan Goff had an interception. The upset-minded RedHawks will find it very difficult to have a chance on Saturday if the Vanderbilt defense is able to take the ball away. Coming off a game in which the Commodores only gave up six points, look for the defensive unit to remain aggressive.

3. Pressure the quarterback

Every week it is important for the Vanderbilt defensive line to pressure the quarterback consistently. Last week in Columbia proved the more pressure the defensive line put on the quarterback, the less comfortable South Carolina quarterbacks Chris Smelley and Blake Mitchell felt in the pocket. Last week Daniel Raudabaugh had a career high against Temple, passing for 314 yards. The Vandy defense cannot allow Raudabaugh to become comfortable and in rhythm on Saturday.

## Splitting carries

Cassen Jackson-Garrison has more responsibility than most college students. In addition to balancing football and schoolwork, the senior running back is also a full-time husband and father.

by DAVID NAMM  
Sports Reporter

Just as he sprints through the running lanes provided for him by his offensive line, he must now sprint through the grocery store for diapers. Just as his powerful runs help the Commodores control the clock, he must do everything in his power to somehow control his overwhelming schedule.

Just as he carries a large load for the Vanderbilt offense, senior running back Cassen Jackson-Garrison carries a load that just got bigger with the birth of his son, Cassen Jackson-Garrison II, last Tuesday.

"It feels pretty good," Jackson-Garrison said of his new role as a father. "I mean, it is way different than anything else. I've got to buckle down. I can't do stuff regular college kids can, but I'm really enjoying it, and I'm learning new stuff every day."

Every day truly has become a challenge for Jackson-Garrison. Balancing the responsibilities of being a key football player, full-time student, husband and father, he is fast learning how to elude distractions as if they were tacklers.

"I'd say it takes a lot of skill," Jackson-Garrison said. "I don't really know anyone else at Vanderbilt who has to juggle all that, but I enjoy it. I'm always up for a new task and figuring out ways of how to handle myself."

Even so, there is only so much one young man can do, only so much extra pressure he can carry on his shoulder pads. The help, understanding and overall embracing of the new Jackson-Garrison

family have helped the running back enjoy the thrills of fatherhood and football.

"Everybody in general (has helped out)," Jackson-Garrison said. "The whole team, the staff, the professors; everyone is understanding (of the situation). It's tough — I don't really get that much sleep — but everyone has been real helpful with everything."

Though Jackson-Garrison may not be getting much sleep himself, he and the rest of the Commodores served as quite a wakeup call for the sixth-ranked South Carolina Gamecocks last weekend, pulling off the improbable 17-6 upset that served to cap an amazing week for the senior.

"I was just happy we won," Jackson-Garrison said. "It was a great start-out week for me: I had my kid, and we beat the No. 6 team in the country. I was just like, 'Man, I'm ready to get home.'"

Needless to say, Jackson-Garrison was ready for a well-deserved rest after the week of a lifetime.

"I mean, gosh, I'm a father now," Jackson-Garrison said. "I thought I was pretty developed as a person before, but now I feel like my maturity level went up really high. I've got to make a lot of decisions in my life to set a good example for him even though he doesn't really understand right now."

From the looks of it, Jackson-Garrison's son — in one way or another — has indeed started to understand his father's example.

"He already has two footballs right now," Jackson-Garrison said. "He doesn't really know what they are. He's just kind of waving his hands, but he's recognizing." ■



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Cassen Jackson-Garrison had quite the week. After welcoming the birth of his son, Cassen Jackson-Garrison II, last Tuesday, he helped the Commodores defeat sixth-ranked South Carolina on Saturday.

## friday conversation MACKENZI ADAMS

**VANDERBILT HUSTLER:** How did you prepare for your first collegiate start, and were you nervous at all?

**MACKENZI ADAMS:** I was nervous a little bit, but I prepared basically the same. This season, I've been preparing as a starter every game, and the only thing that was really different is that I got more reps in practice.

**VH:** Beating the sixth-ranked (South Carolina) team must have been a pretty awesome feeling. Was this the best moment of your football career?

**MA:** So far, it's definitely up at the top, probably the best moment since I've been here. They were a great team. But I didn't really want to think about the rankings; I just wanted to take it one game at a time.

**VH:** You finally got your chance to shine this past weekend, after a year and a half of backing up Chris Nickson. How difficult was it only playing QB sporadically?

**MA:** It's good in the fact that I got a lot of reps as a starter. I went in there my freshman year and played in a few games and played this year in a few games, so I definitely got some experience before I started.

**VH:** But you've played in every game of your career, holding since you were a redshirt freshman. Was that a new skill to you coming into college or had you practiced that before?

**MA:** I didn't hold at all in high school. When I got here, we only had one holder, so I had to start learning how to do it. So, yeah, I guess you could count that as playing.

**VH:** After beating South Carolina, how is the team going to make sure that they stay grounded this weekend against Miami (Ohio)?

**MA:** You know, we just have to take it one game at a time. Yeah, we played good, we won a game, but that's one game in our season. We've got a lot of games we need to win to meet our goal. We had a good practice this week, so I think we'll be good.

**VH:** You guys now have a legitimate shot at making a bowl game, Vanderbilt's first since 1982. How cool would it be to play in the postseason?

After leading Vanderbilt's football team to its biggest victory in decades over sixth-ranked South Carolina in his first career start, redshirt sophomore quarterback Mackenzi Adams took some time to talk to The Hustler about football, classes and his taste in music.

**MA:** It would be awesome. It's been a long time since we last made a bowl. That was our goal in the beginning of the season, to go to a good bowl game, and we're in good shape to do that right now.

**VH:** What team's fans, other than Vandy's of course, are the best in the SEC?

**MA:** I've never played there, but what I hear is LSU. They went there the year before I got here, and I heard it was just absolutely crazy.

**VH:** Do you model your game after a certain quarterback?

**MA:** No, I don't really model after anybody. I learned a lot from Jay (Cutler) when he was here, and I do like Tony Romo. But I try to be myself out there.

**VH:** What is your favorite class you've taken at Vanderbilt?

**MA:** I did an independent study with a teacher, L. K. Browning, last year. It was a sports-focused independent study with a couple of people, and it was really fun.

**VH:** In high school, you excelled in track. What were your events, and did those skills translate to football?

**MA:** I ran both the 110 (meter) hurdles and the 300 (meter) hurdles, and I also ran the 4-by-1 and the 4-by-4. I actually won states in both the hurdles, so it was a pretty good deal. I definitely got faster from running track in the spring, but I've gained about 35 pounds since then, so maybe I'm not quite as I was.

**VH:** How was it having your dad as a high school football coach?

**MA:** It was good and bad. We had a lot of good memories together, and he was definitely a good support. But at the same time, it's kind of tough playing for your dad because he's a little harder on you, but I think it definitely paid off.

**VH:** Do you have a favorite NFL team?

**MA:** The Dallas Cowboys.

**VH:** What sports do you enjoy other than football?

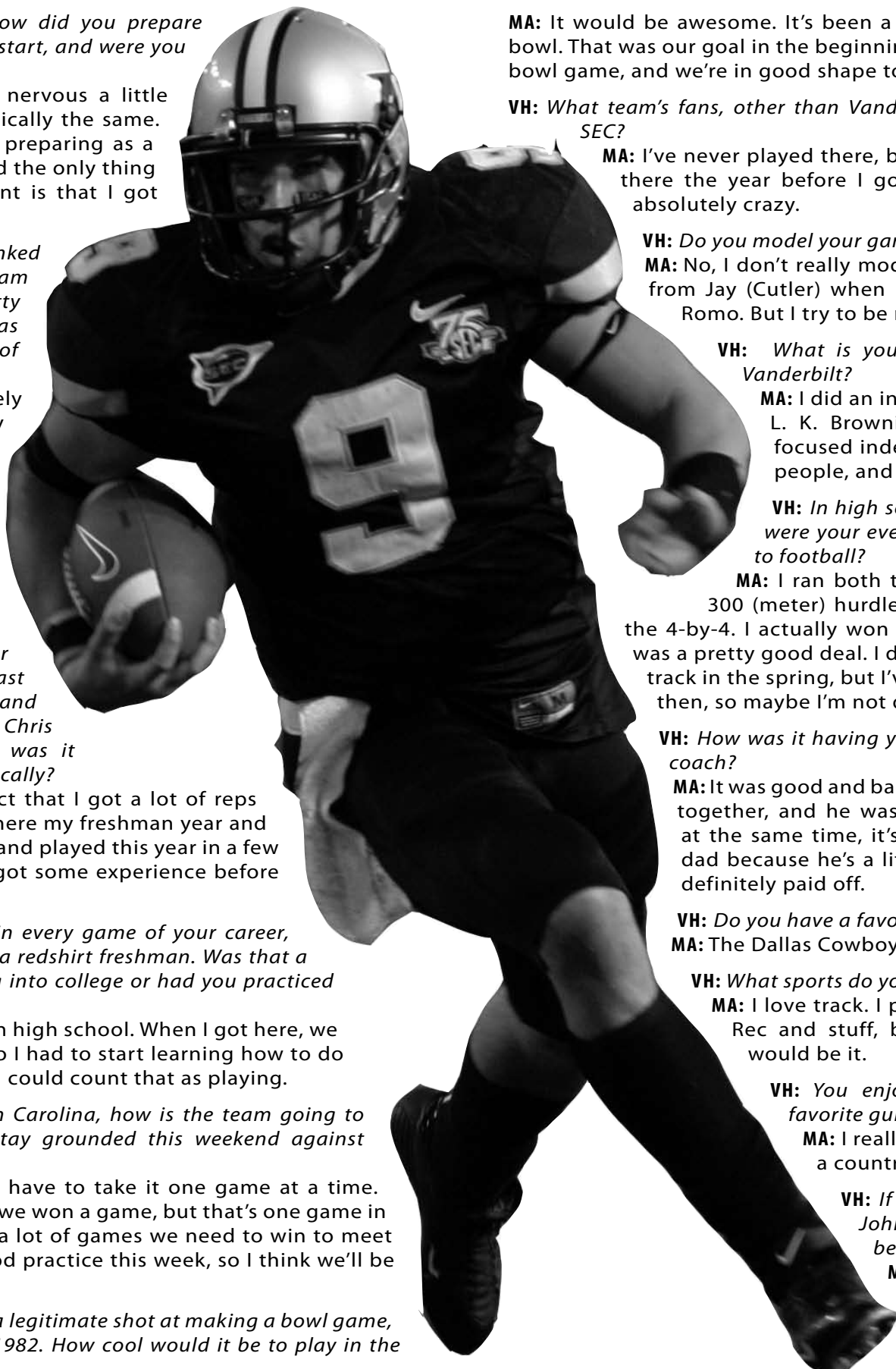
**MA:** I love track. I play basketball sometimes at the Rec and stuff, but basically football and track would be it.

**VH:** You enjoy playing guitar. Who is your favorite guitarist or band?

**MA:** I really like the Eli Young band; they're a country band.

**VH:** If you had to describe coach Bobby Johnson in one word, what would it be?

**MA:** I'd say calm.





# Dores won't underestimate Miami

Vandy seeks to move closer to bowl berth.

by SAM SABULIS  
Sports Reporter

Consider the Commodores back in the bowl hunt.

A week after losing a homecoming heartbreaker to Georgia, Vanderbilt (4-3, 2-3 Southeastern Conference) took out its frustrations in a big way last Saturday, knocking off sixth-ranked South Carolina 17-6. The Commodores' first victory against a team ranked No. 6 or higher in 70 years leaves them just two wins away from becoming bowl eligible with five games to go.

Vanderbilt can make the next step toward its first postseason in 25 years on Saturday as the Commodores take on the RedHawks of Miami (Ohio) of the Mid-American Conference, a team coach Bobby Johnson said his players will not overlook.

"(Miami) certainly got our attention, and I don't think it will be a problem getting our players' attention either," Johnson said. "We're not near the point where we feel like we can be overconfident."

Quarterback Mackenzi Adams leads the Commodores into Saturday afternoon's contest (1 p.m. kickoff), a week after he beat the Gamecocks in his first career start. Adams tossed two first-quarter touchdowns and led the team in rushing with 84 yards, displaying a versatile skill set that will quell the quarterback controversy — for now.

While Adams helmed a Vanderbilt offense that scored 17 first-quarter points, it was the defense that stifled South Carolina time and again to seize victory. D.J. Moore grabbed two interceptions, while his teammates caused two



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior defensive tackle Theo Horrocks leads a Vanderbilt defense ranked third in the Southeastern Conference.

more Gamecock turnovers and recorded a season-high seven sacks.

The Vanderbilt defense ranks high in multiple defense categories — third in total defense (310 yards per game), fourth in scoring defense (18 points per game) and third in turnover margin.

Johnson said the Commodores will need to be at their best Saturday, as Miami (4-4, 3-1 MAC) boasts a balanced attack that has them atop their division in the MAC.

"They do a great job on offense making you defend a lot of different things," he said. "They run the ball; they also have the quick screens and the bubble screens and things like that.

Combine that with a running attack that if you go out there and cover those (receivers) they try to take advantage of it."

Led by quarterback Daniel Raudabaugh and running back Austin Sykes, the RedHawks rank fifth in the MAC in both passing yards (238.6 per game) and rushing yards (142.8). They'll be looking to get back on track after a disappointing loss to division rival Temple last weekend, although their record against non-conference opponents doesn't bode well.

Miami is just 1-3 against non-conference foes, the lone victory coming by a field goal against Syracuse. The RedHawks surrendered over 40 points in losses to Minnesota, Cincinnati

and Colorado.

With Vanderbilt's quarterback situation resolved and receivers George Smith and Sean Walker stepping up to support Earl Bennett, who is now just two catches away from the SEC's all-time record, Miami should have a hard time holding the Commodores to fewer than 35 points.

Meanwhile, barring a huge letdown, the Vanderbilt defense should be able to limit the RedHawks to — at most — their average of 20 points per game.

Still, don't tell that to Johnson and the rest of the Commodores. In a college football season as crazy as this one, teams simply cannot afford to take anything for granted. Just ask South Carolina. ■

COLUMN

# Johnson deserves credit for turnaround

ALEKSEY DUBROVENSKY  
The Answer

The blocked field goal at the end of the Middle Tennessee State game in 2005. The phantom excessive celebration penalty called against Earl Bennett at the end of the Florida game that same season. A total of 17 points during the 2004 season. Or the administration's decision to swap last year's season opener from a home game against Richmond for Michigan.

Take away any of those unfortunate occurrences, and Vanderbilt football coach Bobby Johnson becomes the man who single-handedly resurrected this school's football program from decades-long Southeastern Conference doormat to perennial bowl contender.

Sure, the Commodores have failed to reach post-season play in 25 years, but with Johnson at the helm, I'd bet this is the year to get over the proverbial hump. Not that Johnson buys into it.

"I don't believe in that hump. In this league, that hump comes back every week," Johnson said after his squad took down Steve Spurrier's formerly sixth-ranked South Carolina Gamecocks last Saturday. "We can never say, 'We're here, we've done it.' We've gotta keep fighting."

That change in attitude is the most striking change that Johnson has been able to instill in this program since he arrived on our city's western border six years ago.

Before Johnson arrived, SEC victories were as common as leap years. Seasons where the last few games mattered were once-in-a-decade happenings. And the football program went through coaches more often than some people change their socks.

In the past two-and-a-half seasons, Johnson's Commodores have knocked off conference foes Arkansas, Tennessee, Georgia and South Carolina — all on the road.

They've come within a touchdown of defeating national champion Florida two straight seasons. They have become favorites against teams like Ole Miss and Mississippi State.

And the local fan base is starting to notice. Vanderbilt sold the most season tickets in its history before this season as something unfamiliar has begun to sprout around the Commodore football program: Hope.

Make no mistake about it. Johnson has the toughest job in college football. There may be teams with similarly rigorous academic standards around the country, such as Stanford, Duke and Northwestern, but none of them has to compete in the SEC.

The depth of talented teams and proud, wealthy programs that proliferate in this conference is undeniable. The number of teams that have \$50 million-plus athletic budgets and play in sold-out 80,000 seat stadiums surpasses that of any other conference.

Add to that the equally unrivaled number of affluent, football-crazed donors who contribute to their alma maters for victories on Saturdays more often than they give to their churches on Sundays.

So what are you to do if you're the only private institution in the SEC? What do you do with an undergraduate enrollment (6,400) eight times smaller than the largest school you compete with (Florida is close to 50,000.)?

What do you do if you refuse to compete in the athletic facilities' arms race that has engulfed virtually all other major collegiate athletic programs in the country?

If you're Bobby Johnson, you do it by taking baby steps. You start by changing peoples' attitudes to believe that your team not only can but also should compete closely with all of your conference rivals in every game.

You continue by recruiting better and better players who fit into your program each year. And you absolutely must maintain the highest order of responsibility and accountability to your players, coaches and fans from day one.

Johnson's squads have led the SEC in graduation rates and Academic Performance Rate scores each season he's been at the helm. While many of his former players are now finding success playing professional football, countless more have achieved success by going pro in something other than sports, as the NCAA likes to preach.

He has a strict policy against vulgar language and verbal abuse for everyone associated with the program. Never once has he or anyone on his staff been fined or reprimanded for saying something inappropriate to the press.

The SEC, while dominant on the field, is chock full of teams on probation for NCAA violations, still dealing with sanctions or being investigated for fresh allegations.

Johnson runs a squeaky-clean program that is held up as an example of what a student-athletics program should be in college sports. He does this without the luxury of a traditional athletics department at Vanderbilt, which was abolished in 2002 by Vanderbilt's previous chancellor, Gordon Gee.

Johnson's win-loss record or lack of a bowl appearance may not earn him a long stay as the coach of Georgia, Auburn or Tennessee, but at Vanderbilt, he's changed the dynamics of the program and has them headed to their best season in quite some time. ■

# Dores to compete in SEC Championship

HUSTLER STAFF REPORT

With the regular season over, the first leg of the 2007 cross country postseason gets under way this Saturday with the Southeastern Conference in Lexington, Ky.

"The conference meet is an interesting animal. It's something the freshmen haven't experienced before, so it's really hard to tell them what they're getting into," said coach Steve Keith. "What I'm trying to press on everyone is to be as relaxed and confident as possible."

The men's race will begin at 9 a.m. CT. Arkansas is the defending SEC Champion in the men's 8K and has won 16 consecutive SEC Championships.

"I fully anticipate Austin to run his best race ever to cap off his 2007 season," Keith said. "I thought his race at the Chile Pepper Festival was excellent. He's been very consistent. His health is good. I would love to see Austin in the top 25 overall."

The women's race will begin at 10 a.m. CT. Last season the Commodores finished seventh out of 12 teams with Arkansas winning the team championship. Vanderbilt's top returning finisher from a year ago is Julie Eckerly.

"Expect Rita Jorgensen, Carmen Mims, Adrienne DiRaddo and Julie (Eckerly) to shoot for some high finishes this weekend," Keith said. "I really see a lot of improvement in the contributions in the No. 5 spot from a number of different people." ■

# Bowlers begin title defense

HUSTLER STAFF REPORT

The title defense for the 2007 national champion women's bowling team begins this weekend as the Commodores compete at the Central Region Fall Jamboree, a round-robin event hosted by Arkansas State this weekend.

Vanderbilt had originally planned to open its season at the Cheeseland Invitational in Whitewater, Wis., Nov. 9.

"The Jamboree had a team give late notice that it was unable to attend," said Vanderbilt coach John Williamson. "It made sense to accept this opportunity for several reasons. In the past, we've met Alabama A&M for an early dual, so this fits well."

Williamson said the team has been practicing about a month and is eager for competition.

"We are anxious to bowl," he said. "It will be the first chance for our three freshmen to get some collegiate experience. We would expect to get everyone on the lanes at some point in the weekend." ■

VANDERBILT HUSTLER PICKS THE WINNERS				
MATCHUPS	JARRED AMATO (25-15) Sports Editor	WILL GIBBONS (21-19) Senior Sports Reporter	GLENNA DERDY (22-18) Editor-in-Chief	REEVE HAMILTON (20-20) Opinion Editor
Miami (OH) @ Vandy	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY
#1 Ohio State @ #25 Penn State	PENN STATE	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE
#11 Florida @ #18 Georgia	FLORIDA	FLORIDA	FLORIDA	FLORIDA
#12 Southern Cal @ #5 Oregon	OREGON	OREGON	SOUTHERN CAL	SOUTHERN CAL
#21 California @ #4 Arizona State	ARIZONA STATE	CALIFORNIA	CALIFORNIA	ARIZONA STATE

**sunday**  
on the patio  
(2 for 1 specials)  
pizza & draft

**monday**  
on the patio  
(2 for 1 specials)  
pizza & draft  
ntn poker seating @ 7pm  
(-win prizes-)

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**sunday - thursday drink specials**  
4 - 7pm

\$1 off all bottle & draft beer      \$3 off house wines  
\$2 off all liquor drinks              \$5 - \$6 martini specials

**CABANA**  
reservations: 615.577.2262  
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Online Reservations: cabananashville.com

with Vandy ID

a randy  
rayburn restaurant



Name: Rachel Levy  
Died: March 29, 2002

Vanderbilt Office of the Dean of Students  
Presents a Special Screening of the  
HBO Documentary Film


## TO DIE IN JERUSALEM

Four years ago, 17-year-old Israeli Rachel Levy was killed in Jerusalem by female suicide bomber Ayat al-Akhras, also 17, from a Palestinian refugee camp. This HBO Documentary Film, directed by Hilla Medalia, explores the pain both daughters' families share, despite opposing cultural and religious beliefs, while reflecting on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and ultimately, the hope for peace.

Sunday, October 28, 2007  
Wilson Hall 103  
Vanderbilt University  
7:00 pm • Screening followed by discussion  
RSVP to joey.laroche@hbo.com

This program is free of charge.

**HBO DOCUMENTARY FILMS.**



Name: Ayat al-Akhras  
Died: March 29, 2002



## LIFE

## INDEX

The Week Ahead

Halloween is almost here! But before you get caught up in the scary festivities, relax with a trip to the theater, a show at the Exit/In or even a campus event. There's something for everyone during this week of spooky thrills.

## FRIDAY 10/26



Compete for prizes like an iPod Touch and an Xbox 360 in the fall edition of VandyLAN. Tournaments will be held for a number of video games starting at 7 p.m. in Featheringill Hall. The event is free.

## SATURDAY 10/27

Tonight, join in the campus celebration of Diwali. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m., and the show starts at 7:30. Tickets are \$8 for the show or \$11 for both.

## SUNDAY 10/28

Visit the Renaissance Center at 2 p.m. for the very last showing of "The Curious Savage." Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright John Patrick, this quirky play should prove well worth the \$12 ticket price.

## MONDAY 10/29

Show up at the Exit/In at 8 p.m. for the "melodious, piano-driven rock" of Jesca Hoop. Matt Pond PA plays too. Tickets are only \$10, and the performance is sure to relax you before Halloween hits.

## TUESDAY 10/30



Spend the day before Halloween catching up on your horror history! Peter Jackson's classic zombie film, "Dead Alive," lauded by critics as "the goriest fright film of all time," plays at the Belcourt at 10 p.m. Tickets come with a vomit bag!

## WEDNESDAY 10/31

If you're in the mood for a haunted house, there's no better way to spend Halloween than a visit to Monster Mountain. It is open 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$12, a small price to pay for one of Yahoo's top 20 haunted houses in the nation!

## THURSDAY 11/1

For those in need of a dose of comedy, Tim Cavanagh and Geechy Guy will be performing their opening show tonight at Zanies Comedy Club. The show starts at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are only \$15.

## FASHION

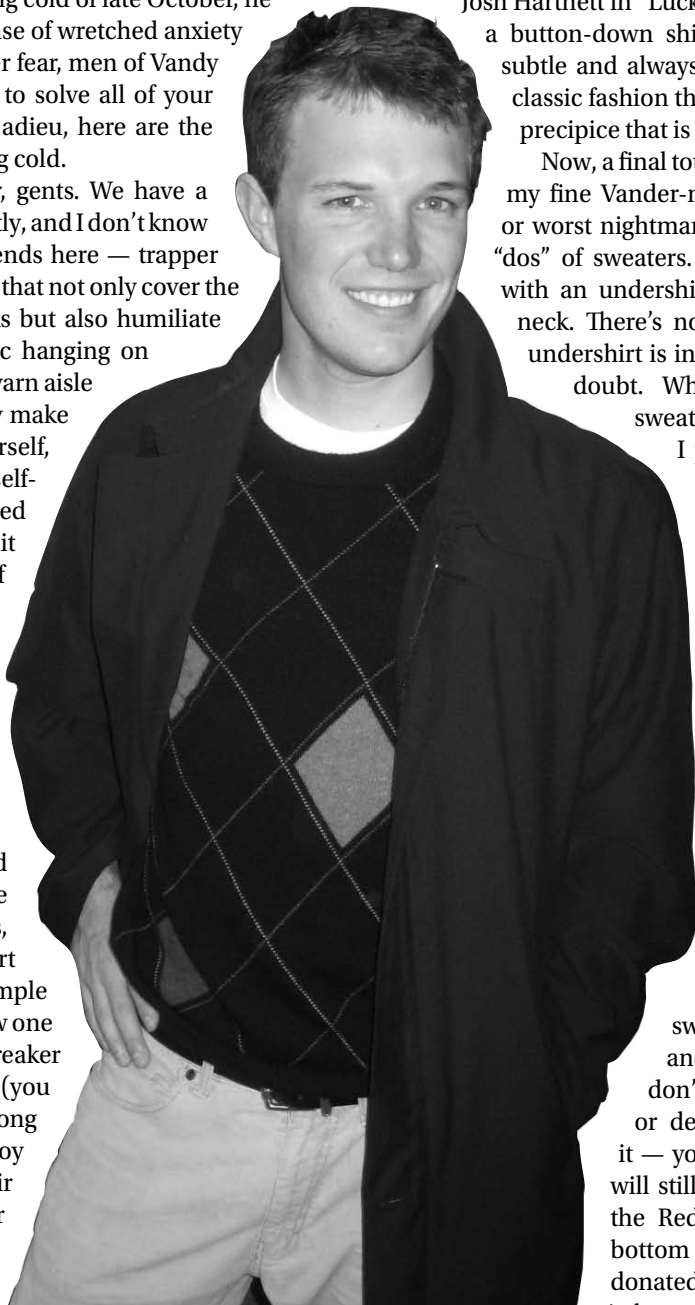
## HOT fashion in COLD weather for the modern Vander-man

by CHRIS GEARING  
Life Staff Writer

As the modern Vander-man desperately searches his closet for fashionable solutions to the recent biting cold of late October, he finds his options narrowing and his sense of wretched anxiety growing as the seconds tick away. Never fear, men of Vandy — fashion guru Chris Gearing is here to solve all of your sartorial riddles. Now without further adieu, here are the hottest tips for the approaching piercing cold.

Let's start by focusing on headwear, gents. We have a serious outbreak on this campus currently, and I don't know where or how this trend began but it ends here — trapper hats. They are giant, furry monstrosities that not only cover the entirety of your scalp, neck and cheeks but also humiliate you with two ridiculous balls of fabric hanging on either side of your face. It looks like the yarn aisle of Michaels threw up all over you; they make no sense. Why would you do that to yourself, hapless fashion tenderfoot? Have some self-respect, men of Vandy! What happened to the glory days of baseball hats, knit caps or even simple beanies? Heck, if you're just trying to be different, go for a simple driving cap or even a classic fedora. Don't embarrass yourself with these juvenile excuses for headwear, please. I beg you.

Although I have touched on sweatshirts and other forms of outerwear in the past, let's take a closer look at how to stay warm and look good while doing it. For those days that are not cold enough for wool and gloves, try a simple monochromatic sweatshirt or a basic raincoat. When I say a "simple raincoat," I do not mean the tacky yellow one your mom got you or the neon windbreaker you have at the bottom of your closet (you know who you are). The 1980s died long ago; let them rest in peace. Corduroy jackets are a good place to start for their soft texture and solid warmth factor. For when the temperature drops below freezing, your best bet is to invest in a solid three-quarter-length wool



CHRIS GEARING / The Vanderbilt Hustler

coat or do some heavy, tasteful layering under your normal jacket. I stress the "tasteful" in that last sentence: a sweatshirt on top of a sweater covering a button-down that is further concealing a T-shirt will not only have you too toasty but also ridiculously tawdry. Think Josh Hartnett in "Lucky Number Slevin" — a sweater over a button-down shirt with a long overcoat. Perfectly subtle and always a clean look. The sweater set is a classic fashion that won't let you down at the preppy precipice that is Vanderbilt.

Now, a final touch to your new fashionista lifestyle, my fine Vander-men: They can be your best friend or worst nightmare — sweaters. Let's begin with the "dos" of sweaters. If you are just wearing a sweater with an undershirt, you definitely have to go crew neck. There's no reason for a V-neck unless your undershirt is incredibly scintillating, which I really doubt. When wearing the aforementioned sweater set, you can try a crew neck, but I personally prefer to rock a V-neck.

It lets your shirt parade itself in all its magnificent glory and also has a bit more of an edge than a boring crew neck. Also, maybe try a simple argyle pattern now and again, just to spice things up. Now to discuss not only what I like to call the "don'ts" of sweaters, but also the "absolutely never-evens" of sweaters. Vander-men, I know you may love his stand-up comedy antics and legendary Jell-O advertisements, but please do not ever wear what is popularly referred to as a "Cosby sweater." You know exactly what I'm talking about — the chunky sweater that has endless loose strings and fabric thicker than an inch. Also, don't wear any sweater that has a picture or design (especially for a holiday) on it — you're in college now. Your grandma will still love you if you put that "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" sweater in the bottom drawer, or you could simply say you donated it! Not only do you not have to wear it, but you're a good person too! Huzzah! ■

## EAT ...ACTUALLY, YOU PROBABLY SHOULDN'T

by BEN HARTWELL and BRANDON HERIFORD, Life Staff Writers

"I'm so hungry, I could eat at Arby's." This quote by either Sherry or Terry of "The Simpsons" is met with a gasp of horror from her marooned, ravenous peers. Once, last week, we were so hungry we could eat at Arby's. We did eat at Arby's. We aren't sure if we will ever be that hungry again.

First of all, we must thank the generous Vanderbilt Student Communications Inc. advertising staff for providing us with tremendous Arby's coupons inside one of last week's issues of The Vanderbilt Hustler. These coupon inserts are just one of the myriad perks of writing for The Hustler. We aren't sure from where exactly they acquired these coupons, but we are sure they must have gone to enormous troubles to secure an entire page of enticing vouchers.

However, we did not originally go with the intention to use our coupons. Instead, the last time one of us went to Arby's (over a year and a half ago), he learned of the glorious Pick 5 for \$5.95. If you order the Pick 5, you can choose five items in any combination from the following list: Arby's Melt sandwich, Ham & Swiss Melt sandwich, mozzarella sticks, curly fries, potato cakes (gross), small shake or small soda. However, since we last went to Arby's, the Pick 5 price has been upped to \$6.95, which almost made us vomit sadness. After getting in the car to drive to Wendy's, we

remembered our coupons and realized we could eat at Arby's without having to pay in full for the obnoxiously overpriced food.

We don't remember exactly what we ordered. It took roughly 10 minutes to realize the menu did not include a cheeseburger. (We're never going back.) We are pretty sure one of us had a melt, with some cheddar cheese on it, and it was potentially the vilest substitute for cheese that has ever existed. Also, we really wanted mozzarella sticks but didn't have a coupon, and four mozzarella sticks cost \$2.79 plus tax.

We really don't want to talk about what we ate any longer. This is a sad memory of what could have been a potentially splendid night. We aren't saying Arby's ruined our night, mainly because we went to a good party later. However, if we didn't go to that party, then Arby's definitely would have ruined our night.

Nevertheless, let us recount some of our good memories: the stall in the bathroom without a door, the bathroom door that didn't lock, the toilet that didn't flush, the urinal that was in plain sight of the dining room when the bathroom door was opened. These were great times. Never before has going to the bathroom been such a gamble. In closing, let me reiterate: I'm not sure if I'll ever be that hungry again, but if I ever am that hungry (I'm sure I won't be), I'm going to go to the bathroom at home first. ■

## CONCERT REVIEW

## Panic spreads throughout Nashville

by OWEN CANAVAN  
Life Staff Writer

Though the Ryman Auditorium is famous for attracting diverse crowds, Widespread Panic's three-night, sold-out stand in Nashville this week caused fraternity boys, hippies, lawyers and families to shake with excitement. While the Southern jam band titans had yet to play the Ryman in their 25 years as a band, fans anticipated seeing them with a relatively new axe-man, Jimmy Herring.

Having logged countless tours with bands like the Dead and the Allman Brothers, and his performance since the transformation has been seamless. While McConnell and bassist Dave Schools visibly clashed in style, this incongruity has been absent throughout Herring's time with the band.

In fact, Herring completely meshes with the band's vast repertoire and knows the delicacies of the material as if it were his own. He brings a Southern tone with his playing,

though he is capable of veering some of the songs towards more melodic and jazzy landscapes as well.

As it is understandably difficult to join a band as a lead guitarist whose former player had such a distinctive sound, it is remarkable that Herring has been able to carve out his own tone in both Panic classics and the newer tunes alike.

The atmosphere at the Ryman on Oct. 24 was predictable — raging "Spreadheads" invigorated with energy about the upcoming three nights. The sextet took the stage to aggressive applause, which only grew louder when the band began playing their epic "Pilgrims." Crowd favorite "From The Cradle," which ignited an intense sing-along, was followed by "C. Brown" and "Wondering," one of the band's oldest numbers. To close the first set, band leader and mythic figure John Bell led the group through a segue which went from "Driving Song" to "Tickle The Truth," showcasing Panic's infectious combination of drummer Todd Nance and percussionist

Sunny Ortiz. After an unexpected but funk-heavy New Orleans nod of "Fishwater," the band took a nearly 30-minute set break. When they returned, highlights of the rest of the performance include the unexpected "Ribs and Whiskey" and a rowdy take on "Pleas" (one of my favorite Panic songs ever). Leaving smiles on the crowd after "Good People," the band returned for "Nobody's Loss" and an absolutely rocking "Walk On."

Hailing from Athens, Ga., and amassing its cult following through persistent touring during the late '80s, it is no wonder Widespread Panic received such an outstanding response. Though their Northern popularity has never been what its like in the South, there is something that makes Panic shows special. Whether it is the Southern-rock sound or J.B.'s unmistakable whiskey-laced vocals, seeing a band capable of filling the sound spectrum in such a small venue with assertiveness and power is always a treat. ■

## STRAIGHT UP and SLIGHTLY CHILLED

by KATIE DePAOLA  
Advice Columnist

**Q.** I'm dating a girl and want to know how to be romantic. What do girls enjoy most? What are the simple things that I can do to show affection without going overboard?

**A.** Straight up, even if we're reluctant to admit it, when it comes to love, most of us (guys and girls) just want someone who cares about us as much as (or more than) we care about ourselves.

We want someone to understand us — someone who gets where we're coming from without having to explain every thought. We want someone to ask questions about our lives — not just the exciting parts, but the boring parts too — and we want that person to really care about our answers. We want someone to hang out with us on the days we don't feel popular or pretty or cool, and we want someone who will put in the extra effort to make us happy on our tougher days.

If romance is the epitome of love, then it's really not that complicated — romance just involves adding a little mystery and excitement to everyday affairs. Often, it's how you do things, not what you do, that matters. Basically, any thoughtful gift or action has the potential to be romantic.

There are opportunities for romance all day long, even if you aren't in the same place. The best way to show affection is to do what you normally do with a little more love and mystery in mind. When you think of her during class, send her a text saying, "I'm in class, and I keep thinking about you." When you go to send her a text to say, "Hi" while you're in the library, send a sweet e-mail instead. Whether you're in a long-distance relationship or you live in the same dorm, dropping a "Miss you" card in the mail is an easy way to show some extra lovin'.

The point is, romance is not complicated or difficult ... or even expensive. You don't have to buy a \$50 bouquet of roses to show her you care. Flowers are nice, but girls like them because they smell nice, they're pretty, and we know you had to go out of your way to get them.

If you're looking for a specific idea, think about what's important to her and then throw in a twist. If she loves music, get tickets to her favorite band, and take her to a cool restaurant beforehand. If she loves art, take her to the new modern art exhibit at the local museum. If she loves animals, take her to the zoo.

Regardless of your genius plan, make sure it's believable. It has to stand out among the other nice things you've done, but if it's too out of character, she'll think you got it out of some magazine or trashy romance novel and won't believe you're legit.

Remember, the element of surprise is important because it shows you've thought out things and put in a little extra effort. For example, if you want to take a girl to dinner, sometimes just the act of taking initiative and making a reservation on your own shows that you care. And be careful how you present the whole thing. "I'm taking you somewhere special for dinner tonight. I checked out the menu, and they've got some good stuff. I really think you'll like it," is a bit more mysterious and a lot more romantic than "I'm hungry. Let's get some food."

And yes, it's the thought that counts, but that excuse only works if you think carefully about your plans. Whatever you decide to do, make sure it suits her tastes and interests. Bottom line: A romantic evening doesn't look the same for every girl. You can't just copy some sappy movie and expect it to work every time. It has to be special and unexpected, with no other goal than to make her see how much you care.



## MOVIE REVIEW

# Beatles fans rejoice: All you need is 'Across the Universe'

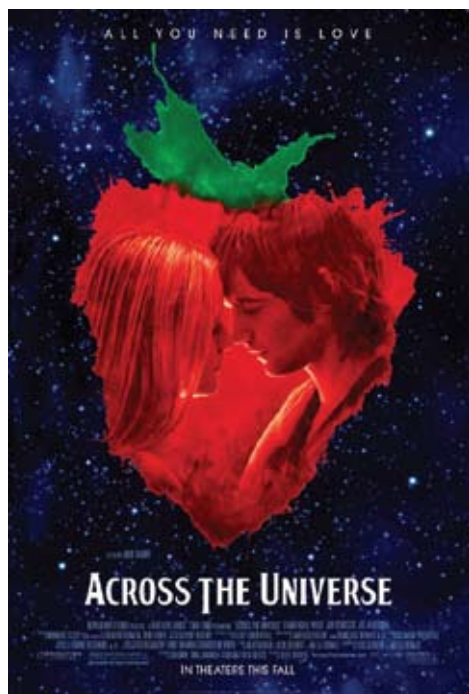
by ELIZA ROBIE  
Life Staff Writer

Diehard Beatles fans, psychedelic drug users and enthusiasts of the 1960s counter-culture alike will relish the film "Across the Universe," starring Evan Rachel Wood and Jim Sturgess.

The film opens in the early '60s when young Jude (Sturgess) leaves his hometown of Liverpool, England, for Princeton University in search of an American father he has never met. After connecting briefly with the stranger, Jude strikes up the unlikelyst of friendships with Max, a freewheeling Princetonian.

In a rebellious rejection of his elitist upbringing, Max soon drops out of the Ivy League, departing for New York City with Jude. The boys become entwined in a bohemian community of artists and freethinkers, inspiring Max's younger sister Lucy (Wood) to join them. Having lost her first love to the Vietnam War, Lucy buries herself in the growing antiwar movement while beginning a courtship with Jude. When Max is sent to Vietnam, Lucy and Jude's relationship buckles under the stress of their political differences.

Set amid the core of the tumultuous '60s,



"Across the Universe" depicts the social revolution and antiwar movement through the eyes of the liberal youth culture. Though primarily a love story, the film's most successful element is the manipulation of The Beatles' lyrical genius. "Across the Universe" uses 34 Beatles compositions recorded by the cast members themselves.

Though the cast revived many of the more obscure tunes such as "Happiness is a Warm Gun" and "I am the Walrus," they also put their own spins on the classics "Something," "Let It Be" and "Hey Jude," among others. In addition to the songs, "Across the Universe" is teeming with Beatles allusions: The characters' names (each a reference to a song title), the strawberry motif (reference to "Strawberry Fields Forever"), a psychedelic drug-induced bus trip (the "Magical Mystery Tour") and even the snippets of Beatles' lyrics the characters use in their speech. Though some suggestions are more blatant than others, Beatles fans will delight in each layer of the film.

Not a Beatles fan? While you may not totally appreciate the aforementioned allusions to the prominent band, Beatles and non-Beatles fans alike ought to recognize the artistic and original components packed into the movie. Each scene is bursting with vibrant colors, and the characters are refreshing variations from those featured in this year's other films.

Though "Across the Universe" strongly resembles a bizarre dream (or nightmare!), it is one of the most original films of the year. ■

RATING: ★★★★★

## MOVIE REVIEW

# Del Toro shines but script gets 'Lost in the Fire'

by KATHERINE MILLER  
Asst Life Editor

If one thing was not lost in any fire, it is Benicio Del Toro's awesomeness. In "Things We Lost in the Fire," he makes sure nobody forgets his stunning skill.

The film follows recently widowed Audrey Burke (Halle Berry) and her late husband's childhood friend, heroin addict Jerry Sunborne (Del Toro). Following the death of her husband Steven (David Duchovny), Audrey, struggling alone with her two young children, invites Jerry to live with them. She struggles with her new role while the recovering Jerry relapses and begins his recovery anew.

The film is all Del Toro. He avoids useless bravado and over-acting, reversing the usual portrayal of drug addicts by replacing the stereotypical rage and melancholy with charm and a wry silliness.

Del Toro's compelling performance is matched by Susanne Bier's excellent direction. The film, her first English-language production, is concerned with details far beyond sub-par dialogue and stereotypical plot. The color-saturated scene in which the camera shifts myopically

as Audrey and Steven kiss before his death is the most visually compelling scene and almost reason enough to see the film.

However, the script feels like Bier snatched it from the Lifetime production schedule and saved it. Nowhere is the script's weakness more apparent than with Berry's portrayal of Audrey. While Del Toro exudes brilliance, Berry tries very hard to make you regret seeing the film. Her character is embittered — and justifiably so given her situation — but Berry's tough, whining portrayal garners no sympathy.

Admittedly, she does not do much besides grieve like an emo middle-schooler and look beautiful. And while Audrey is clearly overwhelmed and too numb to feel anything, Berry just does not convey any sort of charisma. Still, others, such as Alison Lohman, manage to overcome the script. She plays a hopeful recovering addict and impresses her optimistic spirit upon everyone around her.

Despite the predictable script and Berry's mediocre performance, Del Toro's forceful performance is riveting, and his final, haunting scene makes the film worth seeing. ■

RATING: ★★☆☆☆

## ALBUM REVIEW

# 'Mescalito' provides dose of good but gritty country

by AVERY SPOFFORD  
Life Staff Writer

I hate country music — OK, I strongly dislike it. Until this week, in fact, there was not a single country song in my iTunes. So when I heard country artist Ryan Bingham's debut album, "Mescalito," my elitist music prejudices were completely ambushed by the album's likeability and ruggedly agreeable sound. Bingham's album embodies the true essence of country music while remaining surprisingly accessible to non-country listeners.

"Mescalito" differs greatly from the overprocessed, commercialized pop music on most country radio stations today. The album employs a Woody Guthrie-esque sound that blends with country and Mexican influences to create a sound free of "country" affectations and pretensions. No sequined cowboy boots here.

Bingham's voice sets him apart from country stars like Garth Brooks and Tim McGraw. The sounds he produces seem out of place coming from the mouth of a 25-year-old. Deep and gravelly, Bingham's voice sounds as if it were dragged across an old woman's washboard, steeped in Mexican liquor and scraped and scarred by a pair of old cowboy spurs. Crafted by years of whiskey pulls and a thankless, impoverished childhood, Bingham's vocals lend authenticity to the album.

A trying childhood fraught with constant moves and early independence (Bingham has lived on his own since his mid-teens) influenced the album's lyrics. Instead of songs about picking up girls in an Alabama honky-tonk, the lyrics Bingham pens reflect maturity brought on by worldly experiences. In "Dollar a Day" he laments the fate of the working class ("I've been working in the goddamn sun/ For just one dollar a day"), and "Hard Times" reflects his experiences with dustbowl-like poverty. Even the poppier-sounding "Take It Easy Mama" reads as Bingham confronting the troubles of the world and comforting his lonely mother.

The variety of songs makes the album likely to be enjoyed by most audiences. The calmness of some tracks (often vocals accompanied by just a few string instruments) harkens back to the folk songs of the '60s, while "Bread And Water" picks up the tempo and adds a touch more country. Mariachi-inspired "Borracho Station" stands out with its beautiful guitar and Spanish lyrics, adding Mexican flavor to the album. For more traditional country fans, tracks such as "Sunshine," "Bread And Water" and "Southside Of Heaven" hold down the album in its country basis without being overwhelming.

Though markedly different from much of today's popular country music, "Mescalito" embodies the true essence of the genre. The album is legitimized both by its entertaining, varied sound and Bingham's personal past, which attests that his unidealized lyrics and sound are not fabrications of higher-ups but authentic consequences of his unique personal history. Country at its roots was free from bastardization by big-label executives and the media, and "Mescalito" brings this concept back to the foreground.

Bingham's authenticity as a country artist, combined with the varying influences on and sounds throughout the album, make his music agreeable for everyone weary of overdone pop music in every genre. Irrespective of taste for country music, "Mescalito" proves to be a refreshing and engaging album. ■

RATING: ★★★★★

—To hear clips of the songs from "Mescalito", go to:



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**10/24/07 SOLUTIONS**

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**CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Annual British horse race
  - 6 Family man
  - 10 Identical look-alike
  - 14 Task
  - 15 Long in the tooth
  - 16 Glorified gofer
  - 17 Wall painting
  - 18 Like some losers
  - 19 Elder or alder
  - 20 Tiresomely long
  - 22 As a substitute
  - 24 Pool equipment
  - 25 Combine
  - 26 High-kicking dance
  - 30 Breaking wave
  - 34 So long in Cancun
  - 35 Outbuilding
  - 36 Takeout order
  - 37 Refine metal
  - 38 Roof goo
  - 39 Expectant dad, e.g.
  - 40 Tex-Mex snack
  - 41 Bastille Day month
  - 42 Beside
  - 43 Sap of energy
  - 45 NATO part
  - 46 Isn't incorrect?
  - 47 Figured out
  - 48 Rainy-day cache
  - 51 City of Oz
  - 56 Slugger Moises
  - 57 Chantilly product
  - 59 Variety show
  - 60 Low poker hand
  - 61 God of love
  - 62 Royal rule
  - 63 Jazzy Fitzgerald
  - 64 Eyelid malady
  - 65 Santa's helpers
- DOWN**
- 1 Crowning point
  - 2 Give the cold shoulder to
  - 3 Braided rope
  - 4 Word-of-mouth
  - 5 Air
  - 6 Old hat
  - 7 Gone by
  - 8 Outer boundary
  - 9 Tonsils' neighbor
  - 10 Blabbermouth
  - 11 Telegram
  - 12 Brainchild
  - 13 Prerequisite
  - 21 Soak up some rays
  - 23 Boozer
  - 26 Social class
  - 27 Mad. Ave. worker
  - 28 Family girl
  - 29 Florid lyric soprano
  - 30 Blue or humpback, e.g.
  - 31 Hot drink
  - 32 Artist's representative
  - 33 Gershwin opera, "\_\_\_ and Bess"
  - 35 City on the Neckar River
  - 39 Parquet circle
  - 41 Makes harsh sounds
  - 44 Compete
  - 45 Male cat or turkey
  - 47 Ganders
  - 48 Scruff
  - 49 Carrier to Israel
  - 50 Potting dirt
  - 52 Virginia's dance?
  - 53 Tel \_\_\_-Jaffa
  - 54 Olympic sled
  - 55 Lions' lairs
  - 58 Coquettish

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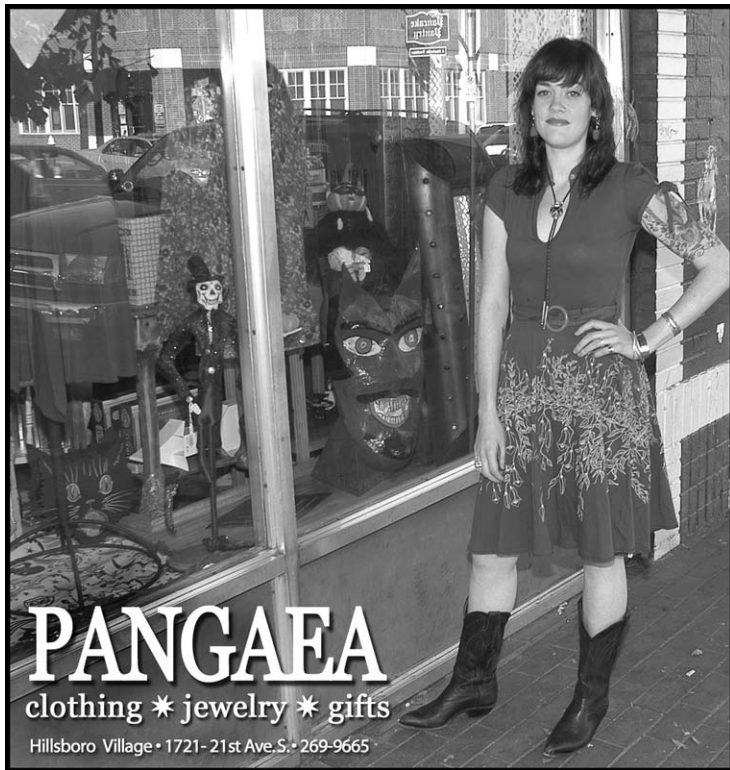
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10/26/07

**10/24/07 SOLUTIONS**

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