

# The Slant

www.theslant.net

A national historic site . . . since 1886

## INSIDETHISSUE

Mr. T Refuses To Pity Fools Gladly

Scientologists Protest New Kappa Alpha Thetans

Boy With Two Gay Fathers Impervious To 'Your Mom' Jokes

### RIVALDS.COM

**6** Rates Sororities

### MADDEN

**7** Kind Of Dumb

### ITS

**8** The Bastards

Other News 2

Fucked Image 4

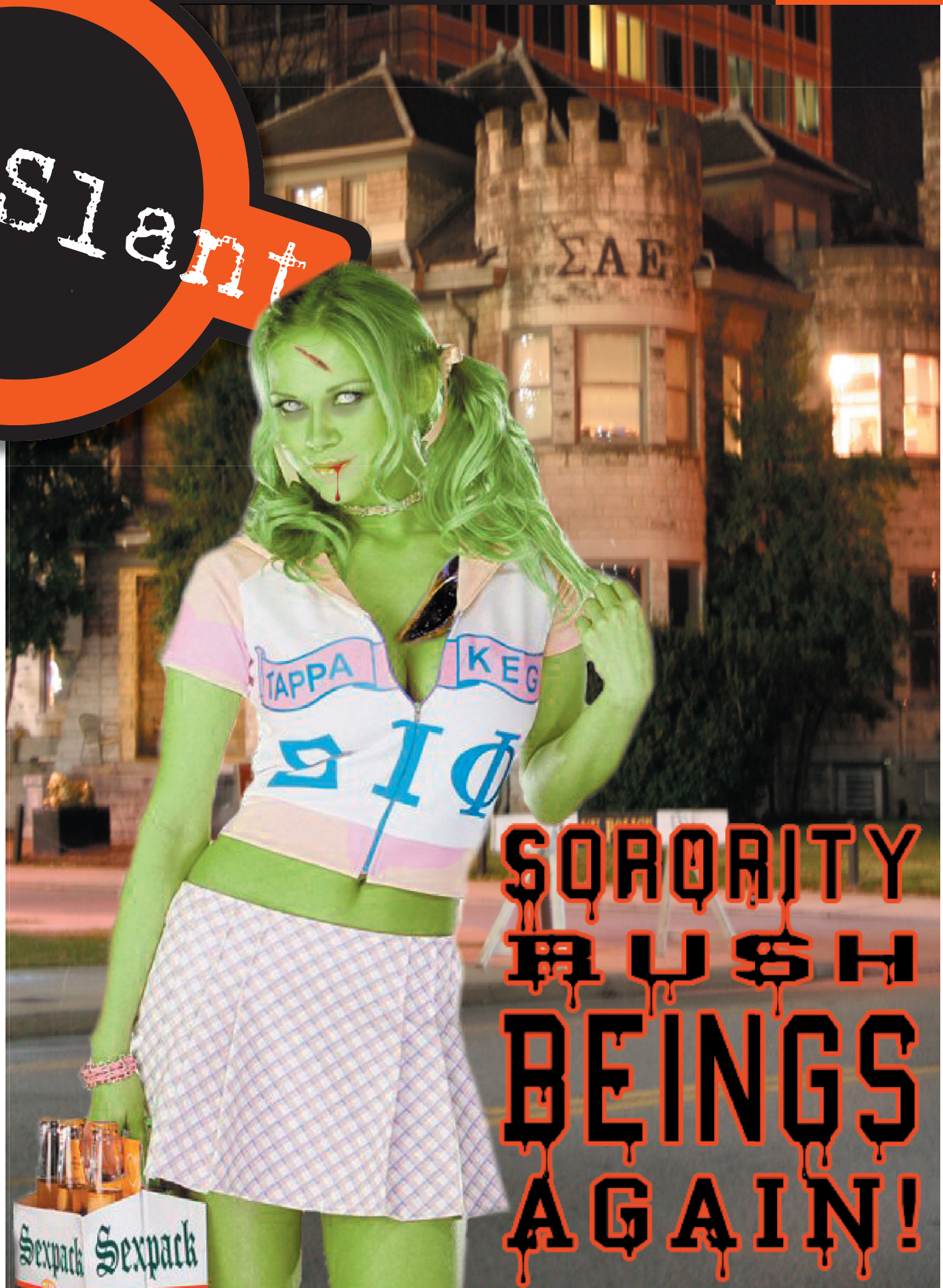
Bastard Confession 8

The Business End 9

Joe Piscopo 11

Horoscopes 12

Back Page 12



**SORORITY  
RUSH  
BEINGS  
AGAIN!**

## Pats Cut Diet Pepsi Machine After Loss

Despite a very effective rookie year, Diet Pepsi Machine was cut by the New England Patriots following the teams 27--13 loss on Saturday to the Denver Broncos.



"This is a team that expects sacrifice and big plays from key people," said Patriots coach Bill Belichick. "We saw none of that on Saturday."

"We just felt we had to go in a different direction," said Pats' owner Robert Kraft.

Expert Mel Kiper said the team is very high on Dr. Pepper Machine, who Kiper expects will be high value pick in the late first round of April's draft.

## Eminem Remarries Ex-Wife, Promises Not to Kill Her

Eminem remarried his ex-wife, Kimberly Mathers, in a media circus last week.

Eminem quickly found himself having to defend many of his lyrics in some of his songs. The most troublesome of which being "Kim", in which he fantasizes about brutally murdering his now former ex-wife. "Kim" was intended as a loving opus to Kimberly," commented Eminem. "When I yelled 'Now bleed bitch, bleed! BLEED BITCH BLEED! BLEED!' what I really meant was 'I love you, let's remarry.'"



## Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie Go On Kidnapping Spree

Hollywood pair Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have kidnapped eight children, from homes and orphanages alike, in the past six days. The couple, known for canoodling while Pitt was still married to Jennifer

Aniston and for taking as many opportunities as possible to be photographed with Jolie's adopted children, had begun to fade from the spotlight over the last month. In order to reenergize their public image, the couple bypassed the adoption process entirely collecting kids to, as they put it, "save" as many children as possible. In a note left at the site of the latest kidnapping, Brad and Angelina stated, "We know in the end we'll be vindicated. We just love children so much . . . oh, and also being in the news."



## Antarctica Really Just A Prank, Reveal Scientists

The world was stunned, Tuesday, when an international group of scientists revealed that Antarctica is not a real continent, but simply a long-running gag. Said one geologist, "It all started with my great great-great-grandfather, Mikhail Lazarev, who 'discovered' the 'continent.' His expedition was a real bust, so he exaggerated the few icebergs he saw into an entire continent. A few letters to friends got them to 'confirm' the find." The scientists went on to reveal that Antarctica's true nature was a closely guarded secret, passed down through families and various institutions. "Each generation embellished it a little more. First they made up penguins and seals, then Shackleton created that whole expedition to the South Pole ruse, and then in the sixties scientists got funding to create research stations there and blew it all on booze." While feeling misled, the public are mostly relieved that all of their sport utility vehicles are now only melting one pole.

## Peru Wants Stuff Back

The nation of Peru expressed its frustration with Yale University and demanded the

return of nearly 5,000 artifacts excavated from Machu Pichu in the 1910's. "I said you guys could borrow them for like a year," stated the distraught country. "I think I've been cool about this. I mean, I didn't say anything for ninety years, but enough is enough." Peru has threatened legal action if its belongings are not returned immediately. Responded Yale, "Peru? I hate that guy. Tell him I'm sorry but I lost it all. That should shut him up for another sixty." Yale then added, "What a pushover!"



276

Number of sorority hopefuls with souls crushed after being rejected by all of their top choices

## .xxx Domain Just About Finished

The proposed .xxx Internet domain for online sex sites remains a few legal strokes away from completion as the Department of Commerce has requested more time to hear objections from conservative family groups. "It might make pornography easy to find for my kids!" fretted one concerned mother. One lonely nerd with an enlarged right bicep addressed these concerns, "Sure it'll be easier to find, but it'll also be easier to filter: just block the whole domain. Although where I work could do that, as well. Wait, now I'm opposed to it, too." ICANN, the group in charge of assigning Internet domains, vows to weigh equally the concerns of reactionary mothers and sexual deviants. ●



A picture of the dead.

## WEATHER

### Mysterious Shiny Red Slippers, Small Dog Found In Tornado's Aftermath

A pair of lustrous red slippers, women's size 8, and a small terrier were the latest victims to be discovered following last month's rash of tornados in the Midwest. Found in the rubble of an isolated farmhouse, authorities belief both the dog and slippers to be the belongings of teenager Dorothy Gale, who remains missing. Said Zeke, a farmhand employed by the Gales, "Shucks, I sure hope they find Dorothy. If they don't, though, I call dibs on those slippers."





## SYPHILIS SPACE



Fuckin' cockblockers.

## NEWS

<b>OTHER NEWS:</b> Weather .....	<b>2</b>
<b>GREEK:</b> Rivals.com releases sorority ratings.....	<b>5</b>
<b>SPORTS:</b> Dores still eligible for Chunky Soup Bowl.....	<b>6</b>
<b>VIDEO GAMES:</b> Fake Madden smarter.....	<b>7</b>
<b>WAR:</b> Student battles ITS. ....	<b>8</b>
<b>SEIZURES:</b> Not the medical kind .....	<b>10</b>
<b>JOE PISCOPO:</b> Still hated .....	<b>11</b>

## COLUMNS & HUMOR

<b>ANDREW COLLAZZI:</b> Complaining .....	<b>3</b>
<b>LETTER:</b> From Jesus .....	<b>4</b>
<b>CONFESSIONS:</b> From bastards .....	<b>8</b>
<b>OPPORTUNITIES:</b> Let's get busy .....	<b>9</b>
<b>ALZHEIMER'S:</b> Not funny .....	<b>9</b>
<b>MACING:</b> Hell yeah.....	<b>8</b>
<b>HOROSCOPES:</b> Yup.....	<b>11</b>
<b>AROUND THE LOOP:</b> Not this time! .....	<b>N/A</b>

## We Definitely Need A More Efficient Way To Sign Up For Classes

Let's see. . . "SHOW PSCI 100". . . CLOSED? What the fuck? Ok, let's try. . . "SHOW HIST 104". . . CLOSED? This is ridiculous. . . ok, how about. . . "SHOW ENGL 130". . . CLOSED?!!!! THIS IS FUCKING ABSURD!!

Why in the name of all that is holy are all these goddamned high demand classes closed? My parents are paying top dollar for me to go to this school; I should be able to get into any class I want, any time I want. There is no reason at all that these classes should be full. Why can't they just move them into bigger classrooms? I was in the big Stevenson lecture hall last semester; let's just move them to there.

Vanderbilt is supposed to be a community of intellectual growth and maturity. How can I hope to do that if that "Porn and Prostitution" class is closed? It's not fair at all!

Other kids always are able to get into the classes THEY want. Just the other day, I saw some kid talking about how he switched from MATH 226 to MATH 261. If that NERD can switch math classes, why can't I switch mine? Nobody cares about nerds, why is Vanderbilt pandering to them?

Something fishy is going on here. It makes no sense that the only classes available are less popular ones. The Vanderbilt administration should hire more teachers so that they can teach these classes.

And another thing: why is it that upper classmen don't get priority? It would be far better for the Vanderbilt community on the whole if there was a system in place where people got priority placement in classes based on their class status. We, however, have to put up with an administration

that just randomly closes classes. These classes must have like 3 slots in them or something. Everyone I know that tried to get into ASTR 102 got bumped. I bet Vanderbilt is just padding the numbers when they say that there are over 100 kids in that class. How did they get in anyway?? Its not like we have a pre-selection period or anything .

This is the biggest thing that is holding us back from being the #1 school in the nation. According to US News and World Report, schools like Havard, Stanford, and ALL the schools above us in the rankings allow kids to take whatever classes they want. Why not here?? Until Vanderbilt fixes the system so that students can get into any high demand class they wish, we are doomed to be a mediocre. I foresee us staying at #18 in the country for a loooooong time. ☹

## MASTHEAD



Wrecking the traditional layout . . . since 1886.

188 Madison Sarratt Student Center  
2301 Vanderbilt Place  
VU# 351669 Station B  
Nashville, TN 37235  
Phone (615)322-3291  
Fax (615)-343-2756  
Website www.theslant.net

## STAFF

<i>Editor-in-Chief</i>	<b>Ceaf Lewis</b>
<i>Managing Editor</i>	<b>Colin Dinsmore</b>
<i>Head Writer</i>	<b>Richard Green</b>
<i>Business Manager</i>	<b>Andrew Collazzi</b>
<i>Editors</i>	
<b>Tim Boyd</b>	<b>Robert Saunders</b>
<i>Standards &amp; Professionalism</i>	<b>Elisa Burnum</b>
<i>Distribution Manager</i>	<b>Patrick Gentry</b>
<i>Staff Manager</i>	<b>Rachel Unger</b>
<i>Technical Advisor</i>	<b>Michael Nutt</b>
<i>Puzzle Master</i>	<b>Jeffrey Harris</b>
<i>Contributing Writers</i>	<b>Evan Alston</b>
<b>Chris Bellande</b>	<b>Jason Blatt</b>
<b>Eli Branson</b>	<b>Thomas Broderick</b>
<b>Greg Champoux</b>	<b>Alex Chrisope</b>
<b>Bridget Cornett</b>	<b>Amelia Cousins</b>
<b>Charlie Fu</b>	<b>Bobby Gambrel</b>
<b>Reeve Hamilton</b>	<b>Joe Hills</b>
<b>Andy Hogan</b>	<b>Sean Hymowitz</b>
<b>Ben Karp</b>	<b>Aj Khandaker</b>
<b>Colin Rymer</b>	<b>Chris Skene</b>
<b>Kris Stensland</b>	<b>Sean Tierney</b>
<i>Alumni Contributors</i>	
<b>Andrew Banecker</b>	<b>Jacob Grier</b>
<b>Ben Stark</b>	<b>Jeff Woodhead</b>
<i>Editors Emeritus</i>	
<b>Joe Wong</b>	<b>Mike Mott</b>
<b>David Barzelay</b>	<b>Meredith Gray</b>

## POLICIES

### Back Issues

Back Issues can be ordered by sending \$5.00 and a description of the issue desired (volume number and date, if possible) to the address above. Some issues are no longer available. For a back issue please e-mail [backissues@theslant.net](mailto:backissues@theslant.net).

### Subscriptions

Mail subscriptions available. \$30.00/year or \$20.00/ semester. E-mail [subscribe@theslant.net](mailto:subscribe@theslant.net). Postmaster please send address changes to 2301 Vanderbilt Place, VU# 351669, Nashville, TN 37235-1669.

## DISCLAIMERS

This publication is a work of humor, parody and satire. None of the subjects or writers are intended to represent real people, unless those people are public figures. You must be over 18 to read *The Slant*. This publication and the content thereof does not always reflect the opinions of Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc. Each member of the Vanderbilt community is entitled to one copy of this publication; additional copies are five dollars each. If *The Slant* offends you, do not read it. Support our advertisers.

Copyright © 2006, *The Slant*.  
All rights reserved

"You can't make up anything anymore. The world itself is a satire. All you're doing is recording it."

- Art Buchwald

## FROM THE EDITOR



CEAF LEWIS

Recent events have brought to our attention that some improvements must be made to this publication. The only question now is what improvements must be made. Well, I'm going to tell you, and since I am king and tyrant of this 1/3 page you will have to pay attention, lest I hire some Prussian

harquebusiers to wander around campus looking menacing. Don't think I won't do it.

First among my sweeping reforms is the opening up of positions on *The Slant* to those currently unaffiliated with us in order to encourage diversity of opinion. I'm like Commodore Perry, except that I have no ships and I'm breaking into the hierarchy of a satire paper instead of the rich rich markets of Japan. But I digress; on a certain page somewhere in this issue the application process is detailed, but choose carefully, as pages 6 and 7 are haunted! OoOoh!

Secondly, I believe we need to develop some sort of philosophy of humor, to figure out what it is satire is all about. I think this would help us to avoid incidents, but it would have another effect as well: since Aristotle's thoughts on the subject have long since been lost, we can claim we came up with all systems of comedy and charge royalties whenever somebody makes a joke. All future funding problems are now solved! Take that, Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc.! Anyway, any thoughts on the subject of humor are certainly more than welcome.

In all seriousness, however, *The Slant* is in a crucial period, attempting to make the leap to a professional level of quality, and to avoid falling into a chasm we must have feedback from readers to ensure we are keeping our fingers on the pulse of our audience as well as to prevent the production of content with such wild variations in possible interpretation.

This isn't my paper; it's not even the staff's paper. This is your paper, Vanderbilt, and we want you to be able to trust us. We want to make you laugh as well as to make you think. Will we always be successful? In all honesty, probably not, although any failures will certainly not be intentional. Education, including student media, is nothing if not an experiment, and as Howard Hughes's "Spruce Goose" demonstrated, experiments are not always successful. We will continue in our efforts to regain your trust, however, because we exist to serve you. We promise to produce the best damn comedy paper we know how. Hold us to it. 🍌



## Fucked Image

The man of the future has arrived!

18 January 2006  
TO: Pat Robertson

Dear Pat,

I realize we haven't talked lately – not since that whole “everyone but Southern Baptists are the Anti-Christ” comment back in '91 – but after watching you on your regular sketch show (and by the way, I think some of the stuff you come up with is way funnier than Leno) I couldn't help but be concerned that you may have missed some of the subtleties of my message.

Sure, you're not the first one who didn't quite get it, but it's getting to the stage where there's enough wackos out there who watch your show and think that you're somehow speaking for us. So when you said that Ariel Sharon had been given a stroke by divine intervention for removing the settlers from the Gaza Strip, well, it just kind of ticked us off.

Now, I'm not denying that Dad has occasionally been upset by what Ariel Sharon has done. There was that whole deliberate provocation of the Palestinians at the Temple Mount in 2000, not to mention the wholesale massacre of innocent refugees at Sabra and Shatila back in '82, both of which kind of went against my whole “love thy neighbor” shtick.

It also didn't help when Sharon allowed the Israeli army to shoot at kids for throwing stones (you may recall I'm fairly strict about who gets to throw stones, but come on!). Truth is, Sharon's

been about a hair's breadth away from a plague of boils or frogs a couple times. I don't think you appreciate quite how close the Big Guy has got to saying, “let's get Old Testament on his ass.”

But (and let me stress how verily I say unto you BUT) his attempts in the last few years to advance the cause of peace in the Middle East in the face of stiff political opposition is something Dad and I are fairly down with. In fact, I made quite a point of emphasizing the importance of blessing peacemakers at a little get together I once spoke at.

Actually, while we're on that, the next time you feel like attributing the course of a hurricane to the power of your prayers, you might also want to take a look at what I had to say about the meek. Also on this general theme, while we do appreciate your attempts to lessen our workload by condemning others on our behalf, thereby saving us the trouble, I would like to draw your attention to what I thought was a fairly clear instruction to “judge not, lest ye be judged.”

Anyway, I need to go – I have to tend to those who are actually doing my work on earth. But just for the record, after your latest outburst, Dad was all about the “Vengeance is Mine” thing, but as always, I stepped in and forgave you. Again. I know I said people should be forgiven seventy times seven times, but you're already on credit.

So quit pushing me.

Peace be unto you,

Jesus

# Rivals.com Releases Sorority Recruitment Class Ratings

*Tri-Delt grabs number 1 spot*

by COLIN DINSMORE

Premier recruiting analysis website rivals.com released rankings of sorority recruitment classes, Monday. Known primarily for its rankings and in-depth analysis of football and baseball recruits, this marks the first time in the website's history that it has released data on a non-sanctioned NCAA Division I sport.

Classes were given points based on the number of pledges they received verbal commitments from and the quality of those recruits, based on a variety of factors. Some of the most heavily weighted categories included hotness, fashion sense, drinking skills, seduction, and bench press.

A typical pledge class is made up of twenty to thirty standard members determined primarily by those categories listed above. A further ten to fifteen specialty recruits, such as GPA booster, event planner, and Greek Week pie scarfer, round out the class.

Delta Delta Delta earned the number one recruiting class in a very competitive year by snatching the signing of Melanie Jenkins, a five-star recruit from North Hollywood, California, away from Nashville rivals Kappa Kappa Gamma, who ended up at with the #2 rated class, and Kappa Alpha Theta, who came in third. Jenkins is rated #2 in the country in hotness and is ranked #17 in the Rivals Top 100 rating of all recruits at all positions.

"This was a real coup for Tri-Delt," explained recruiting analyst Thomas von Harthausen. "Jenkins puts up great numbers, 36-25-34, and has great intangibles. She makes

everyone around her try that much harder, just to keep up. A recruit like this can have a positive impact on a sorority for years to come. I mean, even I kind-of want to date her . . . and I'm gay."

Delta Delta Delta's top-ranked class also includes Sarah Henderson, a four-star recruit out of Atlanta

be able to subtly stretch the field for the Tri-Delt offense, increasing their desirability among fraternities without tarnishing their reputation."

Kappa Kappa Gamma, known as "Kappa," and Kappa Alpha Theta, known as "Theta," both had strong recruiting classes with solid hotness ratings and impeccable fashion sense,

quite highly in cuteness, an independent category from hotness.

"Amy can raise the whole sorority's academic standing without hurting them in other areas," raved von Harthausen. "She's a fantastic find for Kappa."

While perhaps not stacking up against the top three sororities in certain areas, with their #1 seeded alcohol consumption rate and impressive average 40-yard-dash time, one conclusion can be reached about the incoming Kappa Delta class: they're fast. Their recruits are explosive, versatile, and have tremendous upside. They could pose a lot of problems for any defense.

Surprising many around Tennessee was the commitment of local standout Jennifer Buchanon to Alpha Delta Pi, which she had not previously mentioned as one of her top choices. "In the end it was tradition which mattered most for me. ADPi's motto of 'First. Finest. Forever.' really hit home," the recruit told reporters, referring to the programs storied history, before taking a more combative tone. "The other sororities better watch out, because we're gunnin' for first! I wouldn't be surprised to see an upset when Derby Days rolls around."

One must take these rankings with a grain of salt and remember the old axiom: A good recruiting class does not a good sorority make . . . but it helps. Greek-watchers around the country should expect an interesting few months as some recruits drop out of pledging while others make names for themselves. Experts agree the upcoming season could be one of the most entertaining in recent memory.

The screenshot shows the Rivals.com website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'College Football, Basketball and Recruiting' and 'Rivals.com'. Below that, there's a banner for 'NOW SHIPPING! The ONLY Recruiting Magazine 2005-06 YEARBOOK' with a 'CLICK HERE' button. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'On the big stage' with a photo of three women and text about the Army All-American Bowl; '7-DAY FREE TRIAL' with details about the offer; 'Latest Headlines' with a list of sports news items; 'Creatively Greek' featuring a cartoon of a woman in a dress; and a 'Who is your preseason football No. 1?' poll with options like LBU, Nike Dome, Ohio State, Southern Cal, West Virgin, and Other. There's also a 'Log In' button and a 'VIEW PAGE WITHOUT VOTING' link.

known for her tenacious effort at hooking up often, but discreetly, and always with well-respected guys. "She's also a great pickup for this team," von Harthausen said. "She has excellent field vision and what she lacks in natural talent and ability she makes up for with sheer effort. Her lucidity while intoxicated (LWI) is also slightly above average. She'll

though with fewer standouts than Tri-Delt. Their classes do contain a number of specialty players which could exploit the relative weakness of the top-rated group at specialty positions.

Kappa picked up a four-star GPA booster. Amy Olsen had a 4.0 GPA her first semester and throughout high school. In addition, she is rated

# 'Dores Still Eligible For Campbell's Chunky Soup Bowl Says Bobby Johnson

*'Mmmm Mmmm Good' says Cutler*

by **TIM BOYD**

While Vanderbilt undergraduates were able to celebrate Thanksgiving week that little bit extra after witnessing a 28-24 win over arch-rivals UT, there was still no way to escape the fact that the much hoped-for bowl game would not be materializing this season. Despite a 4-0 start to the season, Vanderbilt finished with a 5-6 record - leaving them an agonizing one game short of what they needed. A series of desperately close defeats to MTSU, Florida and Kentucky only heightened the frustration at what might have been.

The disappointment was perhaps hardest of all for the players, who had compiled the best season record in many a year, and especially senior Quarterback Jay Cutler, who has broken many school records in his time here but never played in a post-season game. Head Coach Bobby Johnson said that in the euphoric aftermath of the win over UT, several of the players thought they had secured a post-season spot, until he calmed them down and explained the reality of the situation.

"After I wrote up the names of the teams that we had beaten on the whiteboard in the dressing room, and then wrote next to them the names of the teams that we had lost to and the players saw that the second list was longer than the first, they began to realize what this meant," Johnson explained, "Boy, they were just so crest-fallen. If I weren't a sports coach, I'm sure I would have felt some empa-

thy for the suffering of my fellow human beings, but even without that, it was obvious something needed to be done. I wasn't going to sit around a changing room full of whining crybabies for the entire off-season."

That evening, an idea struck



Johnson over how to make the players feel better. "I was trying to think of something to do, when my wife said maybe I should take a lesson from my favorite TV show. I told her I really didn't think this was a situation that Beaver could solve, but it turns out she meant the little mini-drama series I'd been following about Donovan

McNabb and his mother.

"You probably know the one - the story line always seems to involve Donovan and his team-mates on their way to a match somewhere, and whenever things look like they're not going to work out, Mrs. McNabb

always arrives with a big bowl of Campbell's Chunky soup, and their troubles melt away. Come to think of it, I imagine Beaver wouldn't have gotten into so many scrapes with Wally if they'd been able to share some hot soup together,

the little scamps.

"Anyway, the next morning, I talked over the idea of getting some Campbell's soup for our players with the rest of the coaching staff, and we agreed it would be fine for us to do that. I mean, hell, if the Philadelphia Eagles are good enough to have some with the crap they've been pulling this

season, our boys definitely deserved it."

Once the decision was made, Johnson called the players together for what he told them was a special treat. "We decided to make it as fun as possible," Johnson recalls. "We even put a banner up over the entrance to Dudley Field with the slogan 'Welcome to the Soup-er Bowl!' Heh, boy did we have a good chuckle at that one. Then I told them that they would all be able to be enjoy a bowl after all--a bowl of soup!

"Then I gave Jay some Campbell's Chunky to throw out, and he launched a perfect spiral to every team member. They were that keen to get hold of them, that even our wide receivers caught theirs at the first attempt. Well, except for Marlon White, but he'll learn. Overall, it was a real nice team moment, and I'm glad I did it."

When told about Johnson's actions, UT Coach Philip Fulmer said he was unimpressed by the stunt. "That's just the sort of thing we'd expect from a fancy-pants, snobby, elitist college like Vanderbilt," Fulmer told reporters, "in their pampered little world, I guess no-one can ever be allowed to experience failure. It makes me sick. That and having Bobby call me every night at 2 A.M. drunkenly yelling 'Who's your daddy?' down the phone."

In return, Johnson has dismissed Fulmer's comments as sour grapes, commenting "I'd rather be at Vandy and have our season end with a chunky soup bowl, than be at UT and have it end in the toilet bowl." ●

Read *The Slant*.

# Artificially Intelligent John Madden More Intelligent Than Real Madden

by RICHARD GREEN

Over the past few years, football commentator John Madden has become increasingly popular, largely because of the *Madden Football* franchise. Madden's colorful commentary in the game has attracted some criticism primarily due to the belief that artificially intelligent John Madden is not representative of the real John Madden.

Critics of the game believe that the artificial Madden's commentary is so untrue to form, it takes away from the realism the *Madden Football* franchise prides itself on. Critic John Camden commented, "The *Madden* series prides itself on realism. However, the commentary in the game is like that of a competent football analyst. With the commentary as it is right now, I feel like I'm playing *NFL Blitz*."

Camden continued with a specific example. "The game deviates from how the actual John Madden sounds since this one rarely ever uses onomatopoeia such as 'Pow', 'Wap', and 'Bam' in any of his video game commentary. In fact, in one of the few times he does use it, he even says 'Bam! Now that was onomatopoeia.' There is no way in hell the real Madden would know what the word actually means, let alone use it correctly. The real Madden would have said something like 'Bam! Tough actin'



Tinactin!'"

In defense of the attacks, EA Sports explained why Madden is so much smarter in the game. Thomas DeFazio, *Madden '06* lead designer, admitted that there was a lot of trouble in trying to get the real Madden to do the recordings for the game. "Since Madden is afraid of flying, we had to send a bus out to get him," DeFazio explained. "As a result, we had the script prepared for him when

he arrived. All he had to do was read the lines, but we then found out that he never learned to read. Since then, we have been getting his nephew, Dr. Albert Madden from UCLA to fill in for him."

However, some Madden fans have complimented the usefulness of the artificial Madden. Avid *Madden* player and Vanderbilt quarterback Jay Cutler explained how he used artificial Madden to improve his game.

Cutler commented, "The smartest things that I have ever heard the real John Madden say about football are 'Getting hit hard hurts' and 'Quarterbacks do not like throwing interceptions.' Though that taught me a whole lot about football, when the artificial Madden discussed quite vividly how to read defenses and told me the best way to play against a team in *Cover 2*, I was amazed. I explained that to Bobby Johnson and that is why we started the season 4-0. Thanks artificial Madden!"

Moreover, the artificially intelligent Madden has been lauded by many gamers since his latest incarnation provides more than just football knowledge. "I was playing expecting the usual programmed video game responses," explained *Madden '06* player Reggie Thomson. "Then Madden shocked me by saying 'Necessity is an evil; but there is no necessity for continuing to live with necessity' when I was trying to run up the score. Madden not only told me about football, but he changed the way I live my life. What could possibly be wrong with that?"

Despite the praise from many fans, to give a more realistic experience, EA Sports has plans to make the next Madden sound dumber and have even considered attempting to get the real Madden to do the commentary for next game. *Madden '07* is due out on shelves next fall. ●



PRESENTS

## The Bolshevik Bash

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20TH

11:00 PM

CHAFFIN 316



# Student Conducts Private War With Vanderbilt ITS

by THOMAS BRODERICK

Let's see, what was my password again? Project2501. Or was it Save3Whales? Which letter did I capitalize? FUCK!

A similar existential crisis faces many Vanderbilt students as they cram their head with other completely useless facts. The university's computer network has suffered two security breaches in less than six months, necessitating changed account passwords and causing severe carpal tunnel syndrome in students as they type and retype every combination of nicknames, dead pets, political causes, and obscure, yet witty, anime references.

Except for one lone student.

Tom Phelps has taken a militant approach, refusing to alter his password in spite of risks to his online identity.

Phelps has gone so far as to create a blog signaling the breach and announcing his password to the world. At Zeppelin4EVR.blogspot.com, Phelps writes dozens of tirades a week attacking Vanderbilt ITS's attempts to make him change his password.

"Don't you understand the craftsmanship that goes into creating a password with a capital letter, a number, and a length of at least 8 characters but no more than 12?" Phelps queried in a recent blog entry. "How dare they suggest that I just murder this intellectual endeavor? It would be like asking me to kill my own child." Phelps later went on to write in the same article of how he had cut his tongue on an popsicle stick the previous weekend.

As we met in his Memorial dorm, the young man looked every bit a guerrilla warrior. The air was rank, weeks of unwashed clothes slowly fermenting Phelps' amateur bio-weapons program.

He keeps a solitary vigil over his computer and the blinking cursor of his Mulberry email program. The windows are blocked with curtains and sound-proofing devices to defeat what he

labels "surveillance" but others know simply as "construction." The smoke alarm, long ago smashed by Phelps, would not alert the RA of Phelps' taste for Marlboros.

"At 3:10 PM, ITS sends that damn 'Please Change Your Password' email. There's no way in hell I'm changing my password again!" the bitter senior angrily stated, throwing down his cigarette onto the carpet and rubbing it out with his foot.

"I don't care how many emails ITS sends out about it. Bring it on, bitches." Phelps smiled smugly, picking the lice from his shaggy beard. The email came at the exact moment Phelps predicted. Phelps, like he has done every day for the past month, flew into a rage, his screams overpowering the one hundred and twenty decibel jackhammers outside. After smoking a few cigarettes in quick succession, Phelps calmed down enough to type us his daily hateemail to ITS.

I peered over his shoulder as he began his response, "Dear Sons a Bitches."

*This is reply #25 to your "request" that I change my password. As I have informed you on many occasions already, why should I suffer when you drop the ball in protecting the network? Each of us has a part to play in security. Mine is to create and protect the secrecy of my password; yours is to stop outsiders from breaking in and stealing it. You may say that I've given away my password by making it my blog's URL (Zeppelin4EVR.blogspot.com). But that is the genius of my plan. No one will suspect it since it is left out in the open. Ha Ha!*

His fingers tapped at the keys, keeping a steady rhythm at first, before crescendoing to the point that I worried his fingers might break through the industrial plastic of his keyboard.

*Each time I think of you sitting at your computer playing World of Warcraft instead of defending the network, I have the insatiable urge to tear*

*your heart from your chest Aztec-style and offer it to the Gods of the internet. They are no doubt furious by your technological sloth!*

This cyberhero's actions have alarmed and alienated his friends, too. His roommate will transfer to Tulane at the beginning of the spring semester, hoping that dealing with the aftermath of Katrina will be preferable to dealing with Tom.

"Tom hasn't been to class in weeks," Junior Amy Latherson said, sighing. "We were so in love before this password thing happened. He changed overnight. He hasn't shaved or showered since. I've gone into his room to try to talk him out of it . . . I can't look at him now without crying."

Phelps's protest is known to the FBI, as credit card companies have reported no less than four different criminal rings using his identity to buy electronics and launder drug money. Homeland Security has reported that over twenty-five thousand Mexicans citizens have tried to pass themselves off as Phelps to gain employment in the United States.

They can fuck my credit rating all they want," said Phelps. "Somebody has to maintain standards and hold those who fail to maintain them to account. Do you not see how perfect that account password is? It says 4EVR. Do you know what that means? I didn't pick Zeppelin-until-some-ITS-dude-fucks-up for a reason, man. And besides, I've never been more popular with the local Latino community."

Bob Swaggart, head of Vanderbilt ITS, reluctantly hit pause on his game of Battlefield 2 to discuss the concerns of students like Tom Phelps.

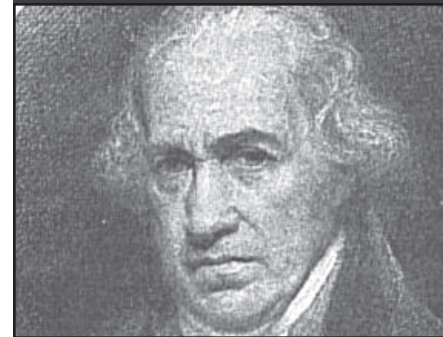
"Network security is complicated. You'd never understand it. It involves a bunch of 1s and 0s," said Swaggart, taking a long swig of Jolt Cola while popping a few more pieces of Black Black caffeinated gum. "And if you stay up really late, a few 2s a well."

"Phelps saying we dropped the ball is simply giving aid and comfort to the enemy. We can in no way give the impression to the hackers out there that we're getting soft at Vandy ITS. If those sweaty nerds ever found out that cracks existed in our armor, every computer on campus would immediately start playing 'Yakety Sax' while a never ending stream of gay Star Trek inspired porn would display on the screens. Vanderbilt would instantly become a 10th level of Hell."

As Tom Phelps dooms himself to a lifetime of identity theft, credit card companies will be adjusting the debits and credits of customer accounts for decades as a result of Phelps' act of civil disobedience.

Still, he remains vigilant in his quest to keep Zeppelin4EVR alive in the password directory. Have no fear, Mr. Phelps, though the Vanderbilt community may not follow your lead, they will no doubt thank you for their new credit cards they will soon receive by using your stolen Social Security number (421-34-2428). ●

## Bastard Confession



"I did it! I went back in time and stopped global cooling before it even started!"

—James Watt, inventor



Dear Vanderbilt Community,

For the first time ever, *Slant* titled positions are available to qualified members of the Vanderbilt community regardless of affiliation with the humor and satire newspaper of Vanderbilt University.

**Managing Editor**

**Head Writer**

**Business Manager**

**Editors**

**Art Director**

**Head of Standards & Professionalism**

**Copy Editors**

**Technical Advisor**

**Distribution Manager**

**Staff Manager**

**Writers/Photoshoppers/Layout**

**Groupies**

For more information on these positions as well as the application process, visit our website at <http://www.theslant.net> and search for "Slant Recruitment 2k6." Applications must be received by January 25, 2006. Electronic submissions are welcome at [slantpromotions@gmail.com](mailto:slantpromotions@gmail.com) while paper submissions may be mailed to the address in the masthead or brought to the office at Sarratt 188.

Best of luck,  
Ceaf Lewis  
Editor-in-Chief

# Why Does My Family Think Grandma's Alzheimer's Is So Damn Funny?

By **AMELIA COUSINS**  
Columnist

Gentle Reader, I have long been of the opinion that at such major family events as Thanksgiving, one should best suppress one's real feelings and simply smile on through the inevitable tension and awkwardness in the interests over this last holiday season, I nearly snapped. My dear little children, beautiful in their own unique way, just would not stop making fun of their Grandma.

You see, about six months ago, it became pretty clear that all was not well with Grandma's memory. We had left her to look after my son's little cat Muffy while we went away on a two-week break. When I went back to pick Muffy up, my mother informed me that the cat had been put down. "Why?" I asked. "I'm not sure, dear," she answered, "I guess I just sort of felt like it."

Muffy's untimely death did not go over well with my son or my two daughters, and I guess in the light of this unprovoked felinicide, sympathy for Grandma's unusual behavior sharply declined. Even when the doctor confirmed it was the onset of Alzheimer's, my family did not seem obviously distressed. Instead, they saw it as funny! It was just ghastly.

Well, come Thanksgiving, and my eldest daughter starts asking everyone if the turkey doesn't taste a little like Muffy, and asks Grandma if she

had had the bird put to sleep for us. The table erupted in laughter! My poor old mother didn't know what to do. She looked terribly upset. Then kind of confused. And finally she joined in the laughter, asking us all what the joke was.

I guess the forgetfulness can be kind of a relief for her, but the children just got worse. My husband overheard James, our 12 year-old son, tell his sisters that "granny was totally awesome now she's off her rocker." It turned out he had spent the time before dinner taking shots of sherry with her, on the assumption that she'd never remember and wouldn't tell on him! Of course, the silly fool should have realized that it's difficult for a 12 year-old to hide having consumed 6 glasses of sherry - especially when he starts telling his father that he's "his best friend in the whole world" over and over again.

The worst thing about it is the temptation to join in. When my nieces and nephews came round later in the evening, poor grandma had forgotten their names. I have to confess that I struggled to suppress a giggle when my brother told her his children were called "Mike Hunt" and "Seymour Butts." But that's just enjoying his wordplay. It wasn't anything to do with enjoying my straight-laced mother referring to her grandchildren by using obscene names.

And for all the beastliness of it, it would only have been

drawing attention to it if I'd tried to stop it. Like when Great-Uncle Joseph began to confuse her with made up stories about her past. Such as when grandma forgot that she'd had a career as a school guidance counsellor and Uncle Joseph convinced her that she was a retired hooker. Ha! Well, forgive me, but that image is just amusing on a purely abstract level, isn't it?

I suppose I'd always imagined Alzheimer's as something difficult, but not devastating. That "Notebook" movie made the whole thing seem so romantic and even wholesome. Maybe being able to smile at Grandam's problem is a way for a family to deal with the pain that the disease causes for all of us. I've also read somewhere that one shouldn't stop interacting with Alzheimer's patients, and should try and keep them entertained.

Maybe a bit of laughter is healthy? Of course, only in the best possible taste - as long as it doesn't start becoming a question of mocking your elders for the sake of cheap laughs, I guess there's no real harm done.

Anyway, I should go. I need to clean up the house a little. Grandma's coming over to visit again tonight, and me and the kids are going to see if we can convince her that she murdered someone and get her to turn herself in to the police. Just to entertain her, of course. ●

## Concerning Self-Defence

by JOE HILLS

In light of all the commotion about security around campus and the need for the smaller and weaker of us to be able to defend ourselves, it seemed like a good idea to start carrying some form of weapon to stave off the double threat of both forcible fondlers and those gunmen that my friends let into my dorm routinely. Although handguns, sawed-off shotguns, and other small arms are technically not a problem now that my floor no longer has an RA, I decided that I might want to invest in something a little bit quieter, so as not to awaken my ancient enemies, the squirrels, and be backed into a corner by multiple opponents simultaneously. Upon cursory inspection of a variety of silenced pistols, I was disappointed to find many of them out of my price range, leaving me and my wallet to seek out other, less lethal alternatives.

Though anyone seeking to protect himself or humiliate friends can purchase a tazer, which delivers an electric shock that neurologically prevents conscious movement and causes great pain, they unfortunately come in two varieties: close-range, and not-so-close-but-still-too-close-and-when-the-wires-shoot-out-you-only-get-one-shot-and-better-not-miss. There were a few telescoping rods and batons that allow would-be-victims to thrash their attackers into submission or the waiting arms of death. However, they tend to weigh more than three cinder blocks, except for the lightweight models, which weigh less than five pounds and have a strange similarity to pipe-cleaners in the way they appear to bend around someone without causing pain, and can also be used to make butterfly antennae.

My search eventually led me to the holy grail of non-lethal, non-loud, non-beating, non-hyphenated weapons: pepper spray. Not

only did it have 20 charges, a range of 12 feet, and dye that would make the sprayee light up like the sun under a black light, but it also came in an attractive genuine leather case. I bought two.

Now, it's one thing to be the owner of a non-lethal weapon, but in order to truly feel that false sense of security I desired, I knew I had to become proficient in its use. One problem generally associated with pepper spray is that in bad wind conditions, it can hit the guy with the canister worse than they guy who's attempting to feel him up (not that I'd blame him, I like my abs). So my friend Dan graciously and enthusiastically offered to spray me with my pepper spray. Others looked on as I closed my eyes and Dan sprayed me all over my face. Not gonna lie, it kinda hurt. I opened my eyes and looked at him, and looked at the people, and explained that though it kinda burned, I was okay, and I walked over to them, and chatted. I was a bit disappointed. The stuff seemed to have no stopping power.

In time, the burning grew worse and I eventually decided to wash the stuff off my face.

And into my eyes.

I was genuinely disabled for about fifteen to thirty seconds, which is enough time for someone to break away or call for help, and I conceded that the stuff might have a bit more of a wallop than I had earlier believed. I rinsed my eyes and moved on. Though slight pain lingered a while, after a few hours the swelling had gone down, and my girlfriend was even able to look at my face without cringing.

I learned something that day, and I want to share it with all of you. If you can't hit eyes or mucus membranes, the spray won't stop anyone. If his eyes aren't open, aim up his nose or into his mouth, or just kick him below the belt while he can't see you. Then, when he's down, force his eyes open, spray, and notify VUPD. ●

## 4th Amendment Claims It Was Unlawfully Searched, Seized By Bush Administration

*"I've never been the favorite of any administration."*

by TIM BOYD

In the wake of the recent revelations that the Bush administration has been allowing the NSA to monitor phone conversations of American citizens without obtaining a warrant, the 4th Amendment of the US Constitution has announced it is filing suit against the White House. The amendment alleges that in the weeks after 9/11, it was forcibly and illegally detained by agents of the federal government, before being shipped to an "undisclosed location," where it has been under constant surveillance.

The 4th Amendment, adopted as part of the Bill of Rights, explicitly guarantees to American citizens the right "to be secure in their person" from "unreasonable searches and seizures." Over time, it has become a sacred tenet of American constitutional law. In fact it has been so well respected that George W. Bush is one of only 43 US Presidents in American history who have tried to circumvent it.

"No.4," as the anti-search and seizure provision is known by its fellow amendments, has long had frayed relations with the Executive Branch. In fact, it has not been invited to a White House function since Thomas Jefferson's 2nd Inaugural in 1805 when it refused to allow Jefferson's bodyguards to check its coat for concealed weapons without a proper court order. However, No.4 now feels that the harassment it has received in recent years has gone too far.

"I've never been the favourite of any administration," the 4th Amendment said at a recent press conference, "But deep down, previous Presidents were prepared to tolerate my existence. I mean, sure, they'd knock me about a bit, but they knew what the limits were. Of course, that little moment during the Nixon era was a bit iffy, but at least in those days Congress and the Supreme Court had the balls to stand up for me. Now it's like I never existed. Justice Scalia won't even

return my calls, though all 'No.2' has to do is cough and he comes running."

The ACLU is representing the 4th Amendment in its suit against the executive branch, as part of the civil liberties group's continuing campaign to file as many lawsuits as possible in the desperate hope of actually influencing something. According to an ACLU spokesman, the current strategy is to try and sign up the other members of the Bill of Rights to testify against the Bush administration.

"We're pretty happy with the response we've had so far," the ACLU spokesman told reporters, "No.6 [the right to a speedy trial] will testify if we can get the case up swiftly, but No.7 [trial by jury] has said she will be there no matter what - she loves a good courtroom drama. We persuaded No.8 [no cruel and unusual punishment] to give evidence by telling him there was no way the court would be able to retaliate against him. No.1 [pretty much everything you hold dear] was obviously on board from the get-go."

The spokesman did concede, however, that some of the other amendments were a little more troublesome. No.5 [no forced self-incrimination] is refusing to answer any questions on principle, while No.10 [states' rights] says it's nothing to do with him. No.2 was not approached in case he was in a bad mood, and Nos. 3 and 9 were not asked, as nobody could remember what they did.

The question of whether or not the 4th Amendment was denied its own rights is expected to come before the US Supreme Court during its current session. However, it is not clear that the 4th Amendment will appear before the court in person. When asked about this during the press conference, the amendment became visibly distressed: "I'm sorry, I hate to get so emotional about it all, it's just the whole episode - it makes me feel violated." ●

## For Some Reason, Roommate Really Hates Joe Piscopo

*‘So of course, I ask him who Joe Piscopo is. Oh boy, if there’s one thing I regret since coming to college . . .’*

by **CLAIBE DEMING**

From the outside, everything appears normal on Vandy 4. Taking a stroll down the hall, the casual observer would take in the usual dorm sights—doors personalized with Family Guy quotes, Halo tournaments and the occasional passed-out freshman being dragged away by paramedics. However, the normal exterior belies an eccentric secret. According to freshman Alex Franklin, his roommate Roy Wyman really hates Joe Piscopo, the actor and comedian who briefly gained fame as a member of the cast of Saturday Night Live from 1980-1984.

“Now, I’ve had friends before that would go on the occasional rant about how they could take Jean-Claude Van Damme, or how they’d like to throttle Ashlee Simpson, but those are usually just passing moments of spite, not the intense, burning rage that seems to be fueling Roy. I mean, I thought he was just a little more into it than most—that is, before I saw the website.” Franklin said, referring to [www.diepiscopo.com](http://www.diepiscopo.com), his roommates’ self-described “Anti-Piscopo Database”.

According to Franklin, Wyman “seemed normal enough” at first, but quickly began to show signs of his peculiar fixation. “We’d been rooming together for, like, three days when ‘We Didn’t Start the Fire’ came up on my iTunes and suddenly [Wyman] whips around and says ‘Is that Billy Joel?’ as if I’d just let one rip. I thought he just wasn’t a Billy Joel fan until he continued with ‘I can’t stand that douchebag. Did you know that he had Joe Piscopo in his “Keepin’ the Faith” music video?’ So of course, I ask him who Joe Piscopo is. Oh boy, if there’s one thing I regret

since coming to college . . .”

Wyman has been known to rant for hours on end about every facet of Piscopo’s professional and personal life, including his “total brown-nosing kiss-ass buttbuddy” relationship with Frank Sinatra, who Piscopo impersonated often on Saturday Night Live, his “god-awful” movie American Tickler, his steroid controversy in the early 1990s, and his decision to live in New Jersey.

It is difficult to trace the source of Wyman’s deep-seated hatred. According to some sources, Wyman is known to be a big fan of the movie “Sidekicks,” so it’s possible that he has confused Piscopo’s personality with that of his character Kelly Stone. However, Franklin dismisses this idea. “Roy just likes ‘Sidekicks’ because he loves seeing Piscopo get his ass kicked. I swear, I must’ve watched that fucking scene three hundred times by now.” Wyman has also been known to rant about Joe remaining on Saturday Night Live after the disastrous 1980 season, when all cast members save Piscopo and Eddie Murphy were given the axe. Wyman names Charles Rocket, Denny Dillon, Gilbert Gottfried and Ann Risley as all being superior to Piscopo, causing some to speculate if he just loves that particular season and blames Piscopo for its failure.

At any rate, the mysteries surrounding Wyman’s obsession with Piscopo are unlikely to be solved since his untimely departure from Vanderbilt last Thursday. The sudden turn of events has left Franklin with unanswered questions, a large single and a philosophic outlook. “One day your roommate seems normal; the next he’s being hauled away by police for sending threatening letters to Joe Piscopo. Man, that’s some weird shit.”

## SLANTHOROSCOPES

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

You will find a whole new meaning to the phrase “the walls are closing in on me” as your history class gets downgraded to a smaller room due to high student withdrawals.

### Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

Your New Year’s resolution to date the hot esurance girl with pink hair will hit a snag when you realize she’s animated.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

Book smarts will only get you so far. Then you’ll have to rely on your street smarts to survive. This isn’t really universal advice, though, so only pass it along to your fellow well-read hookers.

### Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):

You should really take the hint when John McCain speaks out against the Bush administration for allowing people to have sex with you.

### Aries (March 21-April 19):

You will suffer a horrible accident after trying to recreate what you see on FOX’s “Figure-skating with Celebrities”.

### Taurus (April 20-May 20):

Ass-Crack!

### Gemini (May 21-June 21):

In hindsight, talking about your illegal activities while on a phone call to Iraq wasn’t a very well thought out plan.

### Cancer (June 22-July 22):

Worlds will collide when your parents mistake the Slant’s “Bolshevik Bash” party for a Communist party meeting.

### Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):

You will break down in tears in realizing that all the front-runner teams have been eliminated from the playoffs. . . thus making watching the playoffs horribly not cool.

### Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

Despite your best efforts, you cannot get rid of the Margarita mix that came with your bottle of Tarantula.

### Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23):

Despite your recent success with the remake of King Kong, no one wants to see your six hour remake of Citizen Kane.

### Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21):

Oh whattya know? The Colts didn’t even MAKE it to the Super Bowl! Guess you owe a certain *Slant* writer \$10 now doesn’t it?

<http://www.theslant.net>

16 January 2006

To the members of the Vanderbilt community:

The last issue of *The Slant* contained content many readers found offensive. While it was not our intent to offend, satire occasionally misses its mark and we have as a result failed our audience. To any readers we have offended, again, we offer our sincere apology. We would also like to apologize for the article in question as well as to make it clear that it does not reflect the views of *The Slant's* editors or its staff.

In order to minimize the harm caused the Vanderbilt community by the last issue, all copies of the last issue of *The Slant* have been recalled by the editors and those pulled from the racks were destroyed. We as a staff have discussed the means by which we produce content and while we will understand if those who were hurt decline to read this publication in the future, we are dedicated to making sure that mistakes such as that of the last issue never happen again.

We did not have a chance to apologize in the pages of this publication prior to break; we regret that but at the same time we thank those who give us another chance to succeed where we failed previously. Again, any comments, questions, complaints, or statements are welcome.

Ceaf Lewis  
Editor-in-Chief  
*The Slant*