



OPINION: Boyle rails against Pelosi's proposal for state-sponsored contraception. [SEE PAGE 6](#)

SPORTS: Rutz waxes poetic at the end of a four-game losing streak for men's basketball. [SEE PAGE 8](#)

Assessing the real price of coal



ERIC GLASSER / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt's coal-burning plant provides heating and cooling for the 5.8 million square feet that is campus, including dorms, classrooms and the Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

by **SIMON HIRSCH**
News Reporter

President Barack Obama's inauguration last month and a December coal spill in Kingston, Tenn., have brought increased focus on the safety of coal burning here at Vanderbilt.

Obama's energy plan aims to simultaneously provide short-term relief to American families, eliminate current imports from the Middle East and Venezuela, and create green jobs for Americans.

Currently, Obama's policy calls for the implementation of an economy-wide cap-and-trade program, which provides

economic incentives to achieve emissions reductions. The president's plans call into question the energy efficiency of Vanderbilt University, which harnesses energy from coal as the means of fueling the campus.

Coal is an extremely cheap and efficient fuel source, according to Mark Petty, assistant vice chancellor of operations, and Mike Vandenberg, professor of law and director of the Climate Change Research Network. But improper storage of coal ash — the toxic byproduct of coal burning — can result in events similar to the recent ash

spill in Kingston, Tenn., which caused high concentration levels of toxins to enter the environment.

Vanderbilt's single coal-burning plant, complete with three coal-fired boilers, provides heating and cooling services to 5.8 million square feet of academic, administrative, residential and recreational space. It also provides grounds care for 330 acres to protect the university's registered arboretum, turf care for athletic fields and utilities services for the Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

The Vanderbilt plant combines coal and exhaust heat

to deliver electricity throughout the premises.

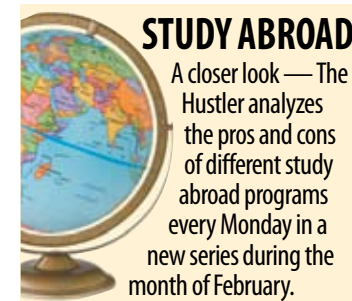
"(Coal is) a very viable fuel source, especially compared to natural gas, coal is at least 50 percent cheaper per BTU," Petty said.

Coal's attractiveness as a fuel source stems from the fact that the coal source is usually located near its destination, which makes coal transport more efficient. Close proximity is why 50 percent of the electricity produced in America is produced with coal. The plants at Vanderbilt receive their coal from eastern Kentucky, Petty said.

Please see **COAL**, page 4

Studying abroad: Summer or semester

by **CHRISTEL MARINCICH**
Senior Reporter



STUDY ABROAD

A closer look — The Hustler analyzes the pros and cons of different study abroad programs every Monday in a new series during the month of February.

Vanderbilt's Global Education Office offers over 100 programs across the globe for students wanting to study abroad. According to Ara Pachmayer, director of the GEO, most of the programs are offered during the academic year, while there are usually only 10 to 12 Maymester programs and 20 summer programs.

Summer abroad programs are in diverse cities in Asia, Europe and South America, and most programs begin in late May or early August, and the tuition and fees are approximately \$8,000.

Semester abroad programs are offered in Europe, South America, the South Pacific, Asia, the Middle East, North America, the Caribbean and Africa. The costs fluctuate, but are usually \$18,000.

Pachmayer said students typically opt to study during their junior year in the fall or spring in Western Europe.

"It is so easy for students to study during the academic year (because) they get direct credit, and there are so many options. It is much easier for students to study in a semester, but in the end, it is a personal choice whether summer or a semester is better," Pachmayer said.

According to Pachmayer, 600 students — a majority of who are women — study abroad during the year.

While many students prefer to study during the academic year, there are both pros and cons to studying abroad during the summer or the academic year.

"I chose to study in the fall because it worked well with my schedule and is the traditional time for students to go abroad," said junior Blake McKeey, who works as a peer adviser for GEO and studied in Siena, Italy

in 2008. McKeey said a major disadvantage, however, was missing out on a semester at Vanderbilt.

Many students believe an advantage to studying during the year is the length of time spent abroad.

"I would recommend a semester program. I think the increased amount of time you have really helps in getting to know the town, and becoming a part of it," said junior and peer adviser Katherine Precht, who studied in St. Andrews, Scotland during the fall semester in 2008.

"Maymesters and summer programs are much shorter and can infringe on someone's ability to participate in internships or jobs during the summer," said senior Gustavo De Pena, who studied in Brazil in the spring of 2008. "The semester programs are longer, a fact that benefits anyone pursuing improvement in a foreign language. And it is important to point out that some programs such as Sao Paulo Brazil are not offered as part of the summer program mix."

Some students still think a summer experience can be beneficial because of academic constraints.

"Because of my major requirements I am not comfortable with leaving campus during the academic year and still be able to acquire the correct amount of hours," said sophomore Teresa Temkin who is interested in studying abroad next year. ■

College Halls on hold in wake of financial struggles

COLLEGE HALLS TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER 1999 Then-Provost Thomas Burish appoints a committee to study a residential college system for Vanderbilt.	FALL 2000 The committee issues an initial proposal for a residential college system, which has since been modified.	2004 Architects are hired to design the first-year concept. Students name it "The Commons" and opt to call the 10 residence halls "houses."	SPRING 2005 Five existing residence halls are being converted to houses and five new houses and a dining center are being built as part of The Commons.	FALL 2006 Crawford and Sutherland, two of the five new houses, will open for sophomores on Peabody.	FALL 2007 Renovations to the existing residence halls on Peabody are finished.	FALL 2008 The Commons is finished and welcomes the entire 2008 first-year student class.	DATE UNKNOWN Demolition of Kissam Quadrangle will begin in order to clear land for the construction of two new college halls.
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by **HANNAH TWILLMAN**
News Editor

One of the first tangible consequences of the university's current financial situation is the indefinite postponement of the next phase of the College Halls initiative.

The tearing down and replacement of Kissam Quadrangle with two new college halls will have to wait.

In a letter sent to the Vanderbilt community on Jan. 28, Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos said all construction

projects not yet begun were delayed indefinitely in light of the current economic downturn and its effect on the university's endowment.

According to Richard McCarty, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, officials had planned to begin the Kissam project in the summer of 2010 but now have no set start date.

"It's just not the right time to take on a significant cost that would allow us to demolish the current Kissam Quad area and then construct two college halls

on that side," McCarty said. "We are committed to doing it but have to wait for an uptake in the economy to really undertake that project."

According to Associate Provost of College Halls Susan Barge, this delay has not completely deterred the progress of the College Halls program. Even before the economic struggles began in September, the project was still in a planning and fundraising stage and demolition could not begin until the project had met its fundraising goal.

Barge said she plans to take advantage of this hold on the project in order to plan the College Halls program's future in more detail. She said she wants to maintain a focus on talking to students and getting their input on what they want to see in residential living.

"As far as the project goes, our planning is just going to get even more aggressive. This economic downturn is not going to slow anything down," Barge said. "... The good news is Vanderbilt is going to be really positioned to really take off when the

economy does improve because of this kind of planning. ... I think it'll be an even better project because of the planning taking place right now."

Part of this reflection period will be used to examine the reactions to the first months of The Commons and also to listen to students about what they want from their upperclass experience, according to Barge. Like in the planning of The Commons, Barge wants students to be very involved in the future of the College Halls in order to create the

best possible undergraduate experience.

For now, Barge said they are being very deliberate in their planning and in gathering feedback from students to look for ideas that would not otherwise be obvious.

McCarty said he is also hopeful for the future of College Halls.

"If all goes well, we'll start to see cranes over in the Kissam site. Until then, we're going to try to make that a really great place to live to the extent we can," he said. ■

CAMPUS LIVING: Midyear evaluation on The Commons project and a look ahead to next year's housing. [SEE PAGE 4](#)

insideVANDY

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SNAPSHOTS

compiled by HANNAH TWILLMAN

WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

TODAY



HIGH **44**, LOW **23**
A.M. light snow

THURSDAY



HIGH **30**, LOW **19**
Mostly cloudy

FRIDAY



HIGH **31**, LOW **19**
Mostly sunny

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Nashville jury convicts Barrett for 1975 murder of Vanderbilt student

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A jury has convicted an ex-convict with a history of sex crimes in the murder of a Vanderbilt University coed in 1975, and he now awaits another trial in what's considered Nashville's most notorious slaying.

Criminal Court jurors deliberated less than three hours Friday morning before returning the first-degree murder conviction and a sentence of life in prison for 61-year-old Jerome Barrett. He showed no emotion when the verdict was read, and conferred briefly with his attorney.

Barrett was convicted of killing Sarah Des Prez, 19, who was found suffocated in her Nashville apartment. The defense presented no witnesses after prosecutors told jurors there was a DNA match in the case.

Barrett, who recently lived in Memphis, is separately charged in the slaying of 9-year-old Marcia Trimble, who disappeared while delivering Girl Scout cookies around the same time Des Prez was found dead.

Biological sciences professor wins Sigma Xi Young Investigator Award

Brandt F. Eichman, assistant professor of biological sciences and biochemistry, was recently awarded Sigma Xi's Young Investigator Award for his work on how proteins recognize and manipulate the structure of DNA during replication and repair.

An international honor society for science and engineering, Sigma Xi strives to promote an understanding of the sciences and the human condition.

Eichman cites the support of his colleagues and Vanderbilt as a great factor for his winning the award.

"I don't know if I would have received that award if I had been at a different institution, and I see it as a recognition for my department and the school in general," said Eichman.

Eichman said he hopes the award will earn recognition both for his work and for his department.

"Hopefully students that don't know that we're doing what we're doing might catch wind of it, and if they're interested hopefully they will join our team and help us out," Eichman said. "We've been fortunate to have great undergraduate and graduate students working with us in the lab and we're always looking for more."

VUT's "The Country Wife" to kick off 2009 season, debuts on Feb. 13

Vanderbilt Theater is kicking off its 2009 season with the Restoration comedy, "The Country Wife," which premieres Feb. 13. "The Country Wife" is a 300-year-old performance that has remained relevant to viewers of all ages through its timeless wit and the performers' interaction with the audience. Although it appears outdated at first, explained director Jon Hallquist to VUCast, the comedic aspect is similar to modern plays. "The Country Wife" will be performed in Neely Auditorium at 8 p.m. on Feb. 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21, and at 2 p.m. on Feb. 15. Tickets are free to undergrads.

WEEKLY COLUMN

Headline rundown: How Claire sees it

CLAIRE CONSTANTINO
Columnist

One man's garbage is a struggling university's new endowment source. In light of the recent news about the impending loss of \$1 billion from Vanderbilt's endowment, university officials should consider taking a lesson from some international examples to recoup their shortfall. A Berlin bank recently found over 100,000 euros lying in a safe in a pile of equipment intended for the scrap lot. A sewage treatment facility outside Tokyo has been yielding higher returns of gold than Japan's top-producing mine because of all the manufacturing equipment that is thrown away in the vicinity. Perhaps this news will inspire our investment managers to leave the stock market and start rummaging through their trash.

Snail mail is about to get even slower. The U.S. Postal Service recently announced that the poor economy might force them to cut mail delivery from six to five days per week. This news came as a major blow to... junk mail producers and your grandmother. I hate to be the one to bring this tragic news to you, but prepare yourself for the day when you have to wait just a little bit longer to get your \$5 birthday check from Nana and the catalogue from "Ye Olde Shoppe of Commemorative Knick Knacks." Note to Postal Service public relations division and the media: It's 2009. This did not deserve to be the lead story during a news cycle that includes a new president, a Senate bailout bill, a tanking economy and, oh yeah, aren't we involved in some wars?

Sarah Palin is back! Love her or hate her (I belong in the latter category), you have to admire Palin's resilience. Everyone's favorite political punch line is venturing into the political forum once again with the launch of her political action committee, SarahPAC. Their policy objectives don't get more specific than "building a better, stronger and safer America," so it is sort of hard to tell if she has no real ideas or if the whole thing was just launched as a last-minute joke. Look forward to some folksy and adorable (but vague) political action from this group. Despite losing the election by 190 Electoral College votes, Palin apparently still hears a call to service from the nation. I hope Tina Fey soon hears a similar call to mock from Saturday Night Live audiences.

Obama's cabinet sucks at math. First it was Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and now it's Tom Daschle. Taxes are tricky for these two, I guess. Geithner failed to pay some self-employment taxes and now there is a \$128,000 dollar mistake on Daschle's tax returns. Perhaps Obama should start offering accounting tutoring to his cabinet members to prevent future "mistakes." This is a disappointment for everyone hoping the Obama White House would be less problem-ridden than it's predecessor, but it is an even bigger letdown for people hoping Democrats would quit having boring scandals. Tax problems? I expected more from the party that once gave oral sex a hilarious prominence in the national dialogue. If you must break the rules, at least do something interesting. ■

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, FEB. 2

• "The Reaper's Garden"

Listen to guest speaker Vincent Brown partner with the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities to speak about perceptions of Atlantic slavery and the meaning of life in the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center auditorium at 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 3

• International Lens Film Series

The ILFS presents "AIDS Jaago," an Indian movie to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS. The movie will be shown in Sarratt Cinema at 7 p.m. and is free to students. A discussion with Vanderbilt professors will follow.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4

• International Lens Film Series

"The Land of Milk and Honey," a documentary about Israel's folk culture, will be shown in Sarratt Cinema at 7 p.m. and is free to students.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

• Beat Bama Tailgate

Vandy Fanatics and the First-Year Leaders Program will host their first annual basketball "tailgate" for the men's home basketball game against Alabama in the Branscomb lobby from 4-5:45 p.m. Giveaways include Vandy Fanatics T-shirts and fast food, such as Chick-Fil-A.

• Harambee

The African Student Union will celebrate with traditional fashion, music and dances at this festival honoring African heritage at 7 p.m. in the Student Life Center ballroom. Tickets are \$7 and proceeds will benefit the Kasiisi project.

SNAPSHOT

WHAT WILL THE GROUNDHOG SAY?



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Unseasonably warm weather Sunday afternoon drew students out of their dorms and into the sunshine. First-year students Rachel Hervatin, Ali Thomas and Ari Hedrick study on the Peabody Lawn as the temperature passed 60 degrees in the afternoon.



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COAL: Petty says coal is safe form of energy

From **COAL**, page 1
 “Coal is cheap as currently priced and is useful to heat and cool buildings,” said Vandenberg.

While coal provides the Vanderbilt community with an invaluable source of energy, the ash spill at Tennessee Valley Authority’s Kingston Fossil Plant on Dec. 22 is an example of possible coal-related problems.

According to Petty, coal contains several heavy metals and when burned these metals are concentrated into ash as levels much higher than found in the natural environment.

“In Kingston, Tenn., the ash had been collected for over 50 years, which had created a considerable amount. It was placed in a retaining pool and flooded to control fly ash. When the retaining walls gave way, the sludge containing the concentrated heavy metals washed over a rather large area and the river. The heavy metals were deposited across the land,

river and wells in dangerous levels,” Petty said.

The situation in Kingston raises questions about the safety of being on a campus energized by a coal-burning plant, but Petty said the ash — the source of the environmental problems — is not kept on campus.

“Vanderbilt sells its ash to a mulch company, which uses it as an adder to their mulch. We do not store our ash on campus or anywhere else,” Petty said.

Vandenberg, however, said he thinks the recent events in Kingston should serve as an example of the potential consequences of coal burning.

“Why are we using and wasting so much coal-based electricity? (The coal-ash release in Kingston) is important as a reminder that the full cost of storing coal ash waste and of the harms from CO2 production, which are not being paid for in current dollars, but we will pay for the environmental consequences in the future,” he said. ■

S’mores for Sutherland



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

First-year students Christine Stroud and Catherine Garvey toast s’mores during a fundraiser for Sutherland House on The Commons Center promenade Friday night.

Housing clarifies process for first-years

by **ETHEL MICKEY**
Senior Reporter

The Office of Housing and Residential Education helped to ensure that students, especially first-year students, have a grasp on the housing selection process by hosting two information sessions Thursday.

One of the information sessions was held on Peabody campus in Gillette House, and approximately 30 students attended. Director of Housing Assignments Jason Jakubowski began by addressing students’ questions, which mainly dealt with rumors circulating around campus. Questions included whether all first-year students would end up

in Kissam Quadrangle, if Branscomb Quadrangle has cinder block walls and if students receive extra points for campus involvement.

“I was thinking of applying for a single, but I heard that I would end up in Kissam, which has mold and ringworms. I don’t want to get stuck living there,” said first-year student Corey Riffin, one of the students who attended the information session.

“Will any of you get Towers suites? It’s very unlikely. Not all of you will end up in ‘The Slammer (Kissam),’ but there are 586 singles in Kissam, so with the way the numbers work out, there will be some sophomores living there next year. Does Branscomb have cinder walls? Yes,” said Jakubowski.

Jakubowski also discussed the Living and Learning Communities, explaining that five to 10 students can live in singles together in Vanderbilt/Barnard Halls as part of the new VIP program. He explained that students wanting to live in a LLC have to create a project, but because this is the first year, the project can be about anything that interests them.

Jakubowski reinforced Housing’s main goal: to make sure every student is happy with where they end up. “We want to find the right fit for everybody, so you can focus on what’s important — doing well in the classroom,” Jakubowski said.

At the end of the session, many first-years felt more comfortable with the

process.

“After the session, I feel a lot better about the whole thing. I was hoping to live in a group of five next year, but I didn’t think it would be possible. He mentioned the VIP program, which might be the best way to go about the process,” Riffin said.

The head residents of The Commons have paired with Housing to set up tours of dorms on Alumni Lawn and Kissam Quadrangle.

Housing will also be releasing a printed guide to the assignment process that will be distributed to student mailboxes this week. The booklet will include guidelines, floor plans of each residence hall and important registration dates. ■

Vandy’s latest magazine

by **EPPA RIXEY**
News Reporter

When sophomore Lauren Junge came to Vanderbilt in the fall she noticed something was missing from campus: fashion.

After transferring from Sarah Lawrence College and immersing herself in Vandy culture by getting involved in many campus activities such as GlamourGals and Fashion for a Cause, Junge said she found there was no medium for communicating the fashion and culture that differentiates Vanderbilt.



JUNGE

Junge is spearheading Vanderbilt Fashion Quarterly, a new fashion and style magazine focused on the Vanderbilt community, to address this gap.

She said she decided to attempt to start what would become VFQ over Thanksgiving break after talking to her father, who owns Streamline Graphics Inc. She began working on the magazine soon after, writing an extensive 13-page proposal and preparing a presentation to give to the Vanderbilt Student Communications Inc. board. The new magazine was approved as a probationary division of VSC on Dec. 8.

Junge said she hopes VFQ will be a “platform for creativity” that unifies the student body. She said the magazine’s goal is to be a resource for a wide variety of people.

“Creative people need two things, space to be creative in and rigid guidelines on how to be creative,” said Junge, who also stressed the importance of student involvement in the magazine.

“Make it what you want, it’s your publication,” she said. “This should truly be a publication of the people, by the people and for the people.”

Her belief that fashion is an important and universal facet of life at Vanderbilt is echoed in VFQ’s mission statement: “Fashion transcends everyone at Vanderbilt from its students, professors, administrators, Greek life, sports teams and even the surrounding community. VFQ captures the style that is uniquely Vanderbilt.”

After holding interest meetings in Sarratt Student Center and The Commons, VFQ is beginning to gain momentum by attracting over 60 interested students. More information can be found at the VFQ Web site: <http://www.vfquarterly.com>. ■

Upperclassmen, first-years feel the distance from Commons to main

by **HAYLEY KARLAN**
News Reporter

One semester into the inaugural year of The Commons, students and faculty alike are reflecting on the progress of the living-learning experience. One criticism students have raised is the feeling of disconnect between upperclassmen and first-year students.

The goal of The Commons, which opened in August as first-year students moved in for the first time, was to transcend the ordinary dorm and foster community and friendship among the first-year class by having students live and learn together in one residence.

This is the first year the first-year students have been housed in one central area. In addition to the close proximity of the first-year students on a daily basis, there was also a weeklong orientation, numerous house bonding activities and special Commons programs such as Music in The Commons and Election GameDay to foster friendships amongst the students.

While first-year students have had opportunities to bond with one another on Peabody campus, they have been separated from the upperclass students on main campus for the first time. Distanced by a 15-minute walk and a bridge, The Commons is far from main campus, and with its unique activities and unprecedented

living conditions, students say it is truly its own world.

“Sometimes I feel isolated. The fact that we have our class around us is a good thing because we can bond as freshmen, but at the same time that’s only 25 percent of the school and it makes it harder to be a part of the main campus community,” said first-year student Allison Buterbaugh.

Many students have complained that the physical separation between The Commons and main campus makes it difficult for first-years to connect with upperclassmen, and Dean of the Commons Frank Wcislo hopes to alleviate this problem in coming years.

“We are interested in creating more of a positive presence for upperclass students on The Commons, make more of our events open to them (and) work harder at recruiting student VUceptors and resident advisers who can help to bring to first-year students a greater sense that they support the first-years and are working to assure them that they are not isolated,” said Wcislo.

Although there was a wealth of activities on The Commons this year, there have yet to be many programs involving both first-years and upperclassmen.

Some students said they think simplest solution to the isolation problem may be to increase the communication between main campus and The Commons.

“For a while, things on main

campus weren’t publicized on The Commons. I didn’t know about Tortellini Tuesday until November,” Buterbaugh said.

Wcislo said he thinks after a few years when more classes have lived on The Commons, it will be easier to create a sense of understanding and connection between main campus and The Commons. Right now, The Commons is a foreign experience to upperclassmen.

“When you talk to upperclassmen it’s clear how different our experience is compared to theirs. They didn’t have the house experience that we have had,” said first-year student Tiffany Tieu.

Wcislo said it is important to remember this is the first year of The Commons system and there will be changes and additions over the coming years.

“We’re beginning to think about the second draft, based on the experience this year. The Commons is an evolving project because it is an evolving community,” Wcislo said.

There has been a tremendous amount of work and energy put into making The Commons an enriching living-learning community for first-year students, according to Wcislo. In the coming years, the challenge will be to unite Peabody and main campus and create a cohesive living-learning community that encompasses all of Vanderbilt. ■



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Programming like the battle of the bands fundraiser event for Dance Marathon at the Commons Center held Friday evening provide first-year students a chance to bond.



CHRIS PHARE, ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

First-year student Carly Bigi returns to The Commons from Greek Row on the VandyVan on Friday shortly after midnight at the VandyVan stop next to Hank Ingram House.



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SELECTION PROCESS

After a screening process, 30 proposals will be chosen and their respective representatives interviewed. From the 30 proposals, 20 will be selected.

CONTACT PERSON

Charleson Bell, Program Coordinator
charleson.bell@vanderbilt.edu

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CONTACT PERSON

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kerrie.turney@vanderbilt.edu

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CONTACT PERSON

Anja Bandas, Program Director
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The Leadership Hall provides students a chance to hone their leadership skills through exposure to theory, hands-on experience, service learning, and group projects.

APPLICATIONS

- Available **NOW** from Branscomb (BQ) Office 4113
- DUE to BQ 4113 **Mon, March 9**

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications will be reviewed by the Office of Leadership Development and Intercultural Affairs (LDIA). There is no interview process.

CONTACT PERSON

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OPINION

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Equal pay for equal workload



NEILY TODD
Columnist

Change doesn't necessarily mean progress. A move in a negative direction is a change in the same way a move in a positive direction is a change. What's more, change takes time. Knowing change doesn't always equal progress and that change takes time, I was very curious to see what would come of President Barack Obama's first few days in office. Would people like the changes they saw? Would people become disheartened if noticeable results were not immediately clear? How would the reality of Obama's change take shape?

It has now been almost two weeks since Obama's first day in office, and I am pleased to see how quickly he has hit the ground running. While not surprised at Obama's ambition, typically the bigger a politician's promises are, the more skeptical I become. Changing a nation is a big promise — one I was doubtful anyone could tackle. Though of course it remains true some of Obama's bigger changes, such as his economic efforts, will not take shape until much later down the road, his early changes are quickly softening this skeptic's heart.

Last Thursday, Obama signed into law the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which essentially overturns a 2007 Supreme Court decision denying Alabama resident Lilly Ledbetter the chance to seek due recompense upon discovering the sizable pay disparity between her and her male co-workers for 19 years. The Supreme Court's decision required that discrimination claims be filed within 180 days of the company's initial discriminatory decision. Obama's new law extends the statute of limitations an additional 180 days with each new unfair paycheck. With the old law, workers were essentially being punished for not knowing they were receiving lower pay than their counterparts. As long as a company could hide the pay discrimination for 180 days, they were safe from suit.

Opponents of the new law may argue that extending the statute of limitations in this manner is unfair to companies who may no longer employ the managers who made the discriminatory decisions in the first place. This argument falls short however in the knowledge that companies are liable for the bad decisions made by managers. If at one time a discriminatory decision was made under the company's name, it is their responsibility to provide just retribution.

It is shocking that in 2009 women are still clamoring for equal pay for equal work. According to U.S. Census Bureau data, women earn 78 cents for every dollar men earn doing the same work. What rational thinking person can justify the \$200,000 Ledbetter lost over the course of her 19-year employment? If a woman is capable of doing the same job as a man, and I assume the company believes her to be if she is hired for it, she should be paid the same amount.

Discrimination on all fronts — race, gender, religion, age — is an issue which our country has been fighting to overcome since its founding. The push for equal rights is one that continues to this day. Pay discrimination should be of concern to all Americans, not just women. What father wants to see his daughter paid less simply because of her sex? Obama puts it nicely saying, "Equal pay is by no means just a women's issue; it's a family issue, and in this economy, when so many folks are already working harder for less and struggling to get by, the last thing they can afford is losing part of each month's paycheck to simple and plain discrimination." America is long overdue in granting paychecks free of discrimination.

—Neily Todd is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at neily.p.todd@vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL

Power plant does not pose serious risk

The recent ash spills in Kingston, Tenn., brought an under-discussed topic to the forefront in some student's minds: the safety of having a coal-fired power plant on campus. Admittedly, there is some inherent risk, however low, due to the nature of the mechanism (exhaust gases, high-pressure steam, etc.). Not to mention, a large amount of ash is caught and kept temporarily in the filtration system. It is reasonable for students to be concerned; that is not say, however, there is any imminent danger.

Mark Petty, assistant vice chancellor of operations, mentions coal is a relatively cheap and efficient fuel source, especially when compared to alternatives such as natural gas. As far as safety is concerned, there is a system of ash traps and scrubbers, theoretically

preventing the more hazardous elements from being released into the air. Furthermore, the coal being burned is better in quality than many other commercial coal power plants, including those run by the Tennessee Valley Authority. As the administration would probably agree, the dangers posed are limited and the rewards (i.e. power) are sufficient.

The ash does consider heavy metals such as lead and antimony, which do pose serious environmental hazards, but there is little risk of exposure provided the filtration systems are maintained. That really being the issue: proper maintenance. As long as the various systems, turbines, pipes, scrubbers and so forth, are maintained, the risk of anything serious happening is minimal if not negligible.

Seriously, Nancy?



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

With the inauguration of President Barack Obama, the anniversary of Roe v. Wade and FOCA looming over their heads, pro-lifers have had a lot on their plate lately. Last week Speaker Nancy Pelosi was of no help when she openly defended the inclusion of contraceptives in the government's economic stimulus package. She argued "contraception will reduce costs to the state and to the federal government." Other than those few words, Pelosi did not defend or really even explain her reasoning. That is probably because she couldn't.

Morally, contraception is a touchy subject. Whether for health reasons, convenience or as a "just in case," many single women and married couples depend upon different forms of birth control in the lives that they lead. Most women and families lean upon contraception for financial reasons. Obviously, "family planning" is completely legal in this country, but having the United States government financially support it is a different issue, and using economic stimulus as an excuse does not make much sense.

Pelosi's reasoning can be interpreted as: children born to the wrong people can be burdens upon the economic state. Pelosi, with five children of her own, placed financial support of "family planning organizations" on a top list of ways to bring our economy back to order, as if to say children who cause financial stress for their families are a main reason for the trouble the U.S. is facing.

While child rearing may be an expensive stress upon individual American families during a troubling time, it is hard to argue it is a burden upon the economy as a whole. Taking all morality out of the picture, it is hard to say our economic state would look much better if these babies were not even born.

First of all, population growth stimulates the

economy. When in history has a shrinking population ever led to economic growth? America is having enough trouble dealing with the "baby-boomers" reaching Social Security age, and the future is looking even bleaker. Cutting down on the population even more would not help. Also, looking at it from another economic perspective, more people means more workers, and as long as productivity is kept at a good level, output will increase. More people also means higher demand, which does more for stimulating an economy. It is dangerous to be small-minded, because while children may be a financial burden for families now, the future of America can not afford to lose even more.

You can also just to throw a little heart into it and think about human potential. It grows every day, and it is no secret that with the education programs expanding throughout the United States, human capital becomes more valuable with every generation. It is possible for a child raised in a broken home to grow from their past. Our current president did that, and he has already broken barriers that have changed the world we live in. The choice to use contraception could have done away with that in a second, and just think about where our country would be now. Women should not feel guilty for letting every opportunity to get pregnant go to waste, but it is interesting to think about the potential that runs through us.

Contraception is a tough issue, but Pelosi still had no logical reason to support it as an addition to the economic stimulus plan. Her statement may have been motivated by financial support from different groups like Planned Parenthood, but either way, her reasoning, and the reasoning of other Congressional leaders, gives us reason to question the leadership of the government during these trying times.

—Frannie Boyle is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached mary.f.boyle@vanderbilt.edu.

Learning from history



CAROLYN PIPPEN
Columnist

I have this very distinct memory of several history teachers throughout my childhood beginning every year with the same question: Why do we study history? I love the idea that this subject requires an annual disclaimer as if it is self-aware of the fact no seventh grader gives a crap about anything that happened before breakfast. Like most kids, the lessons on Thomas Jefferson and the Constitution didn't stick with me long, but for some reason that first question did. Why do we study history? To learn from our mistakes.

Well friends, it's officially Black History Month, so let's get to studying! This month provides an opportunity to reflect not only upon a race and culture, which has so richly contributed to our social makeup, but also upon those moments of hatred and discrimination in our past from which we as a nation have learned innumerable lessons.

For example, did you know that during the pre-Civil War era, marriages between blacks were unrecognized by the state? Slaves often performed private ceremonies in secret, but such unions lacked the force of the law and certainly carried no legal benefits. Interracial marriage remained unlawful in several states up until the federal lifting of the ban in 1967. While certainly an unsightly blemish in American history, I am steadfast in the belief that no one group of people will ever again be so unjustly denied the right to marry another in this country, the land of the free.

Another area in which we have learned from black history is in regard to the universal right to serve in the armed forces without fear of discrimination. In one of the most ridiculous examples of social oppression I can think of, it wasn't until a 1948 executive order that blacks and whites were permitted to serve side by side in our nation's defense. It was said that the mixing of the two groups would cause disruption within the unit and compromise the soldiers' ability to serve. Yes, it disrupted the unit. The unit got over it. And never again will we think of discouraging an American from joining the military purely for a demographic variable in no way relevant to his ability to serve.

One of the reasons for which I am so grateful for the end of legal discrimination against blacks is recognition of their contributions to our culture that resulted from it. In the 1800's, for example, black dance was parodied in all-white minstrel shows before it survived to influence forms such as tap, contemporary and hip-hop. Jazz itself was considered to be a lowly musical genre, more fitting to brothels and street corners than radio shows and concert halls. I for one am grateful for the strength and survival of these cultural elements, and I am proud to live in a time in which every form of performance, from West End to Music Row to Church Street, is regarded as true art and treated with the utmost respect.

So here's to Black History Month, may we all take time in the next few weeks to reflect upon and celebrate the lessons learned from the mistakes we have made in our nation's troubled past. And here's to all those elementary school teachers who tried so desperately to keep me awake in class, in the hopes that someday I might put these lessons to use.

Thank goodness they make us study our history. Otherwise we might be doomed to repeat it.

—Carolyn Phippen is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at Carolyn.m.pippen@vanderbilt.edu.

THE VERDICT		
Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff! Compiled by Thomas Shattuck		
Human waste		A sewage treatment facility in central Japan has recorded a higher gold yield from sludge than can be found at some of the world's best mines.
Intelligence		A thief drilled his way into a French bank but missed the safe and instead found himself in a lavatory where he was promptly arrested. Apparently he thought he was going to end up in a room housing safe deposit boxes.
Irony		A blaze broke out at a fire station in Japan this week after a firefighter left a cooking stove burning as crew members left the station to respond to emergency calls.
Indecent exposure		A couple treated diners to a 15-minute naked parade in Singapore, triggering both embarrassment and applause. If convicted under Singapore law, they could face a fine of maximum fine of \$1,330, up to three months in jail or both.
Hippocratic Oath		"Cello scrotum," a nasty ailment allegedly suffered by musicians, does not exist and the condition was just a hoax. Back in 1974, Elaine Murphy reported that cellists suffered from the painful complaint caused by their instrument repeatedly rubbing against their body.
Alcohol		Police knew something wasn't quite right after they spotted a man driving a piece of construction equipment at 3 a.m. The man, who had been drinking, was in the lift bucket of the Genie Boom with an unopened six-pack of beer and a bag of beef jerky.

OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion page aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, guest columnists and authors of letters to the editor are expected to provide logical argument to back their views. Unreasonable arguments, arguments in bad faith or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in the Hustler and will not be published. The Hustler welcomes reader viewpoints and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on InsideVandy.com.

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

a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well 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 hustler.newseditor@gmail.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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The public life does not necessarily reflect personal life



SEAN TIERNEY
Guest Columnist

A friend of mine recently gave me a tutorial on how girls judge Facebook profiles. I don't know how they find the time to do anything else. It's not surprising, but still disturbing, how closely some people monitor their online representations. They're stuck hopping to and fro with their best foot permanently forward. The problem, of course, is that while people try to make themselves appear they way they want to appear, they forget everyone else is doing the same. It's impossible to even begin to accurately judge somebody by Googling his or her name.

Any moment in a young adult's life can potentially end up online. In practice, however, it is typically only the most outrageous, the most accomplished, the most clever moments that make it. Nobody documents the vast quietude of everyday life, and perhaps with good reason. But this creates a radically skewed representation of said young adult. Facebook becomes an unnerving world of happy memories and cheerful posts. Meanwhile, pictures, which are most likely to be taken at parties or on vacation, create collages of seemingly jet-setting boozers.

Naturally, everyone else is expected to keep up. The Web presences of friends can become peer pressure cookers. It seems as if everyone's

always partying, always being witty, always having the time of their lives. Blogs that are nothing more than vanity journals show off cliched wisdom. YouTube videos let the world see how much fun a particular concert or drunken night was. No girl's night out is complete without taking a few dozen pictures — to be uploaded the next morning — to prove to the world her prettiness, pleasantness and popularity.

Once online, something is almost certainly there forever. Most members of older generations may be able to keep evidence of their immature past safely tucked away in old shoe boxes, but not so for today's young adults. Cameras are ubiquitous these days, and they go

hand-in-hand with the Internet. The Internet has a Tralfamadorian aspect that would make Vonnegut proud: That woman may be professional this moment, but is a drunkard in plenty of other moments, just a click away. Facebook profiles of deceased peers inevitably become eerie shrines laced with the present tense.

Of course, there will certainly be good that comes from this ebb of privacy. Harmful conservative norms are falling away at a strong clip as it becomes harder and harder to cover up indiscretions. We, as a society, will have to come to have a sense of humor about ourselves and perhaps even talk about taboos instead of sweeping them under the rug. Still, that is not a desirable

trade off, especially since these norms would inevitably fall anyway. And then, of course, gossip and ugly rumors circulate at lightening speed online ... and haunt long after the original poster has forgotten them.

Everything private, the Internet lectures, is potentially public. This, however, does not mean that one's public image is necessarily an accurate reflection of one's private life. Indeed, employers and casual Facebook stalkers alike who try to look up people online are digging into a house of mirrors they most likely do not understand.

—Sean Tierney is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at sean.f.tierney@vanderbilt.edu.

Who ya with?

To the Editor:

When I heard this familiar rallying cry at the Music City Bowl on New Year's Eve, I replied as I always do, alongside hundreds of proud Commodores, with a wholehearted, "VU!" The fervor, pride and unity that galvanized our campus last semester was an inspiring phenomenon I hoped would be an unending attitude as opposed to a passing occurrence hinging on the success of one of our sports teams.

This ideal of campus unity beyond a football season was one of my main motivations in running for president of our student body. The concept of "One Vanderbilt" my awesome running mate, Deno Saclarides, and our dedicated core team developed was predicated on striving for equity in quality of life on both sides 21st Avenue. One Vanderbilt meant promoting a concept of community where our students could consider each other partners during the best years of our lives as opposed to just extra faces in a classroom or dining hall. One Vanderbilt meant celebrating our diversity instead of highlighting our differences. And finally, One Vanderbilt was defined and shaped by you and your desire for a more transparent and inclusive Vanderbilt Student Government.

In the aftermath of a truly extraordinary campaign that incorporated clever YouTube videos, a creative Web site, a strong platform, the first-ever campaign rallies, hours of planning and painting, and even a theme song, I'm obviously disappointed because we did not achieve the electoral victory we sought. But the memory of our honorable, fun, electrifying and innovative campaign fills me with pride and joy because we built a movement that galvanized

students to participate in a process they had never been part of before.

Thank you to all of our team and supporters who made the last month unforgettable. Although we lost an election, our cause has not perished. We can still strive to create the One Vanderbilt we envisioned, and I know we can achieve it behind our very capable and dynamic president-elect and my friend, Wyatt Smith.

Neither my team nor I will be defined by one day's vote count, but instead we will be judged on our strength of character and hard work from this day onward. I still believe in VSG. Thursday's loss did not defeat me, but rather it invigorated me to work harder, to learn from my mistakes and to press on to the greater achievements of the future. You can count on me to continue fighting for a better Vanderbilt.

This "historic" election not only demonstrated that VSG matters, but that our VSG president can truly make a difference. As was noted during the debates and our meetings with students across the campus, there's a lot of room for improvement. So, "Who am I wit?" I'm with Wyatt and Lori, and I'm ready to support their administration and help them make Vanderbilt the best home possible for all of us.

On behalf of Deno, my campaign manager and team, thank you for one of the most incredible months of my life. I am humbled and grateful for this enriching experience and am excited to continue to serve the school I love.

Fabiani Duarte
Senior, College of Arts and Science
VSG Speaker of the Senate



Success is relative
Thomas Shattuck, Opinion Editor

I think Vanderbilt Student Government as a whole is rather concerning. Not that they're not capable, but that their defined goals, purpose and roles remain blurred. Everyone hopes VandyVans will be improved or a couple new places will be added to the card. The fact of the matter is there are too many factors to really determine a candidate's success rate with any type of accuracy.

Hopefully, Smith will be able to talk his way into getting a few things done. In the end, he needs to make a few smaller steps.



Ideas are hit and miss
Aimee Sobhani, Columnist

Given Wyatt Smith's success as Vanderbilt Student Government vice president, I am confident he will be able to fulfill at least some of his campaign promises. Some of his ideas, such as improving OASIS, are very pertinent to the academic quality of our campus. I expect he will have success at improving Taste of Nashville, as well, since this is an area in which

Lori Murphy has had success with in the past. Replacing Quizno's with a Chick-fil-A, however, is an idea that has been recycled from last year and is still in the air.

QUICK SHOTS
One Issue, Four Responses



He can do it
Katherine Miller, Columnist

If we properly understand the role of Vanderbilt Student Government, then we need to set the bar of expectations somewhere extremely low, like the bar life sets for the Washington Redskins or Jessica Simpson.

For serious, VSG president actually equals lobbyist. Wyatt Smith's had a year of lobbying, so he should be ready.

Generally, nobody particularly cares what VSG can offer us, besides increased dining options, they're succeeding. Given the move for syllabi online, the expanded W-course listing doesn't seem completely out of question, but really, getting recent movies on campus in Sarratt seems far more likely. And really, that's just as good, if not better.



Vague but good
Frannie Boyle, Columnist

I do not want to build up any expectations, but I do believe Wyatt and Lori will make good on most of their campaign promises. Their ideas are practical and seem feasible. They won a lot of votes for this reason. Some of their "community participation" plans are a little vague, but their plans for "academic improvements" should definitely work. The OASIS improvements and their ideas for academic advising seem doable, and although cheaper books may seem like a reach, I sure hope they can bring that one to reality. Whatever the results, Wyatt and Lori should not disappoint.

Can Smith and Murphy succeed?

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SPORTS

Vanderbilt stomps the Crimson Tide, remains in first place in conference

by ERIC SILVER
Sports Reporter

When the 20th-ranked Vanderbilt women's basketball team last played against Alabama in January, the Commodores built a large lead only to see it slip away as they narrowly defeated the Crimson Tide.

Not this time.

It was all Commodores as Vanderbilt (17-5, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) defeated Alabama soundly by a score of 88-64 on Sunday afternoon. In a game they could have easily taken for granted, the Commodores, tied for first in the SEC, dominated last place Alabama, still without a win in conference play, in all aspects of the game, holding them to 41 percent shooting and consistently forcing the Tide (12-10, 0-7) to turn the ball over on shot clock violations.

Coach Melanie Balcomb, displeased Thursday after Vanderbilt nearly gave the game away against Arkansas, was happier Sunday.

"We were clean, we had good shot

selection, and we had stops," she said.

Christina Wirth, Vanderbilt's do-everything senior, had another stellar day pacing the club with 21 points. Junior guard Meredith Marsh, who scored a career-high 21 points in her last game against Arkansas, kept up her momentum as she dropped in 17 points while hitting all five of her shots from beyond the arc.

"Tina and Meredith played really well today," Balcomb said. "They got a lot of really good looks."

In her past two games, Marsh has hit 10 of her last 11 attempts from the 3-point line.

"I don't know, I guess I'm in a rhythm," Marsh said of her hot shooting streak. "I get into the gym a lot and try to get some shots up. Coach always keys in on little things within our offense and that's what makes our offense work and tick. We need to set up solid screens. I have to credit (my teammates), because I couldn't knock down the shot if they weren't screening for me."

Chanel Chisholm chipped in 10

points off the bench.

While the Commodore offense was clicking on all cylinders, their swarming defense was just as effective.

The Commodores took a 24-point lead going into halftime, and while they weren't as crisp and dominant as they were in the first half, it was clear Alabama had little chance of coming back.

"Our play was definitely better than Arkansas, but we weren't extremely happy with our second half," Marsh said. "We focused on transition defense and we didn't do that in the second half."

Despite the slight letdown, the Commodores proved they are still the class of the SEC. And for any team who thinks that they can get in the way, watch out: Wirth's already outstanding shooting is "just starting to feel good again."

Vanderbilt plays next at Mississippi State on Thursday at 7 p.m., followed by a Sunday road trip to Kentucky at noon. ■



SAM KIM / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Christina Wirth (34) attacks the rim while Alabama's Tamara Williams (32) defends during Vanderbilt's 88-64 victory Sunday afternoon. Wirth led the Commodores with 21 points as they won for the sixth time in seven games.

COLUMN

Vanderbilt does some growing up on the road

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

A four-game losing streak, especially when you're used to winning, can seem endless.

"It seems like an absolute eternity," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings.

Vanderbilt, stuck in that rut since Jan. 14, climbed out with a gutty 82-75 win on the road against Auburn on Saturday.

Junior Jermaine Beal hit 7 of 8 shots from beyond the arc for a career-high 21 points and the Commodores made enough big plays down the stretch to hold off Auburn and improve to 2-5 in Southeastern Conference play.

What made this victory even more important was how it rewarded Stallings' great faith in his young players to finally right the ship. He isn't the soupy type where to him a loss can be a moral victory and all that jazz. He tells it like it is. So when Stallings, the same coach who has led Vanderbilt to two straight NCAA Tournament berths and beaten two straight No. 1 teams, was

doing nothing but praise his young team's toughness and togetherness in the midst of a four-game slide in a very weak SEC, it was noteworthy.

At practice Thursday, Stallings was so high on his players and their commitment to success, one listening would have guessed the Commodores were leading the SEC East rather than barely out of its cellar.

"As a coach, I continue to be extremely impressed with how hard they work in practice, how good their attitudes are, how they all continue to be good teammates to each other," he said, his voice hoarse from the 86-76 loss to South Carolina a night earlier. "You see absolutely no signs of anybody backing up, anybody's attitude lessening, anybody's desire going down. These guys have really been A-plus in those regards."

Those positive mindsets manifested themselves in a win Saturday that Vanderbilt desperately needed, not just for the postseason, but for their confidence as well. That it came against Auburn, not exactly a powerhouse team, was not what was important.

The Commodores led the entire first half, at one point up 26-13, before, as home teams feeding off crowd energy tend to do, the Tigers closed the gap and actually took a 48-45 lead at the 16:20 mark of the second half. Here we go again, right?

But instead of folding in half as they did three days earlier in Columbia, the Commodores immediately responded. A 3-pointer by Beal tied the game right back up and shut up the increasingly loud crowd. The Tigers took another lead, 61-60, but freshman guard Brad Tinsley drove to the hoop, drew a foul and calmly hit two free throws to take back the advantage.

With Vanderbilt up 70-64, Auburn scored six straight to tie it up, but Beal was there again to knife the Tigers with two straight 3-pointers.

But the most telling moment of the game involved Tinsley. After Beal put Vanderbilt up six with 1:35 to play, Tinsley grabbed a rebound off an Auburn miss but dribbled straight into three defenders to turn the ball over and Auburn scored an easy basket, the kind of mistake you can't make on the road.

Auburn closed to within two and just needed one more stop to have a chance to tie or win the game. But, just one minute after committing the costly turnover, Tinsley nailed a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 36 seconds remaining and the shot clock expiring to put Vanderbilt up by five and send Auburn's faithful to the exits. Vanderbilt shakily closed it out from there from the free throw line (a lousy 16-31 showing from the line overshadowed a sensational 61 percent shooting performance from the field).

It was the sign of a grown-up team. Two gritty but failed efforts on the road sandwiched around two dispiriting losses at home seemed to have Vanderbilt on the ropes. But despite Auburn rallying multiple times, the Commodores didn't waver or show signs of nervousness. They earned this one. As radio announcer Joe Fisher put it, a young team did some growing up on the Plains.

Stallings knew it was a matter of time before this talented, albeit raw group finally got its act together. With what he had seen as a great ability in his players to keep their heads up during a rough patch, he had seen it coming.

"I'm proud of our guys staying positive and staying with us and staying with the plan," Stallings said. "We got the job done." ■

Commodores edged by Marshall in home meet

by TRAVIS YOUNG
For The Hustler

Vanderbilt swimmers Jennifer Molchan, Kelly Obranowicz, Laura Dillon and Allison Voss all swam to first-place finishes, but it was not enough as Marshall edged the Commodores 177-123 in front of a large crowd at the Centennial Sportsplex Saturday. The meet against the Thundering Herd marked the final home and regular season meet for the Commodores.

"I thought overall we competed and swam well today," said head coach Jeremy Organ. "We saw some things that we need to work on and correct before we head to the (Southeastern Conference) Championships in February. We didn't come out on top at our last home meet of the season, but we will bring a lot of enthusiasm and excitement to the SEC's in a couple of weeks."

Vanderbilt opened the meet on the right track, posting first- and third-place finishes in the 200-yard medley relay. The relay of Alexandra Jennings, Obranowicz, Voss and Molchan took first-place honors swimming a 1:52.26. The relay of Rebecca Rogers, Elizabeth Brunk, Zoe Cooper-Surma and Dillon finished in a close third with a time of 1:54.52.

Two events later, Molchan cruised to one of her two first-place finishes on the day with a 1:57.99 in the 200-yard freestyle. The sophomore also took top honors in the 100-yard freestyle, swimming a 54.41. At the end of the day, Molchan's individual work accounted for 21 of Vanderbilt's 123 points.

Minutes later, Dillon continued her torrid streak in the 200-yard breaststroke with a 2:25.57, good for first. The former South Lakes High standout wasn't

finished racking up points for the Commodores, however. Dillon picked up another 8 points for the Commodores after recording runner-up finishes in the 200-yard butterfly (2:10.57) and 200-yard individual medley (2:14.68).

The Commodores picked up 13 more points as Voss and Brunk finished first and second in the 100-yard breaststroke with times of 1:08.55 and 1:09.20, respectively.

Jennings, a sophomore and the team's top returning backstroke, also contributed in a big way Saturday, posting top-three finishes in both the 100 and 200 backstroke.

Fellow freshman Obranowicz notched a pair of top-three finishes Saturday in the 100-yard butterfly and 50-yard freestyle. The Georgianative's 100-butterfly time of 57.79 topped the second-place finisher by nearly 2.5 seconds. Cooper-Surma closed out the meet by swimming a season-best 50-free split of 24.78 in the final leg of the first-place 200-freestyle relay.

Vanderbilt will be off competition the next few weeks as it prepares for the SEC Swimming and Diving Championships Feb. 18-21. This year's conference meet will be hosted by Auburn in Auburn, Ala. ■



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Coach Kevin Stallings praised his team's togetherness and positive attitudes while going through a four-game losing streak. Vanderbilt, led by point guard Jermaine Beal's career-high 21 points, snapped the skid at Auburn Saturday, defeating the Tigers 82-75.



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Nicole Woodworth dives during Vanderbilt's meet against Marshall. See InsideVandy for a video slideshow of the meet.

Vanderbilt hosts ITA Kick-Off Weekend



SAM KIM/The Vanderbilt Hustler



SAM KIM/The Vanderbilt Hustler

The No. 12 Vanderbilt women's tennis team hosted the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Kick-Off Weekend from Jan. 31 to Feb. 1, welcoming nationally ranked squads in Wake Forest, Denver and Fresno State. The Commodores defeated Wake Forest 6-0 on Saturday, which included a come-from-behind win by junior Catherine Newman over Sasha Kulikova, Wake Forest's best player. Freshman Chelsea Preeg (pictured) notched a three-set win at the No. 4 spot in singles in another strong performance by Vanderbilt's strong freshman class. Vanderbilt fell in the championship match Sunday, 4-0 to No. 15 Fresno State. Vanderbilt hosts Middle Tennessee State on Thursday at 2:30 p.m.

Former Vandy coach Whisenhunt falls short in Super Bowl

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

Arizona head coach Ken Whisenhunt, a former Vanderbilt assistant coach, and the Cardinals came up just short in their Cinderella run through the playoffs, falling 27-23 to the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XLIII.

Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger threw a touchdown pass to receiver Santonio Holmes with 35 seconds remaining, capping an eight-play, 78-yard drive that took just two minutes. The Cardinals had rallied from being down 20-7 in the fourth quarter with two touchdown passes by quarterback Kurt Warner to record-breaking receiver Larry Fitzgerald, including a 64-yarder with 2:37 remaining to their first lead of the game. The pass came just after the Steelers were called for holding in the end zone for a safety.

A last-ditch drive by Arizona fell short when Warner lost a fumble. The veteran failed in his bid to lead two different teams to Super Bowl titles; he won one with the Rams in 2000.

Whisenhunt coached special teams and tight ends at Vanderbilt from 1995-1996 before heading to the NFL to be an assistant with the Baltimore Ravens. He led Arizona to an NFC West division title, but with a pedestrian 9-7 record, the Cardinals were not even favorites to win their playoff wild card round at home against the Atlanta Falcons. However, three straight wins over Atlanta, the Carolina Panthers and the Philadelphia Eagles on the strength of their high-flying offense got them to their first-ever Super Bowl. ■

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1/30/09 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Alma
 - 6 Gardner of "On the Beach"
 - 9 Use a scale
 - 14 Bakery smell
 - 15 Swap punches
 - 16 Book before Joel
 - 17 Jeans' stuff
 - 18 Food processor brand
 - 20 Unkempt
 - 22 Camp beds
 - 23 Certainly!
 - 24 NASA's ISS partner
 - 25 Muslim veils
 - 28 Undue speed
 - 29 Archipelago unit
 - 33 Eating utensil
 - 36 Biblical garden
 - 38 On the waves
 - 39 Military landing field
 - 41 Not a people person
 - 43 Scheme
 - 44 Cut and splice
 - 46 Glide on ice
 - 47 Lady of Spain
 - 49 Quantities of paper
 - 51 French actor Jean-Paul
 - 53 Org. of Love and Couples
 - 56 Bikini piece
 - 59 Hammerhead part
 - 60 Academy Awards
 - 62 New York airport
 - 65 Small amounts
 - 66 Tiny particles
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 - 70 Birthday number
 - 71 Paint finish
- DOWN**
- 1 Sierra
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 - 4 Send out
 - 5 Hindu epic
 - 6 Initial letters
 - 7 Guaranteed
 - 8 Truism
 - 9 Wire mixers
 - 10 Very long time
 - 11 How 'bout that!
 - 12 "American Gigolo" star
 - 13 Derby and fedora
 - 19 Dyes for wood
 - 21 Element classification
 - 26 Knight's ride
 - 27 Trousers
 - 28 Associate familiarly
 - 30 Gobi location
 - 31 Fastidious
 - 32 Carnegie or Earnhardt
 - 33 Tree juices
 - 34 Loose stack
 - 35 Algerian port
 - 37 Consumed
 - 40 Envelop closer
 - 42 Passing through a membrane
 - 45 Pressing duties
 - 48 Feast
 - 50 Fuss
 - 52 News services
 - 53 Inner courtyard
 - 54 Lawn makeup
 - 55 Pompous fools
 - 56 Chatter indiscreetly
 - 57 Schedule figure
 - 58 All aflutter
 - 61 Rad!
 - 63 Ms. Thurman
 - 64 King topper

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1/30/09 SOLUTIONS

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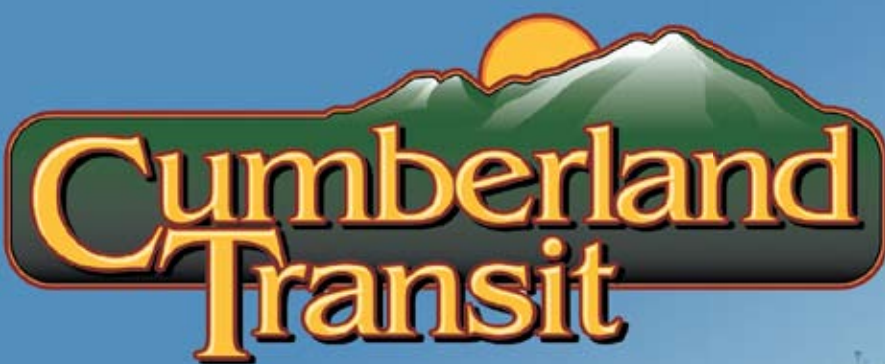
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