

VANDY

The Vanderbilt University Arts & Entertainment Magazine

FEBRUARY 4—FEBRUARY 10, 2008 VOL 47 Nº 4

B&CO

THE BOD

DTR

VANDY LINGO!

WE'RE STILL WORKING ON DECIPHERING THE MEANING OF LIFE, BUT AS FAR AS SLANG THAT'S DISTINCTLY VANDY, LET'S JUST SAY, WE WROTE THE FEATURE. NBD. CHECK OUT PAGE 9.

SHE'S DEF JEL. IT'S OBVI!

RANDWICH

SEXILED

KISSLAMMED

Life's not all fun and games, but page 2 is. Overheard, horoscopes, and haikus for your reading pleasure.

Hey Juliet! There's a showdown between LMNT and O-Town. Cast the deciding vote on page 6.

You could find a really creative place to make Valentine's Day reservations. Or you could cheat and take our lead on page 8.

PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Good Souls — Sambuca

Two-year-old Americana/blues act Good Souls hails from Nashville. Its self-titled debut is receiving airplay around the nation, and Good Souls has executed an intensive touring schedule. (Free, 7 p.m., 601 12th Ave. South)

Strange Design: Recreating Phish Shows In Their Entirety — 12th and Porter

Strange Design have a new take on the classic cover band — rather than perform a smattering of material from different albums and CDs, they prefer to re-enact entire Phish shows. The sense of community and musicality created by Strange Design is unbeatable. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Keller Williams — Exit/In

Keller Williams' music is an eclectic mix of bluegrass, folk, alternative, reggae, electronica, jazz and funk. Described as "the one-man jam band," Williams' show is sure to please. His show at Exit/In is part of the venue's "evening with" series and is 18+. (\$21 advance ticket/\$23 day of show)

The Brooks Brothers — Cafe Coco

With a name that all Vandy students are sure to recognize, The Brooks Brothers are an act that no student should miss. And with a venue like Cafe Coco, which is, as we all know, on the Card, there's no excuse not to head over to check it out. (Free, 7 p.m.)

Otis Gibbs with Earl Bud Lee — The Basement

Hailing from Wanamaker, Ind., Otis Gibbs plays a mix of Americana, folk and indie that can please a wide audience. Opener Earl Bud Lee is from Nashville and favors a more acoustic- and country-influenced sound. (\$5, 7 p.m.)

In The Round with Tommy Lee James, Tom Douglas, Rachel Thibodeau and Barry Dean — The Bluebird Cafe

Tommy Lee James has written hits for numerous country artists, ranging from Tim McGraw to Trisha Yearwood, and he'll be joined by fellow songwriters whose songs have been performed by Martina McBride, Reba McEntire and others. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Jucifer — The End

Heavy metalers Jucifer head to The End to launch an all-out, hard-hitting onslaught for Nashville music fans. This group is ready to rock your world and leave you wanting — needing — more. (Price TBA, 8 p.m., 2219 Elliston Place)

Moon Taxi — Exit/In

Join Nashville natives Moon Taxi as the band celebrates the release of its new album, "Live Ride." Known for a loud and in-charge brand of rock 'n' roll, Taxi will bring the fire and ice in anticipation of their impending CD drop. Arrive early and stay late, it's sure to be a night to remember. (\$5, 9 p.m.)

The Features and Jeff the Brotherhood & Jack — The Mercy Lounge/Cannery Ballroom

Tennessee-grown indie rockers The Features roll back to Nashville Friday night to put on an compelling and engaging show for their homeland fans. The group, who recently released a new studio album, "Some Kind of Salvation," are joined by openers Jeff the Brotherhood & Jack. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Ax Plays Brahms — Schermerhorn Symphony Center

Join the Nashville Symphony for an interesting and culturing evening of performance. Emanuel Ax, renowned pianist and winner of seven Grammys, will masterfully present Brahms' "First Piano Concerto," displaying his "poetic temperament and unsurpassed virtuosity." (\$35, 8 p.m., 1 Symphony Place)

Blair String Quartet — Blair School of Music

You don't have to go far to attend another installment of the Blair Signature Series, a performance by the string quartet. The set will be performing two classics for your enjoyment: Felix Mendelssohn's "Quartet in A Minor, Op. 13" and Beethoven's "Quartet in A minor, Op. 132." (Free, 8 p.m.)

Lala Deaton, Jeanna Richardson and Karleen Watt — The Listening Room Cafe

Few opportunities come along in life as electric, as perfect, as the grouping of these three singer-songwriters on the same stage. Come for a relaxing evening of excellent tunes and great company and leave dazzled. (Free, 7 p.m.; 500 West Main St., Franklin)

Missy Rains and the New Hip — Station Inn

Missy Rains invites you to celebrate the release of her new album, "Inside Out," with her and her "carefully constructed" band, the New Hip. Rains has spent over two decades honing her bluegrass skills, developing the perfect sound for you to enjoy Friday night. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Old Union — 3rd and Lindsley

These American rock 'n' rollers describe their playing as a musical road trip going from Memphis to Muscle Shoals to Macon. They don't come on until 10, but come early to also listen to Boomerang and Duncan May. Overall, the show claims to have a fresh and new take on rock while maintaining a retro vibe. (STBA, 7 p.m.)

Blue Mountain with Molly Thomas — The Basement

If you like Wilco, then you should love this analogues alternative-country band that includes the twin sister of Wilco's bass player. A husband and wife duo, the band promises to captivate the audience and keep them wanting more — not just for their raw musical talent but also for their eclectic style and stage presence. (\$7, 9 p.m.)

Yonder Mountain String Band — TPAC

A mix of jam band and bluegrass (an updated style they call "newgrass"), Yonder Mountain String Band has been a favorite at music festivals around the country. If you're looking for a relaxed country and bluegrass feel, you've met your match. They claim that you've got to "feel the vibe for yourself" in order to understand it. (\$22.50, 8 p.m., 505 Deaderick St.)

April Barrows — F. Scott's Restaurant and Bar

With "agreeable and gentle swinging" according to Billboard, and a "supple voice that can luxuriously wrap itself around a word" according to Jazz Times Magazine, April Barrows is sure to tap into the relaxed jazzy feel that would go incredibly well with an upscale dinner at F. Scott's. (Free, 7:30 p.m.)

The Breakfast Club — Exit/In

Have a craving for some super frattastic '80s covers? Come listen to what is self described as "the very first tribute band of its kind." What could be better than songs everyone knows from a time where nobody was old enough to remember? Nothing, I say. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Rachel Proctor and Jesse Lee — Country Music Hall of Fame

The writers behind hits by artists such as Martina McBride, Blake Shelton and Jessica Simpson will be performing their original songs at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Come hear the songs as they were originally conceived, and maybe hear a brand new hit before it even gets recorded. (\$18, 11:30 a.m., 222 Fifth Ave. South)

The Regulars

THE RUTLEDGE
410 Fourth Ave. South 37201
782-6858

THE MERCY LOUNGE/CANNERY BALLROOM
1 Cannery Row 37203
251-3020

BLUEBIRD CAFE
4104 Hillsboro Road 37215
383-1461

EXIT/IN
2208 Elliston Place 37203
321-3340

STATION INN
402 12th Ave. South 37203
255-3307

THE BASEMENT
1604 Eighth Ave. South 37203
254-1604

F. SCOTT'S RESTAURANT AND JAZZ BAR
2210 Crestmoor Road 37215
269-5861

SCHERMERHORN SYMPHONY CENTER
1 Symphony Place 37201
687-6500

3RD AND LINDSLEY
818 Third Ave. South 37210
259-9891

CAFE COCO
210 Louise Ave. 37203
321-2626

insideVANDY

Over 35,000 unique visitors and hundreds of thousands of ad impressions each month.

Versus

FEBRUARY 4—FEBRUARY 10, 2008 VOL. 47, Nº. 4

Versus Magazine

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor in Chief
Chris Gearing

Managing Editor
Sara Gast

Features Editor
Courtney Rogers

Culture Editors
Trip Cothren
Holly Meehl

Music Editors
Charlie Kesslering
Avery Spofford

Head Writer
Kris Stensland

Art Director
Matt Radford

Designers
Irene Hukkelhoven
Kat Miller
Morgan Webb

Marketing Director
George Fischer

Advertising Manager
Angela Booker

VSC Director
Chris Carroll

Assistant VSC
Directors
Jeff Breaux
Paige Clancy

Journalist in
Residence
Tim Ghianni

FROM THE EDITOR



I was walking up to Center Smoothie (the smoothie place in Sarratt) the other day when a peculiar thing happened. I heard a young man on the telephone telling the other end of the phone that, "I don't want to miss a thing." My mind flashed back to the legendary song by Aerosmith, and I couldn't help but hum the tune as I waited for my tasty beverage.

Then I realized that I do this all the time. I take lines from great songs and make them my own in conversation. "Don't stop believing," "I walk the line" and "It's a love story, baby just say yes" frequent my conversations with friends and strangers, alike. They're something we can all connect to. Indeed, one could even say that musicians are the modern form of ancient Greek poets (I'm talking Homer, not stupid stuff like T.S. Eliot). Let's try out this theory with a story ...

Let me tell you the story about the call that changed my destiny. First, I fell into a ring of fire after I stumbled into a white room with black curtains. I howled, "Brown Sugar, how come you taste so good?" at the werewolves of London. I knew then that it was more than a feeling, and I decided that I might as well face it I'm addicted to love. But she was tearing up my heart when I was with her, but when we were apart I felt it, too. I felt pretty paranoid, and then I found out that she's buying a stairway to heaven. Mr. Jones and me felt that it was pretty over our heads on the cable car, but at that point it was too late to apologize. She was nothing but a hound dog, anyway. Does that make me crazy? ... Pour some sugar on me.

OK, that last part didn't make too much sense, but you get my point. Lyrics to songs are like a modern way of quoting Shakespeare, but not nearly as classy. But do you want to know what is classy? Our indie movie reviews on page 3, our Wale preview on page 5 and our interview on page 6 with wedding blogger and Vandy grad, Abby Larson. Want more? Catch up with our new and improved breakdown of Vandy lingo all the way back on page 7. If you're lost, we're here to help. Eat your heart out Wikipedia.

Stay Legendary,
Chris Gearing

THIS ISSUE

3

Bits & Pieces

- Your life in the stars, 2
- Overheard at Vanderbilt, 2
- Words to live by in 17 syllables, 2



6



Entertainment

- Fretting over Facebooking, 3
- "The Wrestler" is a great one-two punch, 3
- Save room on your dance card, 3
- Style me pretty, oh so pretty, 4



6

Music

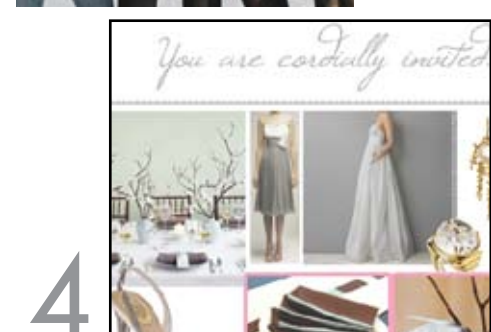
- LMNT vs. O-Town. Smackdown. 6
- Listen to Franz Ferdinand "Tonight," 7
- Get ready for some gramophones, 7

Restaurants

- Classy dining on the Card, 8
- Tayst the rainbow, 8
- Craving some cheap chips? 8

Features

- Throw down the Vandy lingo, 9
- Letter from an Angry WASP, 9



4

PIC OF THE WEEK



NICOLE MANDEL / VERSUS MAGAZINE

BITS & PIECES

**"IT'S NOT EASY TO CUT THROUGH A HUMAN HEAD WITH A HACKSAW."
— MICHAEL CRICHTON**



HOROSCOPES



AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18: You should use the word "roughage" more often.



PISCES 2/19-3/20: Your costume for this weekend: slutty pumpkin.



ARIES 3/21-4/19: If the whole graduate school thing doesn't work out, consider becoming a character at Disney World.



TAURUS 4/20-5/20: If you like it, then you should put a ring on it. Or at least a condom.



GEMINI 5/21-6/21: It's time to stop dreaming and start being productive. So get off Facebook and get out your plans for that hoverboard.



CANCER 6/22-7/22: Still rocking the 8-bit system? I'll have you know that Sega Genesis does what Nintendo't.



LEO 7/23-8/22: If you start a band, you should call it The Dirty Taints. Or something equally disturbing. Then release an acoustic album.



VIRGO 8/23-9/22: Find an opportunity to start a slow clap this week.



LIBRA 9/23-10/22: WATCH OUT FOR NAZI ZOMBIES!



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21: What? You got money for fake mustaches but you don't have money to pay me back?



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21: If you describe yourself as "wicked smart" in an Australian accent, you'll also be funny.



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19: Dingos did NOT descend from humans, no matter what you may say. They are occasionally born in wombat burrows, though.

HAIKUS

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Ninety days to go —
Start crossing things off of the
Senior Bucket List!

St. Valentine's Day
Is only a week away!
Better find a date!

OVERHEARD

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



Compiled from the Facebook group "Overheard at Vanderbilt"

Girl (on the phone): "I'm about to do laundry for the first time all semester. ... Well, I wore clean ones yesterday, but right now I'm not wearing any."

Rando: "I was propositioned by a Taiwanese prostitute in a Chinese airport and didn't realize what they were doing until two hours later on the plane."

Professor: "I was thinking patriotism, but bigotry works too."

Girl: "OMG, what would you do if there were 20 hours in a day? You'd have so much more time!"

Frat guy: "There's no way we'll be able to secure a stripper pole in sand."

Rando: "That is EXACTLY what I did to his genitalia!"

Girl: "If there were a 'Gossip Girl' class, I would SO get an A."



PHOTOS: flickr.com

ENTERTAINMENT

‘Waltz with Bashir’ is a powerful but distant film

BEN GRIMWOOD
Staff Writer

Animation has long been a realm belonging to children, but “Waltz with Bashir” proves that animation is not just for kids. With a stylized look similar to “A Scanner Darkly,” the Israeli film uses animation for its bizarre (if imaginative) purposes — to experience the power of the brain’s memories of the 1982 Lebanon War as they are remembered (or misremembered). The film’s colors tend toward minimalist hues, but the nauseating yellow color of war is unmistakable. “Waltz with Bashir” may well be the first time an animated film rivals the powerful anti-war sentiments of “the greats,” such as “Paths of Glory” or “Platoon.”

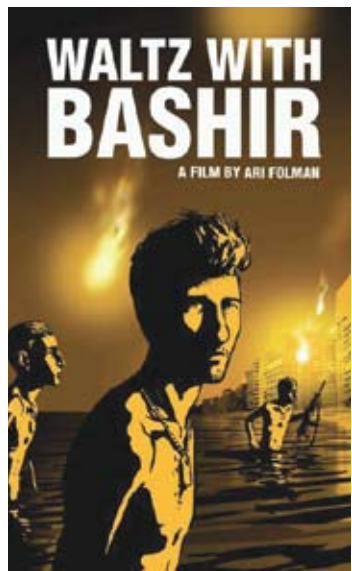
The film begins with a pack of voracious dogs tearing down a sidewalk among civilians. They stop at the edge of a building, eyes wild and teeth bared, while Boaz stands in a window far away. Suddenly, Boaz is telling the story of this horrifying nightmare to his long-time friend, the film’s director, Ali Folman, because he thinks it stems from subconscious guilt at shooting Palestinian guard dogs in the Lebanon War. After this late-night meeting, Ali has a dream of himself and two others

rising naked out of the water off of the coast of Beirut and entering the city during the Sabra and Shatila massacre. When he realizes that he has lost nearly all of his memories of the war from some 25 years prior, Ali consults his filmmaking partner and friend, Ori, the film’s source of psychological reason. Ori explains that sometimes people create false memories, so Ali becomes determined to find everyone with whom he remembers fighting in the war in order to put together the missing pieces of his experience and to ultimately determine the meaning of his memory.

Would this film have worked with real footage? It does use some at the end for emotional effect, but the animation certainly contributes to the memory-like aspect of the film and seems to tone down a bit of the harrowing bite of war’s reality. What is even clearer is the fear of the main characters as young adults fighting in the war. “Waltz with Bashir” implies that not only does war find its victims sometimes in the innocent civilians, but especially in the soldiers.

The sustaining images of the real footage at the end of the film are intended to tear at viewers’ heartstrings, and call me coldhearted, but I think the animation actually numbed me too much. Furthermore, the animation is also full of ironies (especially in the music) that resentfully view the war, so although the film resonantly depicts the victimization and mental trauma of its protagonist, as a viewer, I feel disconnected. This, therefore, might be a film for those that can sympathize.

“Waltz with Bashir” is playing at The Belcourt Theatre. It is also a nominee for the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign Film. ☞



wonderlandward.com

‘The Wrestler’ tells a story anyone can love

TRIP COTHREN
Culture Editor

Darren Aronofsky’s newest film is by far his best. Of course, his previous films “The Fountain” and “Requiem for a Dream,” were far and above the average. Yet, “The Wrestler” just left me in awe of what a film can be. I never thought I could leave a theater so completely happy and so ridiculously sad — happy to have seen the movie and Mickey Rourke’s comeback, but sad at the story itself.

The film centers around the life of Randy “The Ram” Robinson brought to life by Rourke. The movie starts 20 years after The Ram had fought his last title bout. Randy is wrestling for the public in community gyms and high schools. He is doing all that he knows and has been reduced to sleep in his truck (which is, of course, a Dodge Ram). He spends a lot of time at a strip club where he has a “friend,” Marisa Tomei. (Allow me to have an aside for a moment — time has

been GOOD to her. And that’s all I will say about that.) They try to start some kind of relationship, and the trials and tribulations of that give the movie another plot point that I enjoyed. One particular scene in which they complain about Nirvana killing crappy ’80s music made this music guru smile.

As the movie continues, Randy remains stuck in the persona of The Ram, and even when he tries to become Robin (his birth name) he fails. He cannot escape this persona, and as the movie progresses he begins to realize that this persona is not a persona at all; this mask is who he is and he will never be able to stray from that.

The movie is about two hours long, but you will never look at your watch. You begin to care about The Ram so much. This movie meets every expectation you could have and then surpasses it. Four stars are not nearly enough for me to accurately rate this great film. ☞



filmofilia.com

VERSUS RATING: ★★★★★

VERSUS RATING: ★★★★★

It’s complicated.

KATIE DE PAOLA
Staff Writer

We are the Facebook generation. Five years ago today, this social networking platform began revolutionizing the worlds of students, stalkers and social butterflies alike. And there is no doubt that Facebook has changed the dating game. It’s captivating, compelling and compulsive, but most of all, it’s complicated.

At Vanderbilt, the dating scene is generally quite repetitive. Just last weekend, I found out that two of my

friends wanted to ask the same guy to their sorority formals. They both had hung out at his fraternity the previous weekend, danced, talked and hit it off. Perhaps there were even some happy-ish endings. Oh, the romance.

Thankfully, the girls were in different sororities and ran in separate crowds, so there wasn’t a huge conflict of interest. I, however, was friends with both of them, and thus, became the information queen.

This seems to happen a lot at Vanderbilt, a place where

the classic six-degrees of separation theory has been cut in half, or maybe even thirds.

But what happens when we do meet someone new? Someone whose history we don’t already know and who aren’t already stalking on Facebook. Who friends who?

Last weekend, my friend hooked up with a Vandy grad. They had a fun night and she was left aching for more information. Problem: They weren’t Facebook friends. While she was swapping stories with the girls the next morning, one of her friends

volunteered to take the plunge. “I can friend him!” she said. “We just met last week, so it won’t be weird.” Problem solved.

But it’s not always that easy. And although that helps with initial stalking, in the end, you want to be friends with that person and have the freedom to stalk at your liberty. Even though it’s a bit backward to ask for someone’s friendship after you’ve already bought their drink, shared a cab and taken them home, it’s weirder to avoid it.

Get some Facebook balls and get over it. ☞

HOT YOGA™
COOLEST THING IN FITNESS

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
6:00		6:00		6:00		
9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30
12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	
4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30
6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15			6:15
7:45	7:45	7:45				

2214 Elliston Place (1 Block from Campus) 321-8828
www.HotYogaNashville.com

WAX NASHVILLE

NASHVILLE'S PREMIERE BODY WAXING STUDIO!

A FULL SERVICE WAXING AND SKINCARE SHOP FOR MEN AND WOMEN

CALL 356-0919 OR BOOK ONLINE AT WAXNASHVILLE.COM

6600 HWY 100 IN BELLE MEADE

\$10 OFF ANY SERVICE

Don't be surprised if you turn a few heads!

FREE TAN WEEK

February 9 -15

PLUS!
LOTION and MEMBERSHIP
Specials all week!

CUTTING-EDGE BEDS • KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF
INVITING ENVIRONMENT • MONEY-SAVING MEMBERSHIPS

(Nashville Area Salons)

2016 West End Ave. • Nashville, TN
782 Old Hickory Blvd. • Brentwood, TN
5125 Nolensville Rd. • Nashville, TN
8064 Hwy 100 • Nashville, TN

SUN TANCITY

Let yourself shine.
Visit us at: suntancity.com
Some restrictions apply. See store for details.

relax • unwind • indulge

Super Shuttle

facebook

Q&A WITH 'STYLE ME PRETTY' BLOG CREATOR ABBY LARSON

COURTNEY ROGERS
Features Editor

Versus Magazine: What did you think you wanted to have a career in when you started at Vandy?

Abby Larson: When I first started, I was a math major, which makes no sense whatsoever. When you're 18 and you graduate from high school, you just pick the one thing you think you're good in. I think it took one semester for me to realize that that was not the case. I was not as good as I thought I was. So I switched over to communications, and I think that when I was a freshman I wanted to do journalism or some kind broadcast or just print, something kind of pseudo-sexy that would get my name out there. Over the four years I eventually changed my expectations, and when I graduated I wanted to do public relations or marketing, something that involved writing and in-person communication.

VM: On your site, you mention working for a PR firm and a hedge fund. Can you go into a little more detail about those experiences and how exploring different jobs helped you find the job you really wanted?

AL: They were very different jobs. The first one I took because that was the industry that I thought I really wanted to be a part of. It was an internship out in San Francisco, and I made very little money, but I was doing things like writing press releases and assisting some of the more established people there. It was good experience because it taught me how to be a professional and work in a professional environment and write in a succinct, edited way. It wasn't as glamorous as I thought it would be — it was really hard work and long hours for very little pay. When they offered me a full-time position after the internship, I declined it. I started looking for another job, and while I was looking I worked at a stationary store. ... I fell in love with wedding invitations and stationary at that point.

But San Fran is a very expensive place to live, so the next job, the hedge fund, I took much more for the money than for the career that it would lead me to. When I was at the hedge fund, I stayed there for about two years, and I got invaluable experience in work ethic and learning how to be a good employee, how to work with really high-end clients and how to be organized. It was kind of the bare-bones education that you need to start your own business or

find a career. But, with that said, it wasn't as creative of an industry as I saw myself in. ...

I was looking for a way to marry the need to be creative with the need to make money. In the meantime I was doing some fun, arts-and-crafts-style stuff for friends, and I made a bachelorette party invitation, and my friend's wedding coordinator saw it and asked me to do more things for her. The invitation business kind of fell in my lap out of nowhere. I didn't really have a strong interest in weddings, per se, but I wanted to do something creative after having been depleted of that at my last job. That was the start of Abby Jean, the stationary company. I did Abby Jean for three years, and I refer to that time as my hard knocks school of business. ... It got to a point where I needed to sell it or hire a bunch of people, so I sold it and that was the beginning of StyleMePretty.

VM: There were a few posts with your wedding pictures. Was it difficult to plan your own weekend while blogging on StyleMePretty?

AL: I wasn't blogging while I was planning my wedding — that was about three and a half years ago, so I was running Abby Jean. It was kind of a nightmare because I was living in San Francisco and my mom was helping me plan. ... The last three months of the wedding planning was when I got involved and started doing the details, but it was a lot of pressure because people were expecting this great wedding because that's what I did for a living.

VM: How do you keep up-to-date on the newest trends in weddings (invitations, decorations, flowers, etc.)?

AL: I just live and breathe weddings. I'm on my computer at midnight looking at different Web sites and talking to different vendors. We work with 700-plus vendors who we consider to be the best in their industry. We only work with those who we feel are the most innovative and ahead of the trends. So they help me a lot — they're constantly sending me pictures and ideas of some of the recent stuff that they've done that broke the mold of the traditional wedding. So I rely on them a lot and the Internet.

VM: Would you recommend using inspiration boards for other projects such as decorating an apartment or defining your personal style?

AL: For me, when I first started the blog, inspiration boards or style boards were used mostly by interior

designers to help their clients imagine what a room would look like. They would put in color swatches or pictures of a chair and little color palettes and things like that. It just occurred to me that you could make an inspiration board online using things you found on the Web to create a wedding look. You could print it out and take it to your florist or your event planner and you could explain your vision a lot more clearly with the actual pictures. So I started making them for readers.

VM: What is your favorite part of weddings?

AL: Everything! I love weddings. You would think that I would be sick of them by now, but every one is so different. I love seeing how a couple infuses their personality into all the details, the menu or the flowers that they choose, seeing how the colors come together. It's all oddly thrilling for me.

VM: How many weddings have you attended?

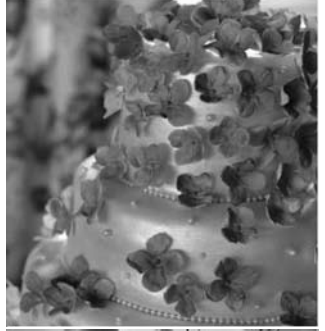
AL: Dozens. I'm at the age where all of my friends are getting married. This past summer alone, five of my best girl friends got married. ... I don't usually go to a wedding unless I know the bride or groom.

VM: What is the most unusual wedding you've heard of or featured on StyleMePretty?

AL: We did a whole week of unique weddings, and it was just weddings that were totally different. We featured one where the bride wore a bright orange dress, which sounds so not pretty, but it was so cute. The bride was adorable and she had a very quirky personality that she infused into every aspect of the wedding. It was very modern, but the bride wore this orange dress and a little pillbox hat with a birdcage veil. She had cake toppers that were made out of wood, little wooden figurines made to look like the bride and groom. Every detail was totally off the wall but articulated and executed so well.

VM: Any last advice for Vandy students who are having a hard time deciding what to do after graduation?

AL: Really dig deep and figure out what you're good at and what you like to do. If it's writing or math or weddings, figure out what your passion is and how to make money doing that. That's really the bottom line. Money is great and having a passion is great, but the two of them really go best when paired side by side.



stylemepretty.com

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS!

GET THE WORD OUT...

Are you hoping to have a large turnout at your student organization's events this year? Would you like to tell Vandy students about your organization and the events you may be planning?

The Vanderbilt Hustler and Versus are GREAT ways to reach the Vandy Community three times a week. We have GREAT rates for registered student organizations and campus departments.

Please let us help you promote and publicize your group and events so that they may be as successful as possible. Please also consider advertising in your student newspaper to celebrate special occasions/honors/people in your group.

Please call our **Student Media Advertising** office (322-4237) or stop by the Advertising Office (Sarratt 130) to reserve your ad today!



REACH VANDERBILT.

advertising
WITH STUDENT MEDIA AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

join.

Join us as we cover Vanderbilt University.

Our Student Media groups offer a wide variety of options for gaining valuable experience in the fields of reporting, photography, writing, graphic design, tv production, video editing, advertising, radio production, copy editing, on-air dj, television anchor, humor and satire writing, poetry, art, editorial cartoons, podcast creation, multimedia production, political writing, music writing and much more.

Use your voice.

To learn more about each of our media groups visit www.vscmedia.org

StudentMedia^{*}
AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

read. watch. listen

VERSUS and THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER
are excited to announce your chance to

WIN

your very own

Buddy 50 Scooter

from East Side Scooters

(valued at \$2,000) and a Scooter Safety Class (courtesy of LearnToRide.org)



During the next three weeks, you will have an opportunity in each issue of Versus and The Vanderbilt Hustler to submit your name in a drawing to win the scooter before Spring Break.

Look for contest details and your first chance to enter in this Friday's Vanderbilt Hustler.

The scooter will be given away on

Wednesday, February 25



by **EAST SIDE SCOOTERS**

718 Gallatin Ave. • 226-1100 • www.eastsidescooters.com
Open Tuesday to Friday from 11-6 and Saturday from 11-4

LearnToRide.org



MUSIC

*"He's a couple sandwiches short of a picnic."
— Lance Bass*



SETLIST

TODAY

Have you ever met a semi-successful author? Do you own a signed copy of a book you may never read but can show off to your friends and potential girlfriends? Go to Davis-Kidd Booksellers at 7 p.m. to get a free John Hancock from **Inman Majors**, author of the new novel "The Millionaires."

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

Do you have any musical talents to put on display or feel inclined to listen to some real, fresh Nashville acoustic jams? Head over to **Cafe Coco** for some good food, good company and better aural atmosphere. Performances start at 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

The Basement is celebrating four great years of entertainment, sound and revelry. Join them for a night of great performances, including sets from **Ricky Young, The Ettes, The Howlies, Those Darlins** and more! The free fun starts at 8 p.m.

QA WITH FRAT STAR LEGENDS & MEN OF PAWS

Versus Magazine: Why did you all decide to form Men of Paws? Have you been musical your whole lives?

Anson Wilks (vocals): Mostly since I was age five, for me, personally.

Pete Wild (drums): I've been playing drums for my whole life.

AW: I took four years of piano. It's why I sing so well.

PW: I was the drummer of my jazz band in high school, so, I've been into music pretty much my whole life.

Mike Gold (keyboard): I never learned formally. I am in the Nashville in our Living Room group, though.

VM: What do you say to your critics who say that Men of Paws is just one guy with talent (Gerber) and a bunch of guys looking for attention?

AW: I say, look at how many No. 1 singles we have.

PW: I say, we're children of the '90s. We grew up loving it, we all have the passion for it ... and to those critics, who are saying that, you know, here we come.

AW: Most people say we only care about the fame, but we also care about the money.

PW: So, here we come.

VM: Friday, right? Your first show is this weekend?

PW: Yeah. We're opening for Groove Addiction on Friday night at Pike's Peak.

All: HEYOooooo!

VM: Do you guys have an idea of what you're going to play?

PW: Uh, we actually can't tell you that. ... Uh, legally we aren't allowed to inform you unless we get royalties from Versus. Come to the show and find out.

VM: Just give me a taste of your setlist — what is one song that people can expect to hear?

PW: "Because I Got High."

VM: Do you have an estimated time that you're going to go on? So your fans know when

to head over?
PW: I would say around 11.

VM: Are you expecting a lot of groupie action on Friday night? Girls go crazy for musicians, you know.

All: I know, I know.

PW: I know from personal experience.

Ross Shahinian (manager): I thought girls went crazy for engineers ...

PW: I was in a band in high school called the Kung Fu Beatniks, and that's where I really got a taste for it, I think. ... And once the forbidden fruit is tasted ...

AW: You can't go back.

VM: Do you think that other people are jealous that you're in Men of Paws and they're not?

RS: I think they're jealous 'cause we look good.

PW: They're jealous of the action we're getting, probably.

AW: There are just so many levels of jealousy.

PW: The money, the fame, the glory, the talent, the women.

VM: Who are your influences?

AW: Do you mean who do WE influence? We were a big inspiration to Bon Jovi, I think. We still maintain a pretty good relationship with him.

PW: What inspires me? Shallow, MacGyver, online shopping, Paul Landon ... I get my influences from the world around me.

AW: Yeah, I mean, we're just white-collar kids.

PW: Yeah. I didn't grow up listening to The Lovin' Spoonful, I didn't. I grew up listening to what was playing at the mall.

AW: Listening to "Take It To The House."

PW: This is who I am, this is who we are.

AW: And if you don't like it, get out of the way, 'cause we're going straight to the top.

VM: Are you going to play covers or original material?

PW: I'm glad you asked. We actually have been working on some stuff. ... One song that I've been working on that I actually haven't told anyone about yet is called "Put Deez Nuts In Yo Moutf."

AW: That's one of our main projects we're working on right now.

VM: What style of music is that?

AW: It's kind of ska-based with an offshoot of jam band, I'd say. With a little bit of techno in there. Infused.

MG: That's where I come in. That category.

PW: I mean, he's a modern Stevie Wonder, I'd say. Except he can see. But, you know, to get into character he actually sometimes blindfolds himself.

VM: Are you going to be wearing costumes at your show on Friday? Blindfolds maybe?

PW: Um, no. No costumes, just hand signals. What do we look like, a bunch of animals?

(All band members throw up signature paw sign.)

AW: We're not KISS.

PW: We let our music do the marketing for us. No gimmicks. There's no Men of Paws lunch box.

VM: Not yet.

PW & AW: Not EVER.

AW: We're kind of like Led Zeppelin, in that

They influenced Bon Jovi and Bruce Springsteen. Their frontman has "flocks" of groupies following his every move. They're famous on Vanderbilt's campus, and they haven't even played their first show. The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity band, Men of Paws, is poised to become the Greek scene's hottest house band. Music Editor Avery Spofford sat down this weekend to talk with the Men, the myths, the legends: Men of Paws.

Men of Paws is: Pete Wild (drums), Taylor Gerber (guitar), Mike Raffaniello (various rhythm), Nat Pariseau (occasional guitar), Anson Wilks (vocals), Nick Berini (vocals), Mike Gold (keyboard) and Ross Shahinian (manager/sound engineer/back-up dancer).

respect. You know, we're very dedicated. Mike and I didn't even go out last Saturday night because we were preparing for the show. You have to get to bed before a show at like, 11 o'clock. Every night. Some people think it's all sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll, but it's not.

PW: This is hard. What we're doing is not easy.

VM: How often do you guys practice? You practice a lot?

PW: Every day.

AW: Every few weeks. We let our show speak for us.

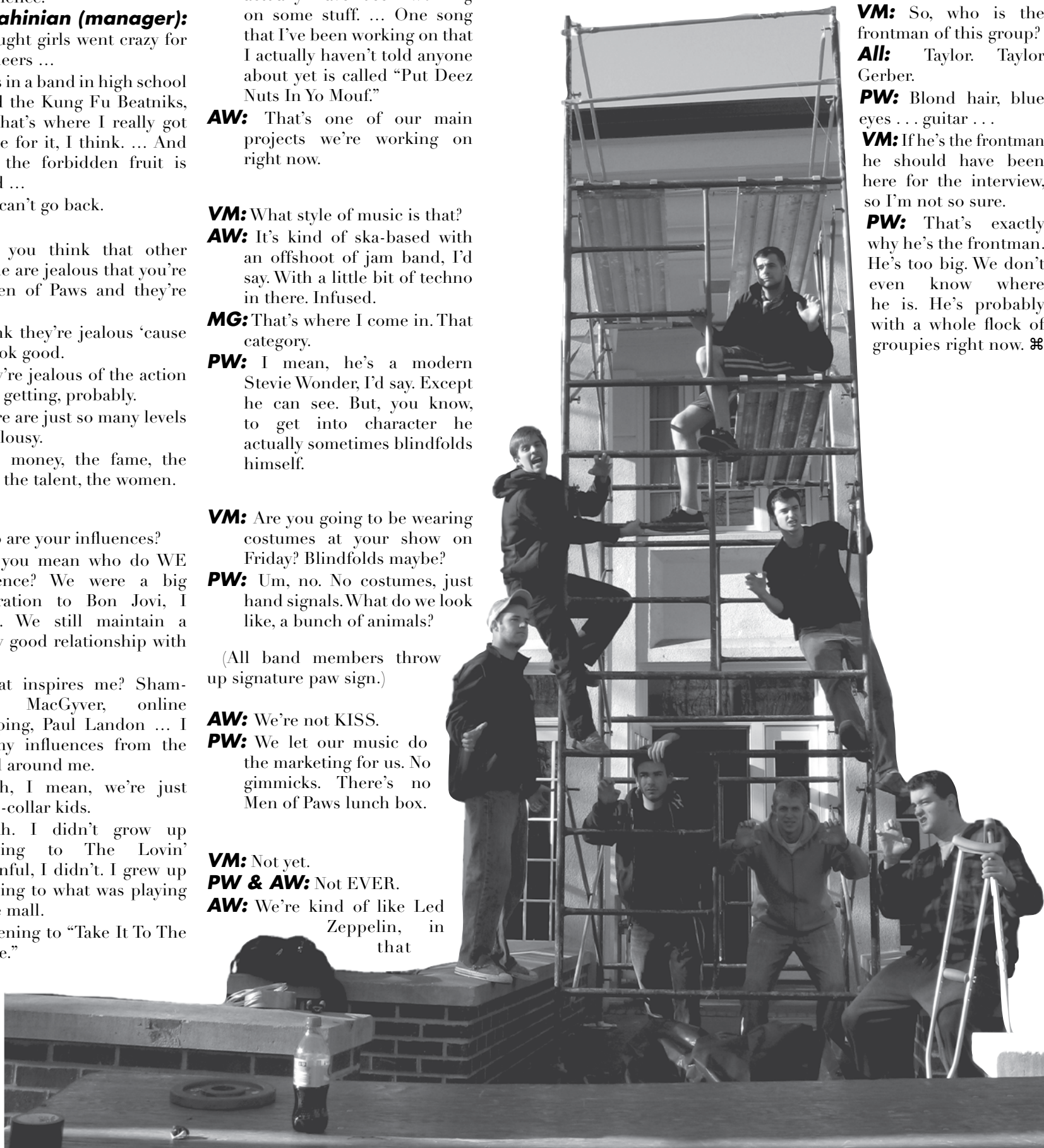
VM: So, who is the frontman of this group?

All: Taylor. Taylor Gerber.

PW: Blond hair, blue eyes ... guitar ...

VM: If he's the frontman he should have been here for the interview, so I'm not so sure.

PW: That's exactly why he's the frontman. He's too big. We don't even know where he is. He's probably with a whole flock of groupies right now. ☹



Battle of the boy bands: O-Town vs. LMNT

O-Town: The greatest boy band in the whole entire universe

SARA GAST
Managing Editor

It was no small twist of fate that led me to flip on ABC nine years ago this May in a hotel room in Des Moines, Iowa, and discover The Show That Changed My Life. "Making the Band," for my 12-year-old heart, was the greatest thing since "Sabrina: The Teenage Witch" went off the air. Following the lives of five gorgeous boys around while they tried to make it big in the boy band world? Let me set my VCR recorder.

True fact: O-Town is actually the best boy band of the middle-school era. What other band came together on a reality TV show? And was that attractive? But let's look beyond their five (read: not four) beautiful bodies to the songs. "Liquid Dreams" became their biggest hit on Billboard, although it will always fall second to my all-time favorite jam: "All or Nothing." Listen to these lyrics: "Cause I want it all/Or nothing at all/There's no where left to fall/When you reach the bottom it's now or never/Is it all?/Or are we just friends?/Is this how it ends?/With a simple telephone call/You leave me here with nothing at all." You can't fake rhyming

like that. And what about the subtlety in these lines? "I've had the rest of you/Now I want the best of you/It's time for show and tell." That's almost as hard to decipher as "I wanna go all night/Ain't no stoppin' 'till the breakin' of the dawn/I wanna go inside every corner/Girl, you really turn me on" (from "We Fit Together"). And their name? O-Town. Come on.

Another true fact: I still have a crush on Ashley Parker Angel (despite Shelly and his decision to name his child Lyric). He even was one of the members (note: that's a plural) who went on to have a successful solo career (as Link in "Hairspray" on Broadway — that's talent + hotness right there). His spiky blonde hair and weird name was so sexy, and with politically correct company like Dan, Jacob, Erik and Trevor, who could resist? The guys may have broken up the band in 2003 (the best never do stay together for long) after an unfortunate second album, but they will live on forever in their self-titled debut and in the hearts of fans like me, who still have their poster on the wall and the DVD of the tour. In the words of the prophetic "You Can't Lose Me": "No no no no/You can't lose me." ☹

LMNT: Greater than the sum of its parts

CHRIS GEARING
Editor in Chief

Element — a component or constituent of a whole (from dictionary.com). LMNT — one of the best boy bands of all time.

Don't mistake my purpose here, folks. They're no Backstreet Boys or *NSync. But beyond that beautiful precipice, there exists a shimmering beacon of boy band greatness — LMNT. OK, that may be a bit dramatic, but they just destroy that heap of trash called O-Town.

I don't know about all of you, but when I hear the opening chords of "Hey Juliet" blasting on Greek Row (yes, it does happen), my heart jumps. Nay, it sings. Sings with the joy and carefree spirit of my youth, harkening back to the days when you could just tell a girl, "I think you're fine/You really blow my mind/Maybe some day/You and me can run away," and you were set! She was putty in your hands the rest of the night at that awkward middle school dance. But if you don't believe me, let's just check the facts.

FACT: LMNT was formed by three bros who met on the set of "Making the Band" and formed a much better (or less lame) boy

band. Who, in fact, won "Making the Band," you ask? That's right, it was O-Town. Lame.

FACT: LMNT attended charity functions and performed at numerous benefits including the Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation's benefit. You know who didn't do things like this? O-Town.

FACT: Every time "Hey Juliet" comes on your radio/stereo/iPod/whatever, you can't help but get goosebumps and prepare for the first verse. I can't even remember the last time I heard a song by O-Town.

Honestly, I don't see where the decision is here. LMNT has suggestive song titles like "Hold Me Down," "Keep It Coming" and the metaphorical "Shangri La" (word play is awesome). They even make literary references in their songs to Shakespeare! (Take that O-Town!) They may not understand that everyone dies at the end of the play, but that doesn't stop them.

In summation: LMNT rules, O-Town drools. They're more like Blow-Town. If you need further proof, you only need to read maybe three lines of this article's opponent. But hey Juliet, don't let it get you down. Even though both bands are broken up, one of them still wants to be your Romeo. ☹

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

Get some good belly laughs in this Saturday night watching a live stand-up performance from one of the country's top female comedians. For \$23, Zanies will present you a set from **Kathleen Mitchell** and some happy memories. Bring friends — they'll thank you.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

Enjoy a lazy Sunday at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts. Check out their new exhibit **Paint Made Flesh**, an amalgamation of works since the mid-1900s that depict and represent the artistic potential of human flesh. Doors are open from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; a viewing will cost you a quick \$6.50.

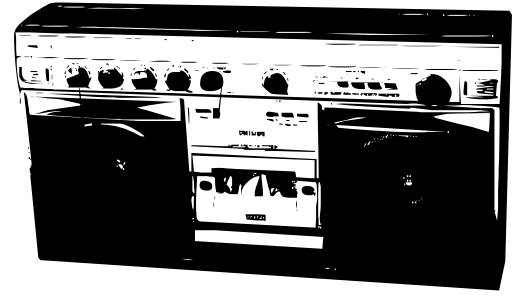
MONDAY, FEB. 9

In the mood for some honky-tonk, hip-moving Western swing music from a wild and crazy group of fellers and gals? Attend **The Time Jumpers'** performance Monday at Station Inn. It'll cost you \$10 to listen to their mix of classic and original tracks. Show up by 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10

If you thought The Time Jumpers were good, spend the night camped out in Station Inn's bathroom (or go home and come back the next night) for a performance by the bluegrass ensemble **Mashville Brigade**. Their set kicks off at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$8 a pop.

SOUNDTRACK TO THE ISSUE



We at Versus have excellent taste in music. Below, the editors share what tracks we've been spinning as we create the glory you're holding in your hands.

1. "THIS MODERN LOVE" **Bloc Party**
2. "I DON'T FEEL LIKE DANCIN'" **Scissor Sisters**
3. "THAT'S NOT MY NAME" **The Ting Tings**
4. "LOVE STORY" **Taylor Swift**
5. "HOMETOWN GLORY" **Adele**
6. "RICHMAN" **3OH!3**
7. "WILDCAT" **Ratatat**
8. "MATHEMATICS" **Little Boots**
9. "COURTSHIP DATE" **Crystal Castles**
10. "SAVE ROOM" **John Legend**

It's pronounced Wall-Ay: Sig Ep to host emcee

TRIP COTHREN
Culture Editor

Wale (not whale), was born as Olubowale Victor Akintimehin. It turns out this kid, now 24, has quite the ability when it comes to rap. Being hailed as the next Jay or Kanye, Wale is coming to play in Nashville on Friday night at Club Nocturnal for Sigma Phi Epsilon's annual White Party. This promises to be a great show and opportunity to hear one of THE up-and-coming rappers of

our generation.

Wale grew up in Washington, D.C., which has not exactly been the breeding ground for great rappers. So, when this unassuming man of Nigerian descent stepped into the limelight last year with his hit "Nike Boots" and the remix with Lil' Wayne, he took some true rap fans and lucky iTunes free single grabbers for a thrill ride. I picked up this single last year for free and have been

listening steadily ever since. This guy knows what he's doing. He is lyrically very talented, and as for beats, they're decent. He only has this single in full production at the moment with a new video for it all over iTunes and mtvU.

However, he has released five mixtapes, mostly online, for free. They aren't exactly easy to find, but once you do, you will love your life! His newest, "The Mixtape About Nothing" is really something to

be downloaded (again, for free). Some of the mixtape was played during an inauguration party initially hosted by T.I. and Kanye. Wale made the news by sticking around to play and honor the president as long as people would listen. I really think his upcoming performance at the White Party will prove to be one of the best "frat" appearances in a while, if ever, and maybe one of the best concerts in the Vandy area. ☼



allontheair.wordpress.com

The Boss rocks without a wardrobe malfunction

ALEX GOLDBERG
Staff Writer

Bruce Springsteen lived up to his reputation as a voice of the American working class by bringing his often sold-out shows to every living room in America during the Super Bowl XLIII halftime show. Whether you're rooting for the Cinderellas from Arizona or the perennial Super Bowl contenders the Pittsburgh Steelers, the halftime show offered all fans an opportunity to pick up some dinner or rock out. Springsteen's appearance was so good

it redeemed all of the respect I lost for the world from watching the three-dimensional SoBe commercial with Ray Lewis dance like an adolescent girl at her best friend's Bat Mitzvah. Springsteen and the E Street Band made Super Bowl XLIII even more exciting than it already was with Larry Fitzgerald and Antonio Holmes scoring touchdowns in the last five minutes to try to get their teams on top.

With great performances of "Tenth Avenue Freezeout," "Born to Run," and one

of his latest singles, "Working on a Dream," Springsteen and the E Street Band made Super Bowl XLIII an event where even I had trouble deciding when to go outside to pick up my Papa John's. There was so much energy coming through the television screen that I finally felt like one of those lucky individuals who have been able to attend a Springsteen concert in the last few years.

During a period when the Super Bowl halftime show has been filled with artists like Prince not even playing his own

music (he spent half of his 12-minute performance performing Foo Fighter cover songs), Aerosmith having to share vocal performances of their songs with Britney Spears (remember Super Bowl XXXV?) or overshadowed by wardrobe malfunctions (Justin Timberlake and Janet Jackson will never be asked to play a Super Bowl halftime show again), Springsteen and the E Street Band have helped to make it once again one of the greatest musical events of the year. ☼



delewareonline.com

Grammy 2009 Preview

CHRISTOPHER RAY
Staff Writer

Roll out the red carpet — it's Grammy time. This year's nominees range from the revolutionary (Radiohead's "In Rainbows") to the ridiculous (the Jonas Brothers? Really?). 2008 may not have been the greatest year in music history, but there is still plenty of quality packed into this year's nominations.

Record of the Year:

Leona Lewis's "Bleeding Love" is the frontrunner in the first category. However, the song faces stiff competition from Coldplay ("Viva la Vida") and "Please Read the Letter" by Robert Plant and Alison Krauss. Rounding out the nominees are "Chasing Pavements" by Adele and "Paper Planes" by M.I.A.

Album of the Year:

Guess who's favored in this category? Hint: It's the most downloaded album in history. Coldplay's "Viva la Vida (or Death and All His Friends)" was an enormous hit, but this award is far from a runaway. Lil' Wayne's "Tha Carter III" is a strong candidate, as are Plant's and Krauss' "Raising Sand." Ne-Yo also stands a chance with "Year of the Gentleman." It would be supremely ironic if Radiohead won a Grammy with their anti-establishment "In Rainbows," famously released as a choose-your-price download, but this remains entirely possible.

competition from Duffy, Nashville's own Lady Antebellum and R&B upstart Jazmine Sullivan. Oh yeah, I almost forgot ... the Jonas Brothers are, for some reason, here, too.



virginmedia.com

The general categories at the Grammy Awards show off the biggest names, but some treasures are buried in the depths of the nominations. Watch out for Flight of the Conchords to repeat their win from last year in the Best Comedy Album category, while "The Odd Couple" (Gnarls Barkley) may knock off Radiohead in the Best Alternative Album. ☼

The Grammy Awards air on CBS on Feb. 8 — be sure to check them out!



images.businessweek.com



blogs.villagevoice.com

Song of the Year:

"Viva la Vida" is up again but probably won't net a win here. "Chasing Pavements" is a strong competitor, as is Estelle's "American Boy" (featuring none other than Kanye West). Look out for singer-songwriters (and personal favorites) Sara Bareilles and Jason Mraz with their respective hits "Love Song" and "I'm Yours."

Best New Artist:

Adele looks strong here. Her surprise nominations in Record and Song of the Year suggest that she'll probably have the support to take this award. She faces

JOHN CABOT UNIVERSITY

IN ROME SINCE 1972

JCU IS THE FIRST AND ONLY REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INDEPENDENT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN ITALY



STUDY ABROAD AT A US UNIVERSITY OVERSEAS
CONTRIBUTE TO GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING

EXPLORANDO EXCELLO: SUMMER/FALL

Visit our website and learn more
www.johncabot.edu

RESTAURANTS

So Valentine's Day is coming up and you don't want to wait until the last minute to make a dinner reservation. Here are a few restaurants you could call ahead at in order to secure that romantic, candlelit table for you and that special someone.

Perfect location + amazing food at Sunset Grill

EILEEN BEGLEY
Staff Writer

After too many visits to Qdoba and T.G.I. Friday's, I knew it was time for a Meal Money change. I was looking for a Taste of Nashville restaurant with fresh ingredients and creative, tasty dishes. So I went to Sunset Grill, known for outstanding service and seasonal dishes, for a birthday dinner.

My friends chose the Hillsboro Village-based Sunset Grill because the food is so delicious, affordable and within walking distance from campus. After we sat down, we were presented with a menu offering a wide selection of seafood, steak, chicken, pasta and their famous Sunset Burger. Their menu even appeals to the pickiest eaters. Originally I decided on sea scallops, but I changed my mind when a

friend suggested their beef tenderloin. I finally decided on their seafood special, seared black cod.

As my meal was placed in front of me, many "oohs"



quickly. Sunset's low-key, casual atmosphere led to a relaxing meal, ending in the entire restaurant singing "Happy Birthday."

If you're going on a date or even need a change of pace, Sunset Grill is the perfect place. And if you are looking to bump into a celebrity, Sunset Grill is a lunch favorite among the music industry. With Valentine's Day around the corner, make your reservations quickly for Sunset. With

and "ahhs" were followed by, "That looks so good. Can I try some?" And it was all excellent, including my friends' meals. The best part of the meal was dessert. Their Chocolate Framboise, a rich chocolate cake, and their Vanilla Bean Creme Brulee were devoured

entrees ranging from \$10 to \$32, your date will no have no trouble choosing what to eat.

Reservations for dinner are recommended, and they accommodate large groups, as well. Their number is 386-3663. ☼

You can eat at typically and tastefully at Tayst

HOLLY MEEHL
Culture Editor

I often spotted Tayst on my way driving to Green Hills, and after looking at their unique menu online, I decided to give it a try. The food was good, the atmosphere was pleasant, but leaving the restaurant there wasn't any part of me that felt as if I desperately needed to come back — especially with its pricey selections. Overall it was simply a "nice" eating experience, but not unforgettable.



Tayst has appealing dishes that are prepared well and satisfy a college student's desperate need for protein leaner than a C.T. West burger. Their menu consists of intricate appetizers called "First Taysts," simple salads called "Second Taysts" and then larger portioned plates called "Main Taysts." I first ordered their Signature Chef

Salad, which fulfilled my longing for fresh greens and was also topped with some delicious goat cheese. It was a good, predictable start to a meal. I then ordered duck that

version of hushpuppies rather than spending all the money on their bigger plates.

The decor of Tayst is warm and inviting with a small bar in the front and a larger, red brick-walled dining room in the back. The most interesting thing about Tayst is that it is a "green" restaurant, so it does get points for conserving energy. But it loses some for its prices. All the appetizers are around \$10 and all the entrees are \$20 and up. If it were a little cheaper I might consider returning to try some other things on the menu, but with the economy the way it is, it simply isn't worth it.

was served on top of a savory wild mushroom risotto. The duck was cooked perfectly and the risotto was tasty, but it was nothing I hadn't had before (or had better somewhere else). I think if I were to go back to Tayst I might stick with ordering a few of their more interesting appetizers such as pumpkin-encrusted shrimp or their complex

However, I do feel like I am being a bit harsh on Tayst. All my friends left happy with their meals, as did I, but I know I've had many better meals here in Nashville. But if you are a foodie and enjoy trying new places, check out Tayst and you can be the judge. ☼

It's cheap — in every way

SARA GAST
Managing Editor

When some of my friends and I decided we were in the mood for Mexican last Friday, we decided to do more than the typical Fiesta Azteca run. We decided we would take the extra two blocks and try out the sketchier, neon-glowing Las Palmas just off West End.

We were seated fairly quickly, which should have been the first dead giveaway since it was 7 on a Friday night. The second giveaway was the note that said they would close by 6 on Super Bowl Sunday. But we sat down optimistically and whipped open the menu. There was some good news to be found: my dinner would be cheap. Items like enchiladas, tacos and quesadillas (a la carte) started at \$2, and adult beverages were listed at \$3 and up.

Since the beginning of time, I have judged Mexican (well, Mexican-American) restaurants across the



warm. And each basket came with a generous bowl of a very mild, chunky salsa. But in the second division, I have to say it may be one of the worst enchiladas I've ever had. It was hard to tell if there was any filling in the tortilla, which was covered by a questionable, lukewarm brown and white sauce.

Additionally, the service was less than great. The restaurant didn't seem to be overly crowded (no one was waiting for a table until near the end of our meal), but our waiter seemed to forget about us for the most part. I'm used to my Mexican food costing just a couple bucks, but

usually the whole experience hasn't been as cheap. If you're into an economical way to get chips and dip, head on over to Las Palmas. If you're into the food part, too, looks like you need to keep on looking. ☼

country by two things. 1: the quality of their chips and salsa. 2: the quality of their enchilada. Las Palmas takes home a big plus in the first category. While the basket was slow to be refilled, when fresh chips came, they were

country by two things. 1: the quality of their chips and salsa. 2: the quality of their enchilada. Las Palmas takes home a big plus in the first category. While the basket was slow to be refilled, when fresh chips came, they were

Southern comfort on a budget

COURTNEY ROGERS
Features Editor

Some of the best food within walking distance is hidden away on Elliston. Versus has already showcased the out of this world sushi at Samauri, and on page 7 there's a nod to a Fiesta, a favorite Vandy watering hole that also serves tortilla chips and Mexican food. But if you're going to cross those five lanes of traffic and you're in the mood for down-home cooking, Rotier's is the only place to go.

Tucked away with little more than a blazing neon sign to distinguish it, Rotier's is a hidden gem despite its history. The family behind Rotier's has been running it since 1945, and from the look of the place, it hasn't changed much since the day it opened. The inside may not have a lot

of atmosphere other than worn in booths and walls crowded with pictures and awards — most proclaiming its recognition in Jimmy Buffett's song "Cheeseburger in Paradise."



Those over the age of 21 would probably favor a beer, but my go-to beverage at Rotier's is a creamy black and white milkshake. They're so thick that you can barely drink them through a straw, but just grab a spoon and take it in stride. For side options, french fries seem to be the obvious choice, but go creative and try to hash brown casserole. Every bite will be a fight with your conscience; you know you'll be hitting the gym later to work off the carbs, but it's so good that not eating it is nearly unthinkable.

Many of these awards are for the Best Cheeseburger from the Nashville Scene and Citysearch. According to their Web site, they've won that award 11 years in a row and with one bite of the burger, you'll see why. Made fresh daily, the burger is juicy and tender and is served up on a hunk of french bread. The crunch of the bread is a perfect pairing with the other textures and flavors.

Rotier's has a lot more to offer beyond these tried and true favorites, so keep these choices in mind but peruse the rest of the menu before you settle on anything. No matter what you choose, it's tough to go wrong. It's tempting to stay within the confines of the taste of Nashville restaurants, but take a walk on the Elliston side of the street you'll be pleasantly surprised. ☼

BY THE SEA

RESORTS

Beachbreak By the Sea Beachcomber by the Sea Legacy by the Sea

Spring Break is better...
BY THE SEA!

Why? Rooms right on Panama City Beach from \$49* per night, rooms across the street for even less, 1,100 feet of sugar-white beach, heated gulf-front pools and whirlpools, Spring Break specials at our beachfront bar and grill, locations minutes from Spring Break hot spots and the Pier Park shopping and entertainment complex and more. Learn about our VIP contest and all the Spring Break mayhem at bythesearesorts.com.

Call 888-627-0625 to claim your room now!

*Rate based on double occupancy and does not include tax.

SILVERADO

DANCE HALL & SALOON

1204 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville (615) 360-2003

COLLEGE NIGHT

Sponsored By Nashville Promotions
EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT!
DJ ACE
Spinning The Hottest Top-40 Mix In Town!

From 8:00 - 11:00
FREE LONGNECKS
& DRINK SPECIALS
\$2.75 - "U CALL IT" Well Drinks
\$4.75 "Long Island Tea"

The Hot & Beautiful SILVERADO DANCERS
Come And Check Out The
VERY COOL Luxurious VIP Room

CHILL - ZONE

18 to Enter / 21 to Drink!
Admission With College ID
18-20: \$7.00 21+: \$5.00

www.NashvilleSilverado.com

SUNDAY NIGHTS
DJ THE INCREDIBLE HULL
Spinning Today's Hottest
TOP 40
10:00 - 3:00am
\$800
wet
T-SHIRT CONTEST
\$500 - 1st Place, \$200 - 2nd Place, \$100 - 3rd Place
FREE LONGNECKS
From 7 - 11

THESE GIRLS ARE
HOT!

VANDY LINGO!

WE USE A LOT OF WORDS TO GET AROUND OUR DAILY LIVES. WITH SO MUCH SLANG, WHO NEEDS WEBSTER? WE AT VERSUS ARE INTO REMAKING AND DECODING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, ONE CAMPUS AT A TIME.

COURTNEY ROGERS

Feature Editor

HOLLY MEEHL

Culture Editor

VANDY FOOD

"RANDWICH":

A sandwich from Rand. Toasted and melted to perfection, these creations are one of the most popular choices during the daily lunch rush. This semester, the Randwich line is competing with the post office for longest line in the world. To avoid spending half of your lunch break waiting for food, either go for this line at an off-time or pick up a pre-made sandwich on the shelf in Chef James.

"FOURTH MEAL":

Formerly just a gluttonous creation of Taco Bell's ad executives, the freshman class has readily adopted this term as their way of fighting the man for the full value of their meal plan. Without rollover meal money for missed meals, the freshmen have taken to hording food at the stroke of midnight.

"FRO-YO":

Frozen yogurt is an icy delight that is a point of near obsession for many Vandy kids. It's available at Rand, the Branscomb Munchie and the smoothie stand. Just this semester, Yogurt Oasis on West End went on the Card, a move that will only increase fro-yo consumption. The result: goodbye Meal Money, hello candy toppings.

"BÊCO":

Short for Bread & Co., a restaurant name so short that an abbreviation is highly unnecessary but useful nonetheless. Frequented by main campus residents due to its convenient location on 25th Avenue and West End, it's the frilly, carnivorous, non-vegan sandwich, salad, soup and pasta answer to Grins and all that peanut butter.

"FIESTA":

The restaurant everyone wishes was on the Card. The food is questionable, the chips are addictive and plentiful, but the true draw of Fiesta Azteca is their beverage selection. Pitchers are plentiful and the refreshments of the frozen and strawberry variety hit the spot after a tough week. Be 21 or make sure you know your eye color (sometimes they ask).

PARTY PHRASES

We work hard, we play hard. We also know many different ways to express our "playing hard." If you're looking for a new way to say, "Let's go out," check out these rage-worthy phrases.

"LET'S GET HAMMERED!"

No, we're not saying we want to get hit over the head by a metal weapon from the tool shed. Rather we would like to go out, go crazy on the sauce and perhaps feel as if we've been hit by a hammer the next morning.

"LET'S PLAY!"

We're not talking Barbies or Hotwheels, but rather an updated type of "play." One that involves a deck of cards, a pitcher of punch and perhaps Catch Phrase.

"RAGE, RAGE, RAGE!"

This has become the most popular party term recently. It involves drinking large amounts of liquids, dancing on stages or sinking small pingpong balls into cups.

"WE ARE FRAT HOPPING"

One frat has got you down? Well, there are 15 more, with typically at least three throwing huge ragers on any given weekend night. So bounce around, because just going to one is never quite as fun as hitting them all.

DTR

"DTR" (SHORT FOR "DEFINE THE RELATIONSHIP"):

In the multiple meanings of the phrase DTR, "define the relationship" is clearly the true one. It battles with "down to rage," which we all know means "get hammered," but let's ignore that for the moment and define the term "define the relationship."

We've all been in that place of limbo, where you've been seeing someone for awhile but you don't quite know what you're doing with the other person. You've been dating, sort of, if dinners at Bread & Co. and lunch at Quiznos counts. You're sort of exclusive in that you can dance up on some other guy or girl at a frat party but a DFMO (dance floor make out) is a no no. You hook up, you hang out, you go to each other's date parties, but you haven't gotten to that stage of boyfriend-girlfriend. You're frustrated and want to know what the deal is, so you lay down the lingo. Let's DTR: define the relationship. Let's figure out what we are, what we're doing and if we can finally change our relationship status on Facebook from single to "in a relationship" or maybe even just swipe that single status off. DTR — it's time to make things a little less complicated.

"Define the relationship" is clearly the better choice between the other meaning of DTR, "down to rage." We have a bounty of other phrases to explain getting crunked, such as "let's get tanked," "down to party," "ready to rage" and many more. "Define the relationship" is its own breed of terminology.

ABBREVIATED LINGO

We are always in a hurry here at Vanderbilt — we don't like to waste any time. In order to save that fraction of a second we have become inclined to shorten our entire English language.

"MIS" (SHORT FOR "MISERABLE"):

This is often referred to as the way you feel on a Saturday morning after a long night of raging. Or perhaps the girl sitting in front of you has on the most hideous vest you've ever seen. Any which way, something dreadful can be described as "mis."

"TOTES" (SHORT FOR "TOTALLY"):

This little adverb is very useful and can be the friend of quite the selection of words. It accentuates whatever you are describing and shows perhaps how "totes" excited you are for Tortellini Tuesday. If you really want a power play on words, say something is "totes mis" to express your extreme dislike for the paper your anthro teacher has just assigned you.

"DEF" (SHORT FOR "DEFINITELY"):

I like to use this shortie for exclamation on how excited I am to make plans with someone. "Let's go to Green Hills this weekend?" My response: "Def!"

"OBVI" (SHORT FOR "OBVIOUSLY"):

You throw this gem out when perhaps your bff has made some already established comment that really needs no answer in the first place. "We're raging tonight right?" "Obvi!"

"JEL" (SHORT FOR "JEALOUS"):

The green-eyed monster is upon you. Instead of switching in those olive-tinted contacts, just express your feelings with three simple letters.

So if your life has been mis because you have not lived in abbrevs and are tots jel of all those other kids saving tons of time in conversation, you should def start shortening now, obvi!

DORMS AND LIVING

"THE BOD"

Peabody Campus. The administration is trying to re-brand it as The Commons, a wonderful freshman oasis free from the influence of the main campus community. Now that the freshmen have crossed over 21st Avenue, it is time for their upperclassman peers/sisters/brothers to educate them on the classic abbreviation for their home.

"KISSLAMED"

Being put in Kissam housing against your will. It happens every year, previously only to naive freshmen, but now it's an epidemic plaguing sophomores and even (gasp) juniors. Sure they've added some beanbag chairs and a grand total of two ellipticals. Despite improvements, Kissam is still the housing equivalent of the elephant graveyard in "The Lion King."

"MUNCHIE"

Short for Munchie Mart, which is a bastardization of the Varsity Markets. Filled with anything a college student could need, this is a store that would make Whole Foods cringe. There are shelves of Easy Mac, single servings of cereal and more frozen or microwavable options than should ever be seen.

"BRANSCOMB"

A dorm complex that is prized for its convenient location to Greek houses. Perpetually known as the wildest dorm at Vandy, it lives up to that reputation though it lacks the space to really throw down. Freshmen, take note: A "suite" in Branscomb is not really a suite. It's a bathroom, nothing more.

"SEXILED"

Odds are, if you have a roommate, you've been on either side of the sexile equation. It's awkward, somewhat selfish, but basically unavoidable. The best call is to have a signal or text your roomie to let them know what's up. Just make sure you don't do this to your roommate before their big chemistry test that counts for half their grade.

LETTER FROM AN ANGRY WASP

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



Dear People Who Park By Towers and Never Move,

Wow, yeah, now that you mention it your parking spot is really amazing. I sure wish one of those would open up when I need it so I can be right by my dorm. When do you think your car will be moving again? Oh, spring break? That's cool.

WHY DO YOU EVEN HAVE A CAR HERE?? You realize that it would be SO much cheaper just to fly down than it would be to drive back and buy a permit for a car that you never, ever use, right? What, you really like driving here and then just having your car available just in case? Awesome. Is there any way you could perhaps store the closet on wheels somewhere else?

I swear — it's like you plan it. "Gee, I should probably leave an extra day early so I can get that sweet parking spot right in front of the dorm so that I never, ever have to move it ever." Yeah, thanks for that. You can't just temporarily put it in front of the doors and then put it in the garage since it won't be seen by you again for three months?

I feel like I could tow your car and you wouldn't even notice. Please do us all a favor and save us the frustration of trying to find the few available parking spots around your permanent spots. A five-minute walk once a semester isn't going to kill you. Seriously.

Sincerely,
An Angry WASP

DTR 2.0

"DTR" (SHORT FOR "DOWN TO RAGE"):

"Down to rage" is a relative newcomer to the Vandy slang scene, but it's earning its stripes very quickly. After hearing it mentioned only weeks ago, it has already worked its way into my vocabulary and has usurped the previous meaning of DTR ("define the relationship"). Don't get me wrong, define the relationship was a useful abbreviation, but down to rage is definitely DTR 2.0.

Think of it this way: When you say DTR about relationships, you can't just say DTR. You have to give a whole backstory that usually involves how you met, how the Facebook friending and messaging has been going, how long you've been hooking up, etc. Every DTR relationship has its own fits and starts, so even though you're trying to abbreviate it, if you ever want your friend to know the whole story you'll probably need a half hour and a pint of Ben and Jerry's to get through the whole telling. DTR as "define the relationship" doesn't work because even though people will generally get that you don't know where your relationship is headed, you have a lot of talking ahead of you to get them on the same page.

In contrast, "down to rage" is simple and needs very little explanation. Really, the only questions you need to ask are: who? where? and when? You don't need how and why; the how is assumed and why is completely superfluous. There is always a reason to celebrate, and raging is just an intense way of celebrating anything you wish. Defining relationships is messy, and even though raging can also create a mess, if done correctly some great stories and pictures will come out of it. So, students of Vandy, take a break from trying to decipher text messages and conversations and choose to BE "DTR," the right way.

FLIP SIDE

Hustler and Versus can be read online at InsideVandy.com

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



WHO SEES THIS AD?
11,500 STUDENTS
 and many faculty/staff, parents and alumni

SUDOKU: To solve, fill in the blanks so the numbers 1-9 appear just once in each horizontal row, vertical column and 3x3 box.

	9			8				
							6	5
6				2	9		7	
		8					2	5
		7	2	6	1	4		
	6	9					7	
	2		9	1				8
8	5							
				4				3

2/2/09 SOLUTIONS

4	7	8	6	5	9	3	2	1
3	5	6	2	4	1	8	7	9
9	1	2	7	8	3	5	4	6
8	9	4	5	1	2	7	6	3
5	2	7	8	3	6	9	1	4
6	3	1	9	7	4	2	5	8
7	4	9	3	6	5	1	8	2
1	8	3	4	2	7	6	9	5
2	6	5	1	9	8	4	3	7

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Chamber
 - 5 Tidy any loose ends
 - 10 Lawn waterer
 - 14 Ms. Bombeck
 - 15 Surfaced
 - 16 Ms. Fitzgerald
 - 17 Ceases to function
 - 18 Graveyards
 - 20 Dusting powder, briefly
 - 21 Bound
 - 22 Incarnate
 - 23 Shaq of the NBA
 - 25 Like a haunted house
 - 27 Nationalistic
 - 30 Flier
 - 34 Besets
 - 36 Skier's transport
 - 37 Stallone, to friends
 - 40 The Greatest
 - 41 Guillemot's cousin
 - 43 Wail like a baby
 - 44 Promissory notes
 - 46 Most favorable
 - 49 Heavy reading
 - 51 Incorrect
 - 55 Radio, TV, etc.
 - 57 Flash of light
 - 58 "I Love Lucy" studio
 - 61 Retirement letters
 - 64 Centerward
- DOWN**
- 1 Colorful grass
 - 2 Journalist
 - 3 Fallaci
 - 3 Brunch order
 - 4 Lash coating
 - 5 Speed-of-sound number
 - 6 Dunkable treat
 - 7 City under Vesuvius
 - 8 Operate
 - 9 One Fonda
 - 10 Marshall or Hoover
 - 11 Jumble
 - 12 Snow glider
 - 13 Not difficult
 - 19 Give forth
 - 24 Bart's sister
 - 26 Cream-filled dessert
 - 28 Norway's capital
 - 29 Taiwan's capital
 - 31 Easy as
 - 32 Train unit
 - 33 Make an effort
 - 35 Japanese wrestling
 - 37 Take a chair
 - 38 Old card game

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15							16			
17												19		
20														
23				24			25	26						
27										30	31	32	33	
37	38	39		40					41	42		43		
44				45					47				48	
49												52	53	54
58	59	60												
65														
68														70
71														73

- 39 M-m-m good!
- 42 "Fu"
- 45 Part-time athlete
- 47 Turncoat
- 48 Singer Etheridge
- 50 Vend
- 52 Sounded like a pig
- 53 Loose
- 54 Tramples
- 56 Compositions for two
- 58 Daily start
- 59 Fencing tool
- 60 Take to the sky
- 62 Ceremonial act
- 63 Dull pain
- 66 Flatfoot

2/2/09 SOLUTIONS

M	A	T	E	R		A	V	A		W	E	I	G	H			
A	R	O	M	A		B	O	X		H	O	S	E	A			
D	E	N	I	M		C	L	I	S		I	N	A	R			
R	A	G	T	A		C	O	T	S		Y	E	S				
E	S	A		Y	A	S	H	M	A	K	S						
						H	A	S	T	E		I	S	L	A	N	D
S	P	O	O	N		E	D	E	N		A	S	E	A			
A	I	R	B	A	S	E		A	S	O	C	I	A	L			
P	L	A	N		E	D	I	T		S	K	A	T	E			
S	E	N	O	R	A		R	E	A	M	S						
						B	E	L	M	O	N	D	O		P	G	A
B	R	A			P	E	E	N		O	S	C	A	R	S		
L	A	G			A	R	D	I	A		I	O	T	A	S		
A	T	O	M	S		T	I	N	C		N	O	I	S	E		
B	E	G	A	I	T		A	G	E		G	L	O	S	S		

Why are L.C. & Heidi fighting?
What bands are heading to Nashville?
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF LIFE?
 If you can answer any of these questions you should work for us. Seriously.
VersusVUgmail.com

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT!

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR PORTRAIT TAKEN YET? TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

Let's include every undergrad in the 2009 Commodore yearbook

Yearbook portrait photographers are on campus this week in Sarratt 112, behind the Baseball Glove Lounge

It only takes a few minutes, and there is no cost to sit for your portrait

Seniors: Make your Senior Portrait appointment now at VanderbiltCommodore.com, before the schedule fills up!

Non-seniors: Drop by Sarratt 112 anytime between 9-1 p.m. or 2-6 p.m., today through Friday

2009 Commodore Yearbook details at VanderbiltCommodore.com

OFFICE OF HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION

TO: Undergraduate Students
 Returning for the Fall Semester 2009

FROM: Jason A. Jakubowski,
 Director of Housing Assignments

SUBJECT: Apply for 2009-2010 Housing February 9-22

All undergraduates returning for fall 2009 must apply for the housing assignment process for the 2009-2010 academic year. To apply, direct your Web browser to <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd> and click on the link to the housing application anytime between Monday, February 9 and 12:00 midnight, Sunday, February 22. Your VUnetID and password are required for logging in to the application.

Students who apply after the deadline of 12:00 midnight on Sunday, February 22 will (1) not be allowed to reserve their current spaces; and/or (2) lose a point of seniority for the housing assignment process.

Students who will be entering their fourth year of study in fall 2009 are eligible to request authorization to live off campus at the same web site, between Monday, February 9 and 12:00 midnight, Sunday, February 22. Students requesting off-campus authorization must first have applied for on campus housing.

If you hope to study abroad, participate in an internship program, or take a leave of absence next fall (Fall 2009), but are not certain that you will do so (i.e., you have not yet been accepted or are unsure that you will participate) - then you should apply for and participate in the housing assignment process for next year. See "A Guide to the Housing Assignment Process: 2009-2010" for details. (The Guide will be available for download from our website in late February.) If and when it becomes clear that you will study abroad, participate in an internship program, or take a leave of absence, please notify the Office of Housing and Residential Education (322-2591) of your plans immediately.

Students who plan to live in Greek houses for the fall semester of 2009 must apply for the housing assignment process before the close of the application period, 12:00 midnight, Sunday, February 22. They should consult with their chapter presidents. These students should also complete Greek house authorization request forms and submit these forms to their chapter presidents. Presidents are responsible for assembling the Greek House authorization requests into packets for their houses and for submitting the complete packets to the Office of Housing and Residential Education, 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle, by the deadline of 12:00 noon, Friday, February 20.

More information about the housing assignment process is available on the housing website www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd and at 322-2591.

Cumberland Transit

2807 West End Ave
 Nashville TN 37213
 615-321-4069