



OPINION: Pippen announces her candidacy and platform for VSG senator — kind of. [SEE PAGE 4](#)

SPORTS: Men's tennis team salvages weekend with victory over NC State Wolfpack. [SEE PAGE 7](#)

New NASCAR internship offered for engineers

by **ALLISON McDONNOLD**
News Reporter

A new internship for Vanderbilt engineering students interested in NASCAR racing has now been made possible thanks to a \$10,000 donation from Dollar General.

The partnership includes the Vanderbilt School of Engineering, Braun Racing and Braun Sponsor Dollar General Corporation, whose former CEO, Cal Turner Jr., is a Vanderbilt alum. Braun Racing, a NASCAR racing team based in Mooresville, N.C., has agreed to pass along equipment to the Vanderbilt Motorsports team, giving the students previously unavailable access and the opportunity to work alongside industry professionals.

President of Vanderbilt Motorsports Cody Mayer, a senior, said most members of the team are car enthusiasts and would like to work in the automotive industry after graduation, but expressed his reservations.

"It's a hard industry to get into," Mayer said. "And not necessarily realistic for everyone."

Generally, partnerships between companies and racing teams tend to be in the form of monetary sponsorship. This internship, which was announced on the NASCAR Web site, is unique because it combines monetary support with first-hand training from mechanics, engineers and crew chiefs, the kind of experience that the owner of Braun Racing, Todd Braun, calls invaluable. Braun said he hopes this training will help students work their way into the highly competitive sport.

Braun's head engineer and crew chief have already met with



photos courtesy of VU MOTORSPORTS

The Vanderbilt Motorsports team designed and built a car in the past year to enter in the Formula competitions of the Society of Automotive Engineers in April and May. The team, made up of several Vanderbilt engineering students, will compete against 40 teams in April and about 130 in May.

students in the motorsports program at their shop in Featheringill Hall.

"It was really interesting to hear what they had to say," Mayer said. "We're hoping to be able to check out their facilities, see how they do things."

Actual training with Braun employees is projected to start this summer. Some logistics have not been finalized, such as how many students will be chosen to work with Braun at their headquarters in North Carolina this summer. Members of the motorsports team expressed both

appreciation and excitement for things to come.

"Their sponsorship is really what's keeping us going right now," Mayer said.

The motorsports team, which has worked to conceive, design and build a racing car over the course of the last year, is currently preparing to compete in the Formula competitions of the Society of Automotive Engineers held in April and May. The competitions in Virginia and Michigan draw collegiate teams from around the world. Vanderbilt's team will compete against approximately 40 other teams in April and about 130 teams in May. ■



Study abroad positive addition to resume

by **ALEX HELMAN**
News Reporter

Beyond logistical concerns of studying abroad, like time and money, students must consider one additional factor in their decision as to whether or not to leave the country to study — their career.

According to Brooke Meisner, a career coach at the Vanderbilt Career Center, studying abroad can look very good to employers and give students an advantage in interviews.

"Employers are definitely glad to see it on a resume," Meisner said. He said he has heard that some of the larger firms and companies actually have separate deadlines and application processes for students who are studying abroad. For example, instead of having a deadline in the January or February, they will have an application for the semester before. "That in of itself shows interest in the candidates," he said.

According to Sarah Schlachter, a study abroad adviser in the Global Education Office, having that kind of experience tells employers a lot about a candidate.

"The No. 1 thing we think studying abroad provides (students) is flexibility and problem solving," Schlachter said.

"When an employer sees (study abroad) on a resume, that person comes across as adaptable. Just the fact that you're living in a situation where so many of the rules that normally apply don't, that can be a pretty big switch," Meisner said.

Adaptability can be a very attractive asset,



NICOLE MANDEL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Daniel Kosbonm leads a study abroad general information session for undergraduate students considering study abroad.

considering the nature of today's job market, according to Meisner.

"A typical length of time that someone stays at a job is two to three years and that's a lot of switching around," he said. "The workplace is changing, the jobs people are doing are constantly changing and having the international perspective can help someone adjust and adapt to drastic change."

Nevertheless, some employers see this adaptability as a red flag, Schlachter said, especially if it is not presented the right way. She said she has heard some companies may view students who have studied abroad as "flighty" and potentially less committed to staying with the company for a long duration of time.

"I haven't heard a lot of employers necessarily say that," Meisner said, "but I can see how the question can come up. I think a person who has studied abroad should be prepared to address it."

Meisner also said another potential

concern for students studying abroad is they might not be aware of different recruitment dates and deadlines and therefore might not be as prepared as others. He said this is something that can be easily addressed, however, through proper research and preparation.

Senior Austin Rissler, who studied in Italy during his junior year, said he has already had positive experiences with employers.

"I interviewed for a financial firm, and even though (the employer) didn't directly say 'Hey you studied abroad. That's going to help you here,' he did say 'I see you studied abroad, I'm sure you grew a lot personally, that takes a lot of confidence and independence, and that can be very good for this job,'" Rissler said.

The GEO and Career Center will be teaming up for a seminar on "How to articulate your Study Abroad experience in the resume and interview process" later this month. The tentative time and place is Thursday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. in Furman 217. ■

Two more arrested in Colas murder case

by **EVE ATTERMANN**
Managing Editor

Two more people have been arrested in connection with the murders of late Associate Professor Pierre Colas and his sister at his East Nashville home in August.

According to Metro Police booking, Lavonta Churchwell, 19, and Nathaniel Carson, 29, were taken into custody late Friday night. Churchwell, who faces six charges and a bond set at \$210,000, has a court date for Feb. 26. Carson faces 11 charges and bond set at \$250,000 and no court date as of press time.

The Tennessean reports that the two are the fifth and sixth suspects arrested in the case, and are being indicted on murder, robbery, identity theft and forgery charges.

Colas, who was an associate professor of anthropology, and his sister Marie were shot during a robbery at Colas' home. Colas died that day, while his sister, who was visiting from Switzerland, died at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center four days later.

Four suspects were charged in August with double criminal homicide after a police investigation led to the discovery of several high-ticket items being purchased from local businesses with Colas' identification. The four suspects were seen smiling and laughing on store surveillance tapes. Police were able to make the arrests based on a description of the car used during the purchases. Suspects George Eugene Cody, 29, and



photo courtesy of VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

Colas had been an associate professor in the anthropology department for three years when he was murdered in August.

Gennyfer Dawn Hutcherson, 35, live on West Sharpe Avenue, two blocks away from Colas' home. Suspects Thomas Andrew Reed, 20, and Michael Shane Holloway, 22, were there with a group that sells magazines and were staying at the La Quinta Inn. The four know each other through a relative.

Colas joined the Vanderbilt faculty in 2006 as an associate professor of anthropology and a scholar of classic Mayan culture. He specialized in the ethnography of the Yucatec Maya of Belize and cave archeology projects. He was also fluent in six languages and researched hieroglyphic characters as a means of understanding the political and religious structure of Mayan society. Colas earned his Ph.D. at the University of Bonn and the University of Cologne in Germany. ■

Judy Wang contributed reporting to this article.

Refugee influx spurs student groups to action

by **OMAR EL-KHATTABI**
News Reporter

Nashville will soon become host to more refugees as some of the nearly 60,000 displaced Bhutanese make their way to the city, The Tennessean reported on Feb. 3. As a result, student groups have taken notice.

Nashville has become home to nearly 3,100 refugees since 2002 and is now ranked 28th in the nation for refugee resettlement, according to State Department statistics.

With a large population of Sudanese and Somali refugees especially, several Vanderbilt groups have dedicated themselves to working with the refugee

population and their families. With the recent influx of refugees into the surrounding area, more students have also become involved in the effort to help the refugees.

Senior Jennifer Hirsch, the president of Students Taking Action Now: Darfur, has spent much of her undergraduate career working to aid refugees all over the world to assimilate in Nashville. She said she has recognized an immense growth in student interest in helping the refugees around the city over the past few years.

She said she thinks the 400 students involved with STAND testify to the willingness of students to dedicate their time and efforts to a cause that

Please see **REFUGEES**, page 3

NEWS INSIDE: Undergraduates collaborate on small business marketing with Owen School of Business. [SEE PAGE 3](#)

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SNAPSHOTS

compiled by EVE ATTERMANN

WEATHER

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TODAY



HIGH **70**, LOW **53**
Mostly cloudy

TUESDAY



HIGH **63**, LOW **55**
A.M. showers

WEDNESDAY



HIGH **66**, LOW **36**
T-Storms/wind

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SERVICE GUIDE

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

'Vagina Monologues' held in Sarratt Cinema in honor of women's health

CALLIE JONES, NEWS REPORTER—"The Vagina Monologues" will be held this year on Feb. 12, 14 and 15 in Sarratt Cinema.

"The Monologues" is a play by Eve Ensler as primarily a benefit performance for VDay, a global movement to end violence against women. The Vanderbilt performance will be benefiting the Project Safe Violence Against Women Hardship Fund, helping survivors who need health and legal assistance.

"The Vagina Monologues are a collection of monologues that are both poignant and humorous stories of women's experiences throughout their lifetime," said Kacy Silverstein, co-director of Project Safe. There are 17 students, faculty and staff members involved in this year's performance. The spotlight monologue involves the atrocities committed against women in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The performances are at 7 p.m. each night. There will also be a VDay fair beginning at 6:30 p.m. before each performance in the Sarratt gallery. Vanderbilt and community groups will be there with information, resources and merchandise involving violence against women. Tickets are \$15 and available through Ticketmaster and in Sarratt Student Center on the card.

Obama faces tough week; stimulus, bailout on tap for divided Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama plunges into a difficult test of his leadership this week, struggling to get a divided Congress to agree on his economic recovery package while pitching a new plan to ease loans to consumers and businesses.

The Senate's \$827 billion stimulus legislation seems assured narrow passage by Tuesday. Harder work for Obama and the Democrats comes in the days ahead, when the House and Senate attempt to reconcile differences in their two versions.

Obama and Democratic Party leaders had hoped to have a bill ready for the president's signature by Feb. 16 — a deadline that grows more challenging by the day.

At the Treasury Department, Secretary Timothy Geithner delayed the unveiling of a new bailout framework for financial institutions from Monday to Tuesday to let the administration focus on the Senate legislation.

WHO GETS WHAT: Billions to colleges and students

DURHAM, N.C. (AP)—The stimulus plan emerging in Washington could offer a multibillion-dollar boost in financial help for college students trying to pursue a degree while riding out the recession.

It could also hand out billions to the states to kick-start idled campus construction projects and help prevent tuition increases.

But cuts of \$40 billion for state and local governments in the Senate version were a big disappointment for college leaders.

House-Senate negotiations will determine whether education aid to the states is relatively modest or massive — and how much gets directed to high-need institutions for building projects, versus elite universities that would benefit if the final package spends more of the money on scientific research.

CLAIRE CONSTANTINO
Opening Monologue

Economy: Rad is bad

The disappointment from the Labor Department's recent announcement that 3.6 million jobs were lost last year was supposed to be tempered by the news that things are not yet as bad as they were in 1982, when employment losses as a share of the total economy were about 3.1 percent compared to our current 2.6 percent. I beg to differ. Things are beginning to look eerily like 1982, even here at Vanderbilt. My new strategy to rejuvenate our economy is to fight against the '80s revivalism pervading our culture. I know it will be hard for all of us to make the switch because we have grown to love the easy materialism and jaunty attitude we trace back to that totally boss decade.

But think about it, when first we wore shoulder pads and incorporated way too many neon shades into one outfit while fist pumping to "Don't Stop Believing," we

had the horrible economic crisis of 1982. So fold your collar back down, take off those Ray-Bans and look and the facts.

The '90s were pretty good times. Maybe we should take more cues from the grunge era, wearing more flannel and less glitter (cheaper) and embracing our cautious and introspective sides instead of blindly confident one (smarter investment philosophy). Plus, most of the freshmen (er, first-years) were born in the '90s and are now considered God's gift to Vanderbilt. The rest of us are just outdated scum from the '80s to be run off with ringworm and Rand food.

Perhaps we should just take the hint from Vanderbilt and accept the '90s. Let's just hope the 1930s don't come back into style, because another Great Depression would totally be grody to the max — oops, the '80s are a hard habit to break.

Tragedy of tragedies

Juicy Campus, the infamous college gossip Web site, closed down recently as the latest victim of the poor economy.

Matt Ivester, the CEO of the website and presumably quite a jerk, had this to say in his open farewell letter: "I'd like to thank everyone who has engaged in meaningful discussion about online privacy and internet censorship ... (but) Juicy Campus has also been a place for the fun, lighthearted

gossip of college life."

I can only hope Ivester does not understand the definition of words like "meaningful" or "lighthearted," or he has never read the content of his own site.

All joking aside, I will be lost without Juicy Campus to guide me through Vanderbilt in meaningful discussion gossip. Now I might have to leave my room and form my own opinions about people and groups on campus. The horror!

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, FEB. 9

• VUcept 2009: Apply Yourself

Applications to become a VUceptors next year will be made available on the VUcept Web site, <http://www.vucept.org>. There will be four information sessions held in Sarratt Student Center and The Commons Center Feb. 10, 11, 18 and 19. Each session will begin at 7 p.m.

• Chancellor hosts McGill Hour

Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos will discuss the topic "History and the Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the New Deal" at the event sponsored by McGill Hall. Free pizza will be provided, and the event will begin at 5 p.m. in the McGill Hall TV Lounge.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

• One Night, One Voice

The Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality, Students Taking Action Now: Darfur, Tennesseans Against Genocide and other groups will host a public screening of "Violence Against Women in Darfur" followed by discussion and an expert panel discussion. The screening will be held in the Divinity School Art Room G-20 and will begin at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

• Preservation of East African music

"Blair in Africa: Researching and Collecting African Music" will feature both a performance by Ugandan musician Centurio Balikoowa and a discussion of their efforts to preserve and collect East African music led by Associate Professor Gregory Barz and Holling Smith-Borne. The event is free and open to the public and will begin at 6 p.m. in Ingram Hall.

SNAPSHOT

BOOKSTORE HOSTS SIGNING



JAMES WEAVER / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Author Sheg Aranmolate reads excerpts from his book "Actuate: 100 Days To Freedom" during a book signing at the bookstore Friday.

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3. Turn in the entry form either by dropping it off on The Wall (11 a.m. — 1 p.m. on Wednesdays Feb. 11 & 18) or anytime during business hours at East Side Scooters (718 Gallatin Ave., from now until Feb. 24). Entry forms received on The Wall count once, and entry forms received at East Side Scooters count five times.

The contest is only open to Vanderbilt undergraduate and graduate students, and the scooter will be given away on

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REFUGEES: STAND leader calls for greater student awareness

From REFUGEES, page 1
requires immense patience but does not necessarily produce immediate results.
“It takes time to realize certain things — like just getting an English-learning refugee to learn how to spell simple words like ‘shoe’ — is an accomplishment,” Hirsch said.

Despite this growth, Hirsch does recognize that students are

not as involved in refugee aid as they are with other organizations. She said she thinks this is due in large part to a lack of student awareness of the issue. Several students said they agree.

“Almost no one seems to be aware of the gravity of the current conditions,” said first-year student Michael Arwood. “There are very few students on campus who realize that a huge

amount of refugees have arrived here in just the past decade. These refugees, especially the newcomers, need any help they can get.”

“Sometimes I get the feeling that some Vanderbilt students think all immigrants are just cab drivers,” said junior Meredith McKenney. She has volunteered at the Sudanese Community and Women’s Service Center

since June 2007, working with Sudanese refugees as well as immigrants from Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

She said she has developed friendships with the women she has worked with, connecting with them on a level of humanity that transcends the barriers of language that she often came across.

McKenney said she was

especially affected by her experience teaching English to an Egyptian woman who was able to achieve U.S. citizenship.

“It’s very rare when you do something that you get to see the results,” McKenney said of the experience. “She ran into the center with an envelope saying, ‘I’m a citizen, I’m a citizen!’ ... That brought me to tears.”

McKenney and Hirsch both

said the increase in student participation with on-campus groups such as the Sudanese Center and STAND is an immense step forward in helping refugees integrate into American society. With more and more students joining together to help, Hirsch said she thinks it is clear the Vanderbilt community is as giving as the Nashville community is belongs to. ■

Underused Divinity School cafe could become Rand lunch alternative

by HAYLEY KARLAN
News Reporter

Students frustrated with overcrowding and long lines at Rand Dining Hall might want to head over to the Divinity School for one of the newest editions to the meal plan, Suzie’s Cafe.

Located in the Refectory of the Divinity School, the cafe opened last semester and students who dine there say it is relaxing and delicious, though it remains an unknown alternative to many others.

Suzie’s Cafe replaced the old faculty dining facility in the refectory. The cafe outsources from local catering companies and families and offers everything from German chocolate coffee to pasta salads.

First-year student Meredith Critez said she was intrigued by the yellow sign outside Benton Chapel at the beginning of second semester and has eaten lunch at Suzie’s every day since. She said she never eats at Rand because of the crowds and long waits for food.

“I come for the food and the atmosphere. It’s nice to be able to

do work in between classes. A lot of people don’t know about it, but I’d definitely recommend it,” Critez said.

“There are definitely regulars who come here everyday. There’s a lot of divinity faculty, but mostly students,” said Emily Roge, an employee who has worked at Suzie’s since its opening. She said lunchtime is the busiest for the cafe, and she thinks it will become a more popular dining choice as more people discover it.

Suzie’s isolated location in the Divinity School may have something to do with its relatively small number of diners.

According to first-year student Rachael Campisi, location is key to her dining option. Even though she has heard of Suzie’s, she said she will probably never eat there and will continue to eat at Rand everyday because of its proximity to her classes.

“Everyone goes to Rand. It’s always busy, but The Commons is too far away. If we had more dining options, people would use them, but only if they were in the right place,” Campisi said. ■

Owen students create site aimed at college trip planning

by RUTH KINSEY
News Reporter

A Web site designed by students at the Owen Graduate School hopes to help students plan spring break and other road trips.

According to the graduate students who created it, My College Road Trip offers a unique perspective because college students write the material with other college students in mind.

“The best thing is that it narrows down the mass amount of information about cities or things to do in a particular destination to the things that college students care the most about,” said Virginia Francis, Owen graduate student and vice president of brand management at MCRT.

Andrew Bouldin, founder and CEO of MCRT, said he came up with the idea of the Web site while he was driving home from a weekend road trip.

“I realized that there was no way to find out the coolest things for college students to do around my college on any given weekend,” Bouldin said. Once he got home, he said he began to search the Internet for quality travel information aimed at college students and could find nothing. All information on potential vacation destinations was written by parents and businessmen, he said. Bouldin

found a group of fellow students who shared his irritation and MCRT was born.

Many Vanderbilt students contribute to running the online business. Involved are not only the Owen graduate students who launched the Web site, but also undergraduate students in Associate Professor of Managerial Studies Cherrie Clark’s Advanced Marketing class.

“They are implementing a viral marketing project to promote the site,” Francis said. “They are using online tools such as Facebook and blogs to promote the site to college students around the country.”

Owen graduate students involved in the project will be able to use their experience in forming an online business toward their business degrees. This spring the students will all be doing independent study for the business so they can receive school credit for the work they put in.

MCRT is just one of the many businesses founded by Owen students while they are still enrolled in graduate school.

“The culture of the program at Owen is just wonderful,” said Jim Bradford, dean of the Owen Graduate School of Management. “So many students run their own businesses while here at Owen. Just yesterday, I went to the screening of one of our student’s films,



NICOLE MANDEL / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Associate Professor of Managerial Studies Cherrie Clark’s Advanced Marketing class is participating in an online trip-planning business run by Owen graduate students.

which will premiere in New York in the next few weeks.”

Bradford credits Owen’s significant jump in the Financial Times’ Business School rankings to the students’ eagerness to start their own businesses.

The Owen Graduate School of Management jumped 20 places in the world rankings of the Financial Times and is now ranked the 56th best business school in the world. It also jumped 15 spots in the U.S. business school rankings of the Financial Times’ and is now ranked as the 28th-best business school in the country. ■

◆ ALPHA DELTA ◆ PI

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Emily Weinstein
Lindsay Weiss
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Raquel Zemtsov

Housing Selection Calendar 2009-2010 *****

The dates are set and we are ready for this year’s Housing Selection Process! Currently enrolled, returning, single undergraduates will participate in the general random selection process for housing for the 2009-2010 academic year between March 13 and April 10. Listed below are the important dates and processes that you will need to know and attend.

Housing applications were accepted during the period of February 9-22. **If you have not yet applied for the housing assignment process, please do so immediately.** To apply, direct your Web browser to <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd> and follow the link to the upperclass housing application. Your Vunet ID and e-password are required for logging in to the application.

For detailed information about assignment policies and procedures, please consult A Guide to the Housing Assignment Process: 2009-2010. A downloadable version of the Guide can be found on our website www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd. For more information, visit our website at www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd. Students with questions should contact their Assistant Director or the Housing Office at (615) 322-2591. The following dates are important as you prepare for the random selection:

February 9-22	On-line registration for housing and off-campus. Register at www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd for housing, 2009-2010. Deadline to apply is 12 midnight, February 22.
March 10	Apartment/suite reservations in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle, 12 Noon- 6 pm.
March 11-16	On-line registration for Carmichael Towers suite ballots. Register at www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd . Deadline to submit ballot is Monday, March 16, at 4:30 pm.
March 12	All ballots available for apartment/suite selections: 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle—8 am-4:30 pm. Four-Person Chaffin apartment—Blue ballot Two-Person apartment—Pink ballot Three-Person apartment—Gold ballot Four-Person Branscomb Quadrangle suite doubles—Lime ballot Ballots only accepted on due dates.
March 16	Deadline to decline off-campus authorization without penalty, in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle. Decline by 12 Noon, March 16.
March 17	Check OHARE Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) at 5:00 pm for Carmichael Tower suite selection order and designation of selection times posted.
March 18	Four-person apartment (Chaffin) ballots accepted, 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle, 8 am-4:30 pm. Blue ballots due by 4:30 pm, March 18.
March 18	Carmichael Towers Suite selections in Branscomb Recreation Room.
March 19	Local Hall selections: Stapleton and Lupton-6 pm- Branscomb Recreation Room Carmichael Towers East-6 pm—Mr. Hebs Tolman-7:00 pm—TV Lounge Cole-7 pm—TV Lounge Vandy/Barnard - 8 pm - VIB Lobby Kissam Quad-8 pm-Mims Lobby
March 19	Check OHARE Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) at 12 Noon for four-person apartment selection (Chaffin) order and designation of selection times posted.
March 20	Two-person apartment (Morgan & Lewis) ballots accepted, in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle, 8 am-4:30 pm. Pink ballots due by 4:30 pm, March 20.
March 20	Four-person apartment selections (Chaffin) in Branscomb Recreation Room.
March 22	Check OHARE Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) at 12 Noon for two-person (Morgan - Lewis) apartment selection order and designation of selection times posted.
March 23	Three-person (Morgan & Lewis) apartment ballots accepted, in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle-8-4:30 pm. Gold ballots due by 4:30 pm, March 23.
March 24	McGill and McTyeire selections. McGill - 7 pm - Branscomb Rec. Room McTyeire - 7 pm - McTyeire Fireplace Lounge V.I.P. selections - 8 pm - Branscomb Rec. Room
March 25	Check OHARE Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) at 12 Noon for three-person (Morgan & Lewis) apartment selection order and designation of selection times posted.
March 25	Two-person (Morgan & Lewis) apartment selections in Branscomb Recreation Room
March 26	Four-person Branscomb Quadrangle suite doubles (Scales/Vaughn) ballots accepted, 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle, 8 am-4:30 pm. Lime ballots due by 4:30 pm, March 26.
March 27	Three-person (Morgan & Lewis) apartment selection, in Branscomb Recreation Room,
March 29	Check OHARE Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) at 12 Noon for four-person Branscomb Quadrangle suite selection order and designation of selection times posted.
March 30	Four-person Branscomb Quadrangle suite double selection (Scales/Vaughn) in Branscomb Recreation Room
March 31-April 2	Rising sophomore ballots available, in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle, 8 am-4:30 pm. Ballots due by 4:30 pm, April 2
March 31	Rising seniors/juniors random selection for singles and doubles, in Student Life Center-Board of Trust Room. Women from 5:30 pm, Men at 7:30 pm
April 2	Ballots due for rising sophomore singles/doubles selection by 4:30 pm., in 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle. Ballots due by 4:30 pm, April 2.
April 4	Check OHARE Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd) at 12 Noon for rising sophomore singles and doubles building assignments and selection schedule.
April 7-9	Rising Sophomore singles/doubles random selection, in Branscomb Recreation Room, 5-10 pm.

OPINION

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Politico hypothetico



CAROLYN PIPPEN
Columnist

Politics are in the air, and I've got the bug. Inspired by this historical presidential election, as well as our own race for Vanderbilt's new student government leaders, I hereby announce my candidacy for VSG senate.

(I'm not really. This is a satire. I'm creating a hypothetical situation to make a point. There may be sarcasm involved, keep your eye on the ball).

First of all, let me just say I am not in this for the fame and fortune. There are some very serious social and economic issues affecting our campus community today: issues of racism, sexism and homophobia. Alarming ramifications of the national financial crisis. Obviously, I will not be campaigning on these points as they, you know, matter. But let me tell you what I will be talking about:

VandyVans! And I mean a lot of VandyVans. I'm picturing a continuous caravan circling campus with no more than three meters between each one. In an attempt to contain the spread of ringworm, they will no longer stop at Kissam, but no worries, because I will replace it with nine more stops on The Commons. The line barriers are a good idea, but I will take it a step farther: red carpets. Imagine stepping off the van at stop North C in your '80s bomber jacket and aviators onto a sea of red velvet and waving to your adoring fans. Baller.

I will improve adviser quality. For real this time, I will also make them better professors, better husbands and fathers, better golf players and better looking. Don't worry about the how. I have a machine.

Now I'm not the most technologically savvy among us, but I know we've got some serious problems in that arena. Rumor has it there are a few square feet left on campus where wireless internet remains inaccessible. (For the English majors: "wireless internet" is tech jargon for Facebook). I will bring civilization to these areas. And then I will take it away, so that next campaign season, I can put it back. It's all part of the game.

We need our syllabi posted online before the start of the semester. I'm not really sure why, though; I think it has something to do with college students becoming disoriented over breaks when they are unable to complain about their workloads. If we put the course descriptions up on Blackboard, it allows for ample anticipatory bitching, and that's fun for everyone.

On a similar note, we need a Rites of Spring overhaul. After four years of listening to my fellow students talk about how terrible the musical acts that come to campus are, it occurs to me that what we really love the most is talking about how terrible the musical acts that come to campus are. If we keep raising the caliber of artist at all of our concerts, that conversation is going to get more and more difficult to have, so from now on, we're lowballing it. I'm thinking B*witched, anyone?

I know what you're thinking. These are not the issues that keep us up at night. They are not the problems that so desperately need creative and drastic solutions. But now that Juicy Campus no longer exists, we can go back to pretending that they don't either. In the meantime ... Vote for me!

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



EDITORIAL

Vanderbilt students should welcome immigrants

When most students think of Nashville, country music or the Titans come to mind, not immigration. According to a survey from the State Department, since 2002 over 3,100 refugees have immigrated to Nashville. One fortunate outcome of the English-Only initiative was that many Nashvillians started considering the difficulties of newcomers to the city.

Let's be honest, Nashville is a metropolis, but not necessarily cosmopolitan. Walking down Second Avenue North, Southern culture is prevalent. However, this does not mean the city is not open to others. Toshiba and Nissan have branches just outside the city proper and walking around campus, it is obvious that while the southern culture predominates, there are other factors in the local gestalt.

However, just because students are becoming increasingly aware of the refugee situation does

not mean we can coast. As first-year student Michael Arwood said, "These refugees, especially the newcomers, need all the help they can get." Speaking English is only one of many problems the newcomers face on a day-to-day basis. While many groups help them face these sorts of challenges, including Students Taking Action Now: Darfur and Sudanese Community and Women's Service Center, the issue is too large for such a small group of people to handle.

Nashville's culture is changing, there's little doubt of that — things tend to change, as cliché as that sounds. However instead of reacting to the situation, students should become more proactive. Vanderbilt, as a member of the larger community, is partially responsible for the future of the city. If we do not attempt to welcome them, the outcome will be divisive and will serve no purpose for either party.

Life in a fish bowl



NEILY TODD
Columnist

"Let he who is without sin cast the first stone" (John 8:7).

Several times over the past few weeks, this well-known Bible verse has popped into my head — when it was revealed that the new Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner neglected to pay several years of Social Security and Medicare taxes while working for the International Monetary Fund; when Health and Human Services Secretary nominee Tom Daschle and Chief Performance Officer nominee Nancy Killefer withdrew their names from consideration amid similar tax controversy; when a picture of Michael Phelps smoking from a bong emerged; and when Sports Illustrated reported that baseball star Alex Rodriguez tested positive for two types of steroids while playing for the Texas Rangers in 2003. One after another, America watched its heroes — both political and sports — fall from grace.

Around the clock, cable news networks kept viewers abreast of every update, and with each new piece of information, bloggers around the country raced to their computers. Phelps lost his contract with Kellogg and has been suspended by U.S.A. Swimming for three months. Daschle and Killefer lost their chances to serve in the Obama administration, perhaps what would have been the culmination of their political careers. As I write this, it is still too soon to know what the fallout will be for A-Rod. This is life in a fish bowl — every move is scrutinized, critiqued and judged. Nothing goes unnoticed.

My first inclination is to feel bad for these

public figures. Who am I to judge? I've certainly made my fair share of mistakes, as most people have. Is there really anyone who can cast the first stone? Add to this list names like former Illinois governor Rod Blagojevich and Minnesota Senate candidate Al Franken, and it appears as though today's media provides a stage for turning public figures into circus clowns. The more we learn about their problems, the better we feel about our own.

The more I thought about it, another popular quote, first attributed to author John Cumming in his 1854 book "Voices of the Dead," came to mind: "Wherever there is great power, lofty position, there is great responsibility." These public figures have chosen roles in which the American people place a great amount of trust. Whether it be the politicians who we trust to make the best and most fair policy decisions they can or the athletes to whom we look as role models for hard work and dedication, the higher one's position, the greater the burden of responsibility. A CEO's decisions in a company are viewed with more scrutiny than the decisions of the intern in the mailroom. A school principal's decisions are critiqued more carefully than those of the cafeteria worker. The more faith people place in you, the greater the fall when it comes. The benefit of being in the public eye is the increased potential for greatness — great athletic achievement, great policy reform and great service to the people. The cost of being in the public eye is that betrayals of the trust given are not easily forgotten.

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

Don't haze me, bro



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

When fraternities get in trouble, we all get hurt.

Girls are really beginning to feel sorry for themselves, because each week it seems like we are missing one more social option for the coming weekend. The term "frat-hopping" will soon become "frat-hop" and maybe even just "frat" if Greek Life keeps cracking down on them.

Probation is even worse for guys. Unless they have a strong underground network, awesome off-campus houses and/or popular pong nights, their reputation and name recognition just goes down the drain.

This has become a huge problem in the past few weeks, as it is every year around this time. It's pledge season, and the scent of hazing is in the air. It is not unusual to see guys get nervous when KT comes around the corner or clam up when asked where they were last night from 10 to midnight. Greek Life is cracking down hard this year, and all of the fraternities are on their guard.

When a student hears that a fraternity may lose everything because they made their pledges clean their suites, drive people around or drink exorbitant amounts of alcohol (as if that's not what they were planning on doing anyway), they can't help but laugh. There are national rules and guidelines, and it is understandable Greek Life wants to be cautious about what Vanderbilt's hazing situation is. It is hard not to hate on them, though, when considering their current lineup of inconsistent punishments and questionable investigations.

Hazing happens at every fraternity, the trick is just not to get caught. You can have the Chapter of the Year, for all they care, and have the most easygoing new member process on campus, but if one of your freshmen has a tough night, your fraternity can be done for. In the mean time, you could have a pledge sent to the emergency room on crutches after a night of "new member activities" and still not get into any trouble if he is loyal enough to lie.

And what's the real problem with hazing anyway? It can obviously get a little out of hand — Hollywood tells us that. But in its purest form hazing is a great thing, and fraternities would be nothing without it. Pledge classes form an unbreakable bond through their experiences as freshmen because of what they work through (or suffer through) together. When you see a group of girls on campus, unless they all have tote bags with the same Greek letters on them, you can never be sure if they are all in the same sorority or not. When you see a group of guys together, more often than not, they are all in the same fraternity.

Hazing is just like any other way of building a strong community. Some fraternities have all of their pledges dress up on the same day. How is that any different than a private school that has all of their students wear a uniform? A group of pledges may have to shotgun four beers for messing up a brother's name. How is that any different than a soccer team punished with sprints after losing a big game? A fraternity may have forced their pledges to perform in a synchronized swimming competition. I don't know what that relates to, but not many guys would choose to do that sober. Either way, every brother in the house has to go through it, so hazing can really just be seen as pledges putting in their fair share of work in order to connect with all brothers of every class.

As much sense as it makes, Greek Life does not see eye-to-eye with this way of thinking. I would like to caution fraternities to be more careful and make sure they have the loyalty of every one of their pledges — even those underground ones who they took out of the kindness of their own heart. This way we are all happy. You have a fraternity with a stronger bond, and I have rides downtown, well-decorated parties to go to and people to clean up after me when I am done.

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

THE VERDICT		
Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff. Compiled by Thomas Shattuck		
Drug cartels		From the live snakes smugglers stuff with packets of cocaine to the white tigers drug lords keep as exotic pets, rare animals are being increasingly sucked into Mexico's deadly narcotics trade.
Burglary		An Australian thief, who used a frozen chicken as a tool to break into a cafe, was caught after he cut his wrist and was forced to phone an ambulance, which is why you should always carry a hammer.
Bribery		An Indian court sentenced a 75-year-old doctor to jail for accepting half a dollar as a bribe nearly a quarter of a century ago. India's federal police caught Balgovind Prasad accepting 25 rupees from a sweeper in 1985 for issuing a fake medical certificate.
Milk		A milkman who admitted he delivered cannabis as well as pints of milk to elderly customers to ease their aches and pains was spared jail on Friday.
Parking		An Austrian woman has begun a 500-day jail sentence for ignoring parking tickets and failing to pay a cumulative fine of around 24,000 euros (\$30,860). Parking's a bitch apparently.
Miley Cyrus		Disney teen idol Miley Cyrus has said she was making a goofy face when she made slant-eye poses in a personal photograph with friends and was not making fun of Asians. On the plus side, this is her fourth time on the verdict this year.
Singapore Ibis		An international budget hotel chain is offering guests the chance to pay what they want at their Singapore property as the global financial crisis hits travel.

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.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Your voice doesn't stop here. The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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Councilmember Keith Durbin
Metro District 18
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I swear, Kissam is really not that bad

To the first-year students:

Right now, if I were in your shoes, I'd be disturbed. If The Hustler's recent series of articles is to be believed, those of you assigned to Kissam next year will be combating stalkers, ringworm and homeless people in the apparent Detroit of main campus. As a resident of Kissam, I'm here to give it to you straight. Granted, this is no secret oasis of luxury, hiding private bathrooms or concealing some degree of architectural inventiveness behind the Charles Dickens exterior.

campus accommodations including Branscomb, I'd take Kissam any day. Here's why. First of all, living in Kissam gives you serious street cred. You tell someone you lived on Hemingway 1, alongside Vanderbilt football players who de-loft their beds with one hand or on the Reinke "garden level" staring directly at the parking lot, and they won't mess with you.

Then there's the convenient location. If you're an A&S student like me, you'll have the option of waking up at 9:06 a.m. for your 9:10 a.m. class with time left over to brush your teeth. You'll be

able to meet a friend at Starbucks on 21st Ave. as quickly as you can grab a movie from Blockbuster. T.G.I. Friday's, Five Guys, Jason's Deli and Qdoba are right across the street, and there's a 24-hour Munchie Mart at your disposal.

What about the dorm rooms? Unlike Branscomb, you have the option of lofting your bed, your own adjustable thermostat and no roommate. Did you hear that freshmen? No more being awakened at 3 a.m. to "Bro, where's the trashcan?" or "Don't worry babe, he's asleep." You can watch TV with your friends in their room, and then when

you want to study, shut the door of your womb-like single and experience therapeutic solitude.

Let's dispel any undying myths about Kissamersi being mousy creatures who don't venture beyond the four walls. My hall is made up of about 40 percent fraternity guys, two Vanderbilt Student Government representatives, and numerous musicians, athletes, and club presidents. Kissam is no longer the place for shafted freshmen who couldn't find a roommate.

To assuage any skeptics, we're inviting all of you freshmen to come

experience Kissam Quad for yourselves. We're holding Kissam After Hours, our annual coffeehouse benefit featuring student performers at 9 p.m. on Feb. 20. We're also hosting "Kissam Open House" to provide freshmen with tours of the halls. Talk to your head resident for more information. Your year in historic Kissam Quad can be your best at Vanderbilt. We hope to prove it to you this month.

Marty Pendleton
Senior
Arts and Science

Running out of juice

RAVI SINGH
Guest Columnist

Goodbye and good riddance — Juicy Campus is no more! That's right folks — on February 4, college students from around the country celebrated the demise of one of the most hate-filled, racist and incredibly asinine Web sites to ever exist. For months, cowards cloaked behind a veil of anonymity attacked our community and its creed with postings that damaged reputations, slandered cultures and spread lies. Now we can rejoice because that safe haven for hatred is finally gone for good.

When Juicy Campus first arrived on the scene around this time last year, I think many of us were surprised at the level of ignorance exposed for everyone on and off our campus to see. Although we can never be sure that every poster on the Web site came from our community, we can be sure some posters were from our community because of the specificity of some of the things named. A sinking feeling of sadness and disappointment bubbled up in the hearts of many students when they saw the content on the Web site, knowing that their fellow students had created it. Many began to worry and wonder about the truths of our community — is Vanderbilt really that racist? Are we really that homophobic? Are we really that hateful?

The answer on every count — with absolute certainty and with absolute confidence — is no, no, and no. When challenged to stand up for our community, we responded and refused

to succumb to the mindless mentality of Juicy Campus. We united under the "We Are Vanderbilt" campaign to reaffirm our community's creed and show it would not collapse under the weight of a few weaklings hidden behind computer screens. "We Are Vanderbilt" succeeded and in the words of Vanderbilt Student Government President-Elect Wyatt Smith, the campaign "proved we were together all along."

With the new academic year Juicy Campus' popularity was revived by some students — who they are we do not know for sure. Even though the Web site never regained the potency or power it had last year, it was a constant reminder that the worst aspects of our community still existed. It remained a forum where some could get away with posting nonsense, idiocy, and even death threats with no fear of repercussion. Alas, there was one thing besides mental waste that the Web site needed in order to survive: money. In these tough economic times no one was willing to have their products advertised on a Web site like that, so Juicy Campus had to shut down. If we have learned anything from this debacle it is that there is still much we can do to strengthen our community. In the meantime though, let's celebrate. Look at it this way: at least one good thing has come out of this economic crisis — the end of Juicy Campus.

—Ravi Singh is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at ravieshwar.g.singh@vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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SPORTS

Three and rolling

Offensive balance
keys third straight winby NICK GALLO
Sports Reporter

The first four minutes of Vanderbilt's 71-61 victory over Mississippi on Saturday set the tone for the entire afternoon. A 10-0 run by the Commodores jumpstarted the young team, who never looked back and earned their third straight win, 71-61. The game wasn't as close as the final score indicate.

The run began with a 3-pointer by freshman guard Brad Tinsley off of an assist from junior guard Jermaine Beal. The play was an offensive set drawn up by the coaching staff, and it was executed to perfection. The rest of the spurt included three rebounds and a block by center A.J. Ogilvy, two slashing lay-ups by freshman forward Jeffery Taylor and a 3-pointer by Beal. At that point, the wind was completely out of the Rebels' sails, and the Commodores cruised to victory.

Not only did the Commodores come out scorching hot, but the Rebels started the game ice cold, missing their first eight shots on their way to shooting a miserable 24 percent in the first half of the game.

"The reality is, when you don't make shots it's hard to have a lot of energy," said Ole Miss coach Andy Kennedy.

Offensive balance keyed the Commodores' dominance and subsequent lead by as many as 20 points in the second half. Ogilvy finished with 17 points, Taylor with 14, Tinsley with 12, freshman Lance Goulbourne with 11 and Beal with 8. Nine players played nine or more minutes for Vanderbilt, and everyone who touched the floor had a positive impact on the game in some way.

Ogilvy agreed that the team's scoring distribution was a key factor.

"I definitely think the scoring spread shows that everyone stepped up and scored when they need to," he said.

Vanderbilt's ball movement was key Saturday, but in the first half their ability to keep Ole Miss' offense out of their comfort zone gave them an early edge. By switching between man-to-man and half-court zone trap defenses, the Commodores exposed the Rebels' weaknesses



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

George Drake and A.J. Ogilvy high-five fans after defeating Ole Miss on Saturday. The Commodores have won three straight and now begin a stretch against five consecutive SEC East opponents.

on offense, which forced nine turnovers and led to 15 fast-break points for Vanderbilt.

"I just thought our guys were really locked in. I think they felt the urgency to get off to a really good start. We tried to change back and forth to keep them off balance," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings.

The zone forced the Rebels to launch more 3-point attempts than most teams hope for, shooting 28 in total. In the first half, Ole Miss was off, going 2-13. Only in the second half did some of those 3-pointers start falling, but it was too little, too late. When Ole Miss took those low percentage shots and turned the ball over, it led to run-outs by the Commodores, who took full advantage. Many times, those fast-break points came in the form of highlight reel dunks by Taylor, and in one instance a beautiful alley-oop dunk on a pass from Taylor to Ogilvy.

The win on Saturday capped a huge week for Vanderbilt, who really needed the two league wins at Memorial Gym before going into a full week off. Tinsley understood the importance of the games.

"These were two big wins for us as a team and for the league aspect," Tinsley said. "It was a lot of fun to watch and a lot of fun to play."

Overall, this Commodore team seems to be turning itself around a bit, but they have a tough schedule left to play.

Stallings has certainly been encouraged by their play of late.

"I'm proud of this team, we're getting better," Stallings said. "I really like their attitudes and their coachability." ■

Freshmen shine in
convincing victoryby BRIAN LINHARES
Sports Reporter

In the first half of the Commodores' Saturday afternoon date with Mississippi, freshman Lance Goulbourne failed to enter the scoring column.

"In the locker room during halftime, Coach (Kevin Stallings) told the bench specifically that we needed to pick it up," Goulbourne said. "I took that to heart. I felt like I didn't do much when I got in. I tried to do what I could to make the team better."

He certainly succeeded.

The 6-8 forward tied a career high in the second half alone, scoring 11, to help lead Vanderbilt to a 71-61 victory over visiting Ole Miss in Memorial Gymnasium.

Goulbourne displayed exceptional versatility, shooting a perfect 4-4 from the field, and 2-2 from beyond the arc. He spearheaded a 13-4 Commodore run through the middle of the final period, scoring 8 in the process.

"Lance Goulbourne came in, and made a couple 3's. (He) had a nice dunk," Stallings said. "I thought our bench in the second half was very productive."

The stretch was capped off with a crowd-raising dunk, on an in-bounds pass from junior guard Jermaine Beal with just 7:43 to play in regulation.

"That is the first option. (Stallings) did draw it up in the timeout," Goulbourne said. "Beal threw a great pass, and I finished it."

The New York City native, however, was not the only freshman to help lift the Commodores.

Forward Jeff Taylor, on the contrary, did most of his work in the first half. The 6-7 swingman scored 10 in the first half to help pace the Vanderbilt as it raced to a 29-10 lead, en route to a 31-19 advantage at intermission. Taylor finished with 14 points, three rebounds and a pair of assists.

"I just think they felt the urgency to come out and get a really good start," Stallings said of his team. "And, defensively, we locked in quickly."

The other freshman starter, Brad Tinsley, went 5-8 from the field with a pair of 3-pointers to add 12 for the Commodores, who never trailed



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jeff Taylor dunks during Vanderbilt's 71-61 victory Saturday. He scored 14 points to be one of three freshmen in double figures.

in the contest. On less than 40 hours rest, the 6-3 guard played 34 minutes, after playing 37 on Thursday night against Alabama.

"You've just got to get it through your head that you've got to give your team 100 percent, and you've got to get through," Tinsley said of the last two home games. "These are two big wins for us, as a team and in the league."

For Vanderbilt, the three-game winning streak comes at a critical time, raising their Southeastern Conference record to 4-5 and overall to 15-8. The Commodores will enjoy a seven-day hiatus, before returning to perhaps the toughest stretch of the season. A home contest versus Kentucky and prolific scorer Jodie Meeks is sandwiched between road dates at Tennessee and Florida, two teams that beat Vanderbilt by double digits earlier this season at Memorial Gym.

Two straight wins over Alabama and Ole Miss may have helped Vanderbilt get their home swagger back after the Volunteers and the Gators left Nashville victorious.

"This was a game we really desperately needed to have anything to play for the rest of the season, other than our own pride and improvement," Stallings said. "You can't keep slipping up at home and have a reasonably good season. We needed to win these games. I thought we practiced well and we competed well." ■

Tough practice gets results for Balcomb

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

After falling to Mississippi State Thursday, Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb put her team through a long, strenuous practice to get her team back in a rhythm.

Looks like it worked.

No. 20 Vanderbilt defeated the Kentucky Wildcats 72-62 in Lexington on Sunday to shake off the upset loss to the Bulldogs. Vanderbilt had one of its most intense practices of the season, a four-hour session on Friday, following the setback in Starkville and the hard work was evident.

"They responded really well in practice, probably the best I have ever had a team respond after a loss," Balcomb said in the postgame press conference. "I think that they built confidence on that and they knew that they could handle what I threw them at practice. I threw a lot at them and they handled it well."

The Wildcats (13-11, 3-6 Southeastern Conference) tied the game twice with less than 10 minutes to play in the second half but Vanderbilt never folded.

"When Kentucky threw something at them, I think they felt confident that they could handle it," Balcomb said.

Vanderbilt (18-6, 7-2) had its best shooting performance of the season with a 64.3 percent performance from the field. In the second half, the Commodores missed just five shots. Senior forward Christina Wirth led Vanderbilt with 20 points on 7-10 shooting from the field.

Known for her accuracy from long range, Wirth only made

one 3-pointer but it came at a critical time.

Kentucky tied the game at 46 with 8:52 to play to cap a 14-6 run but Wirth drilled one from beyond the arc 22 seconds later to put Vanderbilt up for good. The Commodores extended their lead from there and never let the Wildcats get within 3 points after that.

"We had composure and we kept things together," Wirth said. "We kept looking at each other and saying, 'Hey, we have to refuse to lose.'"

Wirth also grabbed a team-high of seven rebounds. Her ability to make critical plays impressed the Wildcats, who fell to 1-22 in their last 23 games against the Commodores.

"Christina Wirth is one of the most tremendous players in the conference and has been for years," said Kentucky coach Matthew Mitchell. "She made big shot after big shot."

Junior guard Meredith Marsh added 15 points, while sophomore forward Hannah Tuomi had 13.

23 turnovers put a damper on Vanderbilt's strong shooting performance; the Commodores have now made a total of 50 miscues in the last two games.

"We had 27 turnovers against Mississippi State and we had 23 tonight, so we can call that an improvement, I think," Balcomb said. "For us, though, that is not where we want to be, but at the same time we did a lot better handling the pressure and executing so that is why we shot the ball better from the field because we took better shots."

With the victory, Vanderbilt kept its hold on second place in the SEC. The Commodores



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jessica Mooney (20) came off the bench to score 10 points to help lift Vanderbilt to a 72-62 victory over Kentucky on Sunday. The Commodores improved to 7-2 in SEC play with the win.

return home for three games against some of the best teams of the conference in No. 11 Florida, Georgia and No. 6 Auburn. Georgia is the only team other than Mississippi State that has defeated Vanderbilt in SEC play this season, while the Tigers and the Gators are tied for first in

the conference with 8-1 marks in the SEC.

"Playing in the SEC, every team is going to play hard and not roll over and let the other team win," Tuomi said. "Every team that we play, we always have to come out and be ready to win and play as hard as we can." ■

VANDERBILT BASKETBALL



SAM KIM / The Vanderbilt Hustler

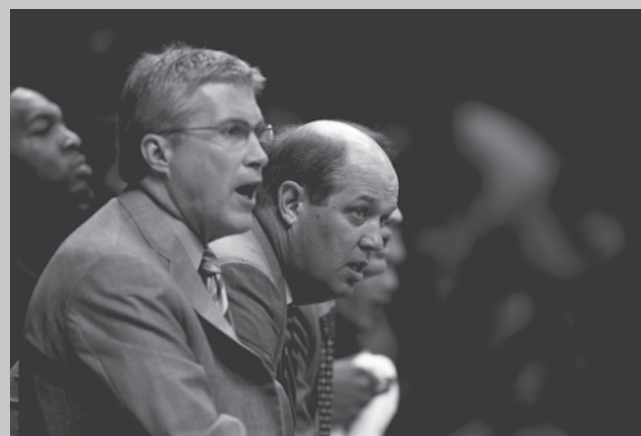
The Commodores will be back in action Thursday night at Memorial Gym against the Florida Gators. A win would put Vanderbilt in a tie for first with Florida in the SEC.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Vanderbilt vs. Florida

Thursday, 7 p.m.

The Commodores host Florida Thursday to open a critical three-game homestand that will likely decide whether Vanderbilt wins the regular season SEC Championship. The Commodores have won four of their last five meetings with the Gators.



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings has seen his team win three straight to shake off a rough start to SEC play. The Commodores have a week off to prepare for Tennessee.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Vanderbilt at Tennessee

Saturday, 2 p.m.

Vanderbilt will try to avenge a 76-63 home loss to Tennessee this Saturday in what will be the 175th game played between these rivals. The Commodores have a week off to prepare, while the Volunteers face Georgia Wednesday before hosting Vanderbilt.

Men's tennis salvages weekend, edges Wolfpack

by CHIP ROBIE
Sports Reporter

After suffering a heartbreaking loss to Michigan on Friday, the No. 28 Vanderbilt Commodores stormed back to narrowly defeat North Carolina State 4-3 Sunday afternoon at Currey Tennis Center. Sophomore Bryant Salcedo clinched the victory at the No. 2 position in three sets (6-4, 5-7, 6-3).

There was a time when it looked like Vanderbilt (2-2) might lose again, but this time to No. 43 North Carolina State (4-4). Even after Vanderbilt's top doubles duo, Adam Baker and Alex Zotov, won 8-6, the other two pairs both succumbed in a tiebreaker. Freshmen Alexander DiValerio and Charlie Jones had been up 5-3 in the tiebreaker before losing, giving NC State the doubles point.

Coach Ian Duvenhage acknowledged that DiValerio and Jones have played very well in general but just got a little nervous.

"I told them after the doubles that if NC State is a better team than us, then fine. If we lose, then I can deal with it," he said. "But it didn't look to me in doubles like they were the better team. If we're the better team then we need to go out there and take care of business."

Fortunately, that is exactly when the Commodores did, albeit not right away. Baker, playing in the No. 4 position, fell behind early but clawed his way back for an emotional three-set victory, which drew a smile from Duvenhage.

"The guy over Christmas break was out here every day and playing the best-of-five set matches and he wants it so much," Duvenhage said.

His energy was on display, and his win helped rally the Commodores after Nick Cromydas, playing No. 1, lost in uncharacteristic fashion, 6-1, 6-1.

Meanwhile, Vijay Paul at the No. 3 position quietly dismissed his Wolfpack opponent 6-2, 7-6 (7-4) with an array of topspin shots that kept his opponent on his heels. Next to him, freshman Charlie Jones, playing No. 5, did not give up after losing the first set as he stormed back to take the match 6-7 (5-7), 6-1, 6-3.



GUY KOPSOBUT/The Vanderbilt Hustler
Alex DiValerio serves during a doubles match against NC State on Sunday. He and partner Charlie Jones narrowly lost, but Vanderbilt still won the match, 4-3.

But the story of the day had to have been Bryant Salcedo's strong performance against NC State's 124th-ranked Christian Welte. Vanderbilt had the lead at 3-2 but Zotov was behind in the No. 6 position. With tensions high, Salcedo, who was playing No. 2, gave a service return clinic for those in attendance. Few serves got past him and several of his returns were winners.

True to form, Salcedo ended his match on a brilliant forehand crosscourt service return winner that ended the match and gave Vanderbilt the team victory in front of a large home crowd.

"I saw him coming in and thought 'Thank God.' That sums it up," Salcedo said of the shot.

Overall, there were definite glimpses of improvement for the Commodores on Sunday.

"I'm happy where we are. We're young and we've made mistakes," Duvenhage said. "But a 2-2 record is not stellar because it is just .500, but the two wins are over teams that are probably going to be in the top 20 in the country. It's getting there, slowly but surely." ■

Track has best weekend yet

by TRAVIS YOUNG
For the Hustler

Vanderbilt's track and field team continued its strong 2009 campaign with another strong performance at the Rod McCravy Memorial in Lexington, Ky., Saturday.

Freshmen Teegan Hill and Jordan White entered the school's indoor record books with season-best times in the 400 and 800-meter runs, respectively.

"Overall, I thought this meet was by far our best performance of the season thus far," said Steve Keith, the head distance coach.

"The weather the last month has really limited our team's practice time so it was nice to see a lot of our athletes putting together strong performances," Keith said.

White, a native of New York, cruised to a top three finish in the 800 open with a personal best 2:13.46. The time also ranks 10th in school history. Rita Jorgensen kept pace with White the whole race, crossing the finish line at the 2:15.07 mark, good for sixth.

"Individually, I thought Rita and Jordan posted strong weekends," Keith said. "Both of them recorded season-best times in their respected events and I am proud of their efforts." Three

events earlier, Jorgensen coasted to a season-high and team-high 4:53.50 in the mile, placing third out of 26 runners. Jorgensen's mark tops her previous season-high mark of 5:02.43 in which she set on the same track back on Jan. 18.

Freshman Louise Hannallah joined Jorgensen with a top-10 finish of her own in the mile with a 5:07.68. Cross country standout Kristabel Doebel-Hickok also set a personal record Saturday with a 10:02.44 in the 3,000-meter run, finishing in sixth place while fellow sophomore Adrienne DiRaddo finished one spot back of Doebel-Hickok in seventh with a 10:05.38.

In the sprinting events, the freshman tandem of Hill and Anna Carr once again led the Commodores in Lexington this weekend. Hill took top honors in her 400-meter heat with a blistering season-high of 56.14. The Texas native's time ranks third in school history and is the best 400-meter time recorded by a Vanderbilt sprinter this season.

"Teegan knocked off over a second in her 400 today and she ran great race," said head track coach D'Andre Hill. "We are real excited about Teegan's future and the potential she has here at Vanderbilt. She continues



KEITH
to get better and better as we get closer to the (Southeastern Conference) Indoor Championships."

In addition to the 400-meter performance Hill finished 19th out of 44 in the 60-meter dash with a 7.82. Carr finished one spot ahead of Hill with a 7.81.

In the field events, freshman pole-vaulter Meagan Martin led the Commodores with a top-10 finish in the pole vault, clearing a season-high mark. Teammate Katherine Hendricks also had a season-high jump.

The Vanderbilt track and field team will return to the big oval next weekend as they travel to Ames, Iowa, Feb. 13-14 for the ISU Classic. The annual meet is one of the nation's largest indoor track and field meets as it prepares teams for its upcoming conference indoor championships. ■

Former Vanderbilt star advances in Fed Cup

Associated Press

Julie Ditty, the former Vanderbilt star who led the women's tennis team to the school's first ever national championship final, and transplanted South African Liezel Huber defeated Gisela Dulko and Betina Jozami 6-2, 6-3 in the deciding match Sunday to give the United States a 3-2 comeback victory over Argentina in the Fed Cup quarterfinals.

The triumph in chilly suburban Phoenix sends the United States into a semifinal match-up against the Czech Republic.

Ditty, the all-time leader in USTA Pro Circuit titles, replaced Bethanie Mattek on the U.S. Fed Cup team to

really excited to be part of the team." She became the all-time USTA Pro Circuit career title leader after sweeping both singles and doubles at the \$75,000 event in Albuquerque, N.M., last September, and then proceeded to capture her 33rd title (nine singles) after winning doubles at the \$50,000 event in Lawrenceville, Ga., in October. She enjoyed arguably her best season as a professional in 2008, earning direct entry into the main draw of the Australian Open, French Open and Wimbledon, and reached a career-high No. 89 singles ranking in March. ■

Argentina in the 2009 Fed Cup by BNP Paribas quarterfinal tie Feb. 7-8 at the Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex in Surprise, Ariz.

Mattek, the third-highest ranked American in the world, was forced to withdraw from the event since she was battling a hip injury that prevented her from playing in the Australian Open.

Ditty, 30, was an All-American at Vanderbilt and led the team to the NCAA Finals against Stanford in 2001. She was thrilled to get the call to be a replacement for Mattek for the U.S.

"I am just really honored to be able to represent my country," Ditty said of joining the team. "I think we have a really great group of girls. I'm just

USTA.com and Vucommodes.com contributed to this article.

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2009 Commodore Yearbook details at VanderbiltCommodore.com

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

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1/6/09 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sample tape
 - 5 High spirits
 - 8 Leave empty
 - 14 Novelist Hunter
 - 15 Made in the ___
 - 16 Laundry worker
 - 17 Grovels
 - 18 Vegas intro
 - 19 Mark of disgrace
 - 20 Groups of three
 - 22 Souchong, e.g.
 - 24 Beau Brummells
 - 25 Horseshoe point
 - 27 Beluga product
 - 28 Gardener's appendage?
 - 32 Big glob
 - 33 Social finisher?
 - 34 Trees with red fruits
 - 36 Smooth, even style in music
 - 42 Heredity
 - 46 Stomach
 - 47 Composed
 - 50 Remaining loyal to
 - 52 Gibbon, e.g.
 - 53 Regardless
 - 54 Hawk's rival
 - 56 Woods rival
 - 57 Most sick
 - 61 Critical point
 - 63 Turner or Mack
 - 65 Dunkable treat
 - 66 Enticement
 - 67 Time past
 - 68 Riviera resort
 - 69 Marshal's bands
- DOWN**
- 1 Red ink entry
 - 2 Even one time
 - 3 Bethlehem visitors
 - 4 Discounted
 - 5 Throbbings
 - 6 Continental NASA equivalent
 - 7 Pre-computer page design
 - 8 Passport endorsement
 - 9 Fleming or Garfunkel
 - 10 Hair style
 - 11 Type of cat or goat
 - 12 Paces
 - 13 Deletes
 - 21 Mean explicitly
 - 23 Ms. Bombeck
 - 26 Org. of Capitals and Senators
 - 28 Former Yankee McDougald
 - 29 AAA plan
 - 30 Med. printout
 - 31 Poisonous spider
 - 32 Chinese food additive
 - 35 Cardinal great
 - 37 Mature
 - 39 Omelet item
 - 40 Tight spot
 - 41 Epitome of messiness

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49 ___ advocate
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55 Big birds Down Under
56 Previous spouses
58 Border lake
59 Religious group
60 Digits
62 Exist
64 Self-image

2/6/09 SOLUTIONS

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SCOOTER GIVEAWAY

CONTEST: East Side Scooters will be giving away one Buddy 50 scooter (valued at \$2,000) to one current Vanderbilt undergraduate or graduate student. To enter, find "Scamper the Scooter Squirrel," who will be hidden in every Vanderbilt Hustler and Vanderbilt Versus from now until Feb. 23, complete that issue's entry form and turn it in. There are two places where you can turn in entry forms: on The Wall (11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Wednesdays Feb. 11 & 18) or at East Side Scooters (718 Gallatin Ave., from now until Feb. 24). Entry forms received on The Wall count once, and entry forms received at East Side Scooters count five times. Students can only turn in entry forms for themselves and in person at East Side Scooters. One entry form per issue date per student allowed. The scooter will be given away on Wednesday Feb. 25, 2009.

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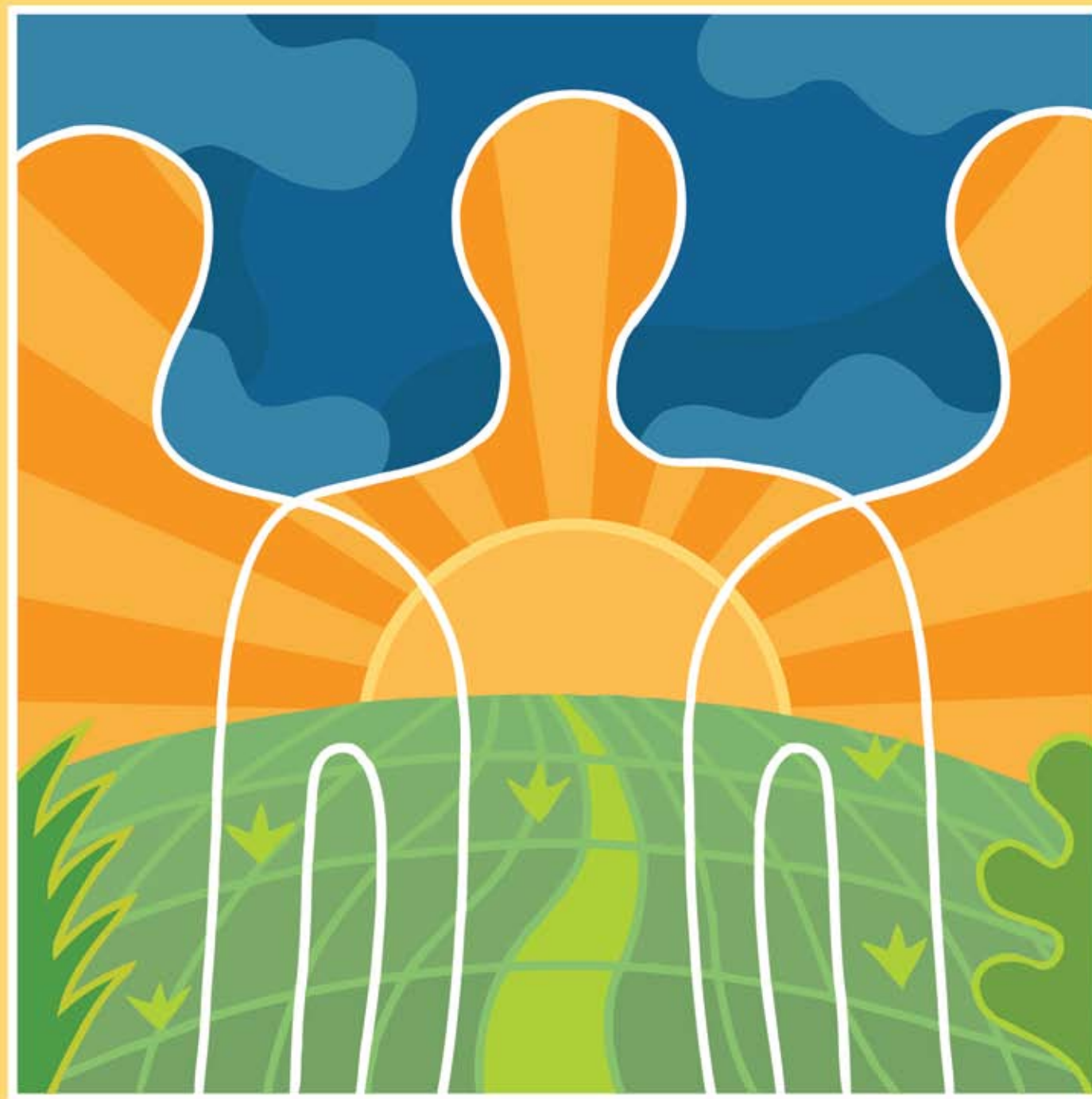
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