



OPINION: In the third part of his series, Poythress gives a lesson in elevator etiquette. [SEE PAGE 6](#)

SPORTS: Women's basketball has shot at revenge against Maryland in Sweet 16 battle. [SEE PAGE 8](#)

Bringing the crisis to campus

by **LAUREN KOENIG**
Senior Reporter

Students will have a chance to hear professional analysis of the economic crisis Saturday at the Owen School of Management.

Sophomores Naveed Nanjee, Ravi Singh and Judy Wang organized the conference on the state of the economy titled "The Crisis, My Life, Our Future."

The event, the students said, seeks to relate the current economic situation to students by engaging panelists in debate and discussion on Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Owen Auditorium.

In addition to viewing the economic crisis in global and national frames, panels at the conference will apply these issues directly to students' lives.

"We decided to center this conference around the economic recession because we wanted to make this international crisis applicable and understandable to all students," said Wang, a co-chair of the event. "Everyday we hear about bank failures, government bailouts and mortgage foreclosures, but sometimes it's hard to understand how this recession will impact our generation."

According to the conference's Web site, "partisan spin and media hyperbole" have impacted the way students view the economic situation.

"We're the stakeholders of the economy, and we should try to understand it as much as possible," Wang said.

Fellow co-chair Nanjee said students who are

concerned about the job market, paying tuition and bills, or applying for AcFee money for a club have an interest that will be addressed at the conference.

"Students who are curious about how the economy turned down and the prospects for improvement might value the conversation," said Associate Professor of Economics Malcolm Getz, one of the featured panelists.

Both Nanjee and Wang said all of the panels are relevant to understanding the situation but believe students will be particularly interested in the job market panel.

"As we transition from being students to being full time professionals, we'll be the ones who inherit this economy. Our futures are at stake — what happens to the economy directly affects how we live our lives — what we do, where we live and how much money we make," Singh said. "With everything going on I don't hear any discussion about what happens to us: What type of job market can we expect when we graduate from college?"

Please see **ECONOMY**, page 5



Greek grief

Noticeable increase in fraternity sanctions causes Greek community to reassess.

by **HANNAH TWILLMAN**
News Editor

Friday and Saturday nights on Greek Row have been noticeably quieter in recent weeks.

"The weekends definitely haven't been as eventful because most of the fraternities are on probation," said sophomore Lacey Gorochow, a fact Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey confirmed.

Of the 17 Interfraternity Council fraternities on campus, five are currently on probation and three more

are pending judicial action, Torrey said.

"During this academic year, all of our IFC groups will have been on probation at some period of time with the exception of Beta Chi Theta and Lambda Theta Phi," Torrey said.

While the severity of the offenses and lengths of probation have varied, Torrey said both the numbers of chapters sanctioned as well as the number of incidents reported has increased compared to past years, although the exact numbers

were not available. The most common incidents that have occurred have been risk management issues — violations of the alcohol policy, hazing policy and the student code.

When an incident is reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, one of two methods of investigation are usually pursued. The IFC mediation process is more informal, in which mediations are held between chapter officers and the IFC judicial team, which is made up of the IFC president, vice president

and attorney general, Interim Director of the Office of Student Conduct Daniel Swinton, Associate Dean of Students Steve Caldwell and Torrey.

The IFC Formal Conduct Board meets less often, however. The board is made up of four members of the IFC executive board and three faculty members. Chapters are brought in front of the board depending on either the severity of the incident or the history of the chapter. Torrey said the Formal Conduct Board has

Please see **GREEK**, page 4

Earth Hour to save energy, raise awareness

by **OMAR EL-KHATTABI**
News Reporter

On Saturday evening, Vanderbilt will join tens of millions of people by turning off its lights for Earth Hour.

Earth Hour, which was created in 2007 by the World Wildlife Fund in Australia, is now a global event in which participants worldwide turn off non-essential lights for one hour. According to Andrea George, Director of the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office, Vanderbilt's first participation in Earth Hour will unite the university with people in more than 240 cities. She also said it will allow "(these cities) to come together to make a bold statement of concern about energy conservation and climate change."

"(Earth Hour) will raise awareness throughout our student body of the importance of energy conservation and how thinking of just one thing you can do each day to conserve energy can really add up," George said.

For George, this forthcoming event emphasizes ongoing efforts on campus to raise awareness about the environment and implement environmentally responsible behavior.

She views the rise of student groups, such as Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Recycling, NetImpact and the Vanderbilt Biodiesel Initiative, as indicators of an active student body seeking to spread awareness about environmental issues.

George also noted the effectiveness of Vanderbilt's administrative policies, pointing out that all The Commons buildings boast newly acquired Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design qualifications.

George said the increasing number of students who are taking active steps by recycling, using reusable water bottles instead of buying bottled waters, biking or walking instead of driving and using reusable bags reflects veritable environmental concern which she believes will continue to grow in our student body.

Some students, however, feel that while awareness of environmental issues is prevalent on campus, students are still not taking action as environmentally responsible citizens.

"Residents of The Commons fail to understand that even turning the lights off when you leave your room can make a difference. Students are wasting too much energy," said first-year student Wenyu Qu.

While Vanderbilt's reputation in the domain of sustainability was somewhat tarnished by a grade of C+ given by the "Green Report Card," George said this was not a valid assessment of the university's positive steps toward environmental efficiency because it is focused primarily on

Please see **EARTH**, page 5

Lost Boys of Sudan to play soccer at Vanderbilt

by **RUTH KINSEY**
Senior Reporter

In a unique fundraising event this Sunday, the Student Anti-Genocide Coalition will be hosting a soccer game between the Vanderbilt men's club team and Nile Hawk, a Nashville team composed of Sudanese refugees. The proceeds from the charity game will be given to the Lost Boys Foundation of Nashville and the Sudanese Community Center.

"Kick it with STAND" will bring together two diverse communities in Nashville — Vanderbilt and the Sudanese refugee population — in an effort to further integrate the Sudanese into American society.

"We hope to foster relationships between the two soccer teams, build lasting friendships and ultimately have fun, while raising money for a very worthy cause," said Students

Taking Action Now: Darfur president and senior Jennifer Hirsch.

The players on the Nile Hawk soccer team have suffered terrible trials throughout their lives. They are all Lost Boys of Sudan, the survivors of a Sudanese civil war, which drove thousands of young boys from their families, friends and homes. Aged between 4 and 15 years old, these boys wandered for years, walking more than 1,000 miles to reach a Kenyan refugee camp. Many died along the way from starvation, disease and rebel gunfire. There are about 150 Lost Boys living in Nashville today.

STAND does not intend for this event to focus on the Lost Boys' horrific past, however. Instead, they will focus on their much brighter future in Nashville.

"Although it is important for us to know their history and trials, we wanted to serve



Photo courtesy of LOIS MORENO
The Nile Hawk soccer team is made up of the Lost Boys of Sudan, survivors of the Sudanese civil war.

them in a way that would create new life in a place that is their new home," said STAND Events Coordinator Ian Rountree, a senior. "We still want to learn from them, but the focus of the game is fun and friendship rather than recalling their difficult past."

STAND urges all students to come out to the soccer practice fields near Blair at 2 p.m. Sunday for an intense, fast-paced soccer game.

"It's going to be a great game," Rountree said. "The Vandy team is a group of great players but Nile Hawk is a wild card. Some of these men grew up as boys with no toy in their village but a soccer ball. Nile Hawk will be fast."

Kick it with STAND will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. this Sunday on the Sports Club Field near Blair. Tickets cost \$5 and are available in Sarratt Promenade and The Commons. ■

INSIDEVANDY: Senior Ayo Ositelu was announced the 2009 Young Alumni Trustee Wednesday. [SEE INSIDEVANDY.COM](#)

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For more information about the job descriptions and responsibilities of the above leadership positions, please contact **Paige Clancy** at paige.clancy@vanderbilt.edu



read. watch. listen

Calculating the footprint

by SAMANTHA SMITH
Senior Reporter

Vanderbilt University plans to make a green statement on Earth Day when officials announce the carbon footprint.

The university is following the example set by Nashville, which released its greenhouse emissions data in February. The announcement by the city is a part of a two-year nationwide trend for cities and universities, according to Nashville Business Journal. Mayor Karl Dean said the city is establishing a baseline from which to gauge improvements in decreasing emissions.

Vanderbilt's initiative was actually begun in 2006, according to senior Brent Fitzgerald, president of Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility.

"While various groups of students, faculty and staff have proposed the idea of calculating our carbon footprint in the past, the real catalyst for change was in December 2006 when the Faculty Senate agreed to pursue an environmental commitment statement," he said.

Since then, Vanderbilt has experienced an extensive increase in efforts toward sustainability. In Vanderbilt's 2009 Green Report Card, a yearly index compiling various dimensions of university sustainability, student involvement received a score of B. The report credited the student action as an "impetus behind many sustainability initiatives on campus" and applauded the internship and work-study positions the university offers toward this end.

Several student-run organizations on campus have contributed to endeavors to reduce emissions. Derek Riley, leader of the Vanderbilt Biodiesel Initiative, said the project has been working

to reduce carbon vehicle emissions and has grown in numbers over the past few years.

Even with these initiatives, the university received just a C+ in the 2009 report issued by the Sustainable Endowments Institute.

According to Andrea George, director of the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office, the score focused on the transparency and investments of Vanderbilt's endowment and shareholder engagement. Because Vanderbilt is a private institution, it does not publicize endowment information and so received failing scores in these areas.

"Vanderbilt's sustainability program has been focused on making meaningful environmental improvements that make sense for our university, not on what would make us 'look good,'" said George.

The operational measures were considerably higher, and investment priorities, food and recycling all received A's in the report.

The primary way to improve the university's carbon footprint is through energy consumption in university buildings, a task George said Campus Planning, Plant Operations and VUMC Plant Services are working toward, according to university spokesmen.

"As far as Plant Operations is concerned, we have undertaken an aggressive water conservation program, composting, lighting and electrical retrofits, use of green cleaning products and equipment, recycled material in our purchases of paper and other goods, and an expanded recycling program," said Assistant Vice Chancellor for Plant Operations Mark Petty.

In fact, The Commons opened several LEED certified buildings. But with construction on hold

due to financial constraints, efforts have been focused on improving efficiency in some of Vanderbilt's older facilities.

According to George, the strategy has been extremely effective. The Owen School of Management reduced energy consumption by 15 percent last year simply by replacing its lighting infrastructure.

The greenhouse gas calculation will be made using the Clean AI — Cool Planet Campus Carbon Calculator, according to a recent press release. The calculator is the most widely used by universities and uses data from the years 2005 to 2007 to determine emissions.

The figure takes account of several greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere measured in metric tons of carbon dioxide. The sum of the volume of all gases is the carbon footprint calculation.

Faculty members hope calculating the footprint will give the Vanderbilt community a standard to improve future efforts.

"Sustainable behaviors and investments to improve the energy efficiency of our campus have now become an important way to reduce not only our environmental impact but also Vanderbilt's long-term expenses," George said. ■



Courtesy of myVU

GREEK: Unusual amount of violations spurs discontent

Please see GREEK, page 1

met more often this year than ever in her memory.

"This semester, IFC Formal Conduct Board has met four times already and will probably meet at least once or possibly two more times given what we currently have," Torrey said. "In an average year, we might have one or two Formal Conduct Boards."

In a recent interview with Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos, the administrator expressed his concern about the welfare of both the Greek community and its members.

"I love the way (Greek life) fits into our traditions and culture. ... I have heard about some fraternities going on probation ... I just hate when a fraternity has to be on probation or lose a pledge class or be shut down," Zeppos said. "It destroys our community, and it leads to what I think is a problem at some other schools — the administration doesn't support fraternities and sororities and they go off campus or are not a part of our community."

Some students question the reasons behind the increase in houses on probation.

"I think the reasons they're being put on probation are unrealistic given today's college environment," said senior Brigit Bowers. "For the most part, I think it's just one of Vanderbilt's strategies in furthering their image as a prestigious university."

According to Torrey, however, the increase is merely a result of the current circumstances.

"It just simply has been a year of more poor behavior that has been identified and adjudicated. I don't know if it is necessarily that the behavior is worse," she said.

Junior Charlie Kirby, acting IFC president, said he does not know why there have been more issues this year but the processes in place have served their educational purpose.

"Right now, the Vanderbilt Greek system is moving in a better direction. When fraternities get a sanction, they realize they have to make a change in their community for the better," Kirby said. "Sanctions are meant to (encourage chapters) to learn from their mistakes."

He also added that a new task force, the Delta Force, has been created to address some of the problems IFC has faced in the

GREEK LIFE ON CAMPUS BY THE NUMBERS

15 of 17

IFC fraternities on probation

4

Formal Conduct Boards held this year

1-2

Average Formal Conduct Boards yearly

5

Current IFC fraternities on probation

3

IFC fraternities under investigation

37

Greek Life organizations on campus

past year. The group of 10 men from different fraternities has been working on a proposal to revise the system to encourage more men to go Greek and to place a greater emphasis on brotherhood and philanthropy and less on alcohol and parties. The proposal will be introduced to the IFC president Sunday.

Torrey also said efforts need to be made to address issues like these.

"We are going to work with leaders of the fraternity and sorority community to identify ways to change the culture at Vanderbilt because that's part of the problem," she said. "At the core of our cultural issues is a lack of commitment to fraternal values and behavior that is inconsistent with the purpose of Greek organizations."

Kirby said while attention is currently being drawn to the Greek community for negative reasons, it is important to not ignore the positive aspects of the community such as their philanthropic efforts.

"Even though there were a lot of fraternities have made some serious mistakes this year, it shouldn't overshadow the good done by the fraternity community," he said. ■

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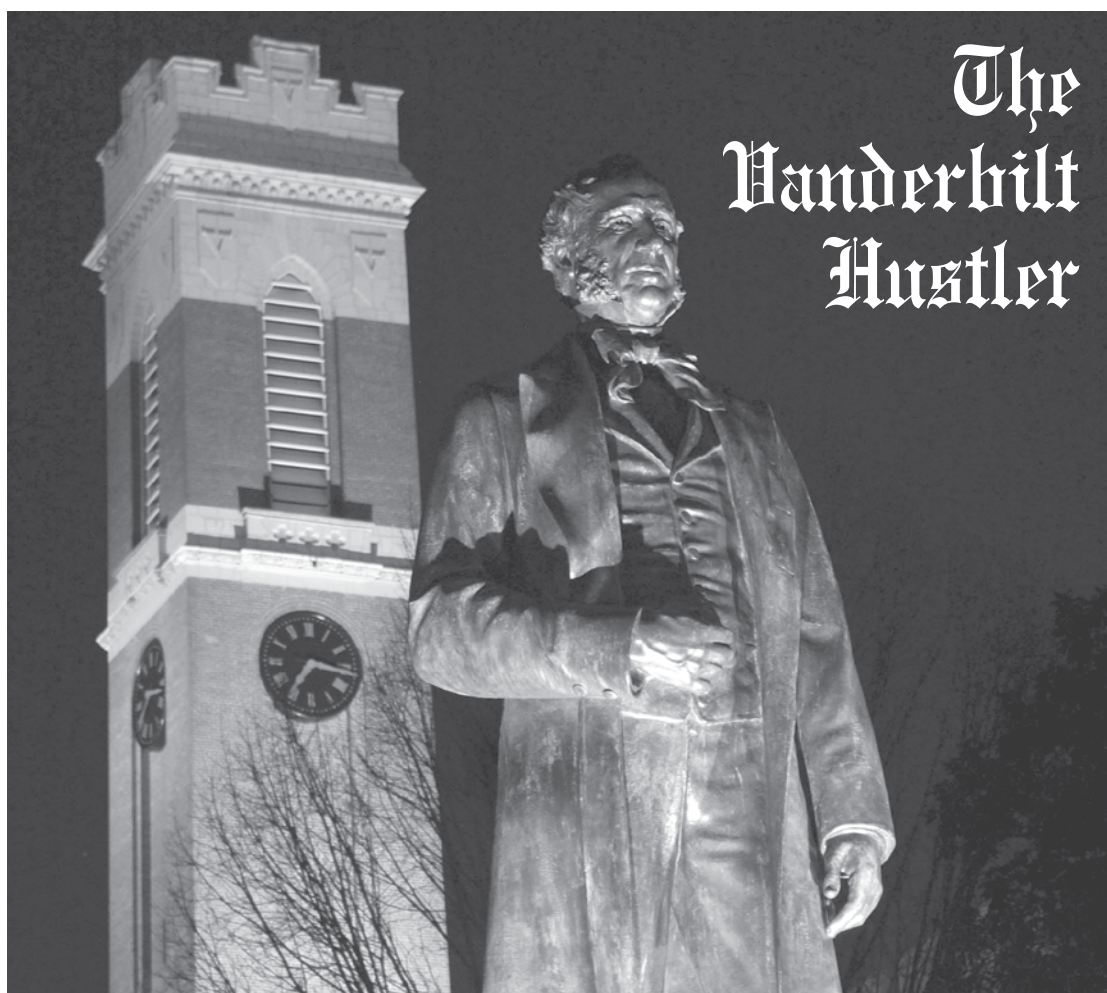
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How to behave in the elevator



JUSTIN POYTHRESS
Columnist

Possibly the most intriguing interactions occur on the elevator. It continually forces a close physical intimacy for an awkwardly brief span of time with people who share nothing in common besides not wanting to use the stairs. Let's say you are riding the elevator down with a casual acquaintance. You may wish to share a courtesy greeting, but once the elevator stops, one of you must decide to walk much faster than the other so you don't have to continue to share the strange proximity required by an elevator. This is just one example of the social unpleasantness some people experience via elevator, so I want to give some tips that will help make your ride more interesting, and maybe break the ice a little bit.

1. Physical positioning: Next time you step inside that metal box, try standing directly in front of the buttons, but refuse to swipe anybody else up. Or try walking into the elevator, but never turning around, facing the back wall, until you get to your floor. Bring a stool or lawn chair in with you to the elevator so you can be comfortable while riding. If you wish to expand on this, try dressing in a suit and manning the controls for tips. Or, one of my favorites, try standing just a little too close to a stranger, behind and to one side. You don't want to be closer than 6 inches, otherwise he or she will know it's a joke, but you should be close enough so that person begins seriously entertaining the idea that you might try to mug them.

2. Use of the elevator: There are some great methods here. Accidentally push one or two wrong floors that you somehow confused for your own. When getting onto an occupied elevator on the way down, hold the door open for a minute or two "waiting for a friend" until it starts beeping, then give up and just get in the elevator yourself. The best for last: Ride the elevator up or down only one floor. When you get in, just smile knowingly to the other passengers.

3. Physical action: When using these behaviors, I should add that it is paramount you do not say anything while doing it. For example: Try brushing your teeth, shaving or applying make up, ideally in pajamas. If someone enters with some food, grab a sample or take a small bite. Lastly, bring an extra shirt and pants, and as soon as someone else gets in, begin changing clothes ... slowly.

4. Conversation: There are two approaches for this style. The first applies if you are riding solo and meet with a stranger. Don't panic, just rely on one of these trusty ice-breakers to get the ball rolling: "So, I see you're riding the elevator," "Oh, you live here? Where's your room and when do you usually go to sleep?" or "Boy, elevator rides are really awkward." If, on the other hand, you're with a willing accomplice, pretend you are continuing a conversation mid-stream: "... and so that's why I had to roffie her" or "... but keep in mind, I'd only told him he had to stick four fireworks down his pants" and "... I told you not to use that much anthrax."

—Justin Poythress is a senior in Peabody College. He can be reached at j.poythress@vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL

Campus should weigh risks of eco-awareness

For the second year in a row, The Sustainable Endowment Institute has given Vanderbilt a C+ rating for its efforts in making the university more sustainable. It is a jarring statistic, and the green initiative on campus certainly has problems, but the movement is stronger on campus than many students might think.

Andrea George, director of the sustainability and environmental management office, attributed the poor rating to the lack of transparency in the university's endowment investments and shareholder engagement.

Should Vanderbilt do more to encourage faculty and staff to live a "green" lifestyle? More importantly, should Vanderbilt go to greater lengths to meet modern environmental benchmarks?

To what degree should Vanderbilt implement green technologies and policies in face of the drawbacks they pose? The campus cannot simply go green to suit public opinion. There needs to be a healthy blend of practical development and eco-awareness, with the hope the two can coincide. In response to the recent low evaluation, George said, "Vanderbilt's sustainability has been focused on making meaningful environmental

improvements that make sense for our university, not on what would makes us 'look good.'"

While furthering transparency could pose problems for the investment program, managing public perception toward the school's green initiatives remains essential. Admittedly, there are other advantages to green policies outside media exposure. George points out that "sustainable behaviors and investments have now become an important way to reduce not only our environmental impact but also Vanderbilt's long-term expenses."

And that's the key. In the current economic climate, pursuing cost effective methods of operation has become increasingly important. The Owen School of Management has reduced energy usage by 15 percent with the implementation of a new lighting system. Furthermore, if students individually reduced consumption of electricity and water, over an extended period of time the university could cut operational costs significantly. Unsurprisingly, Vanderbilt intends to participate in Earth Hour on March 28 and turn off lights on campus along with an estimated 1 billion individuals across the planet.

Anti-immigration denies diversity

To the Editor:

On Monday night, the Vanderbilt community took a stand against prejudice. In response to an event publicized as an anti-immigration speech and hosted by Vanderbilt's Youth for Western Civilization, students, faculty, staff and members of the Nashville community came out in a peaceful protest against intolerance.


Regardless of the intentions of the event's sponsors, Bay Buchanan's speech rejected diversity and multiculturalism. Hiding within words of caution of Mexico's instability were feelings of intolerance and ignorance. Ignorance is just as harmful to building a united and strong community as intolerance. Vanderbilt University should firmly support the celebration of diversity on its campus. As the current economic crisis shows, the world is more interconnected today than ever. Globalization has opened our borders not only to an influx of people of different cultures, but also to a variety of products, ideas and religions.

To succeed in this multicultural world, we need to develop respect for and appreciation of different peoples, cultures and religions. In spite of our differences, we all make up "humankind."

By focusing on the bonds that unite us, instead of the barriers that separate us, we can strengthen our community and learn to appreciate our own culture.

This protest could not have come at a better time. This month, the Multicultural Leadership Council has been hosting Multicultural Awareness Month, the Vanderbilt Lambda Association has just concluded its PRIDE week and next week is Community Vanderbilt's Don't Hate, Appreciate Week. The multitude of diversity awareness events taking place at Vanderbilt allows us to have the unique opportunity to learn about each other. I would like to personally invite each member of our community to attend the upcoming events in March and April. Sharing these experiences with others will help us to learn not only about each other, but also about ourselves. Through greater appreciation for each other, we can come together to find solutions to our problems and ensure a more promising future.

Chinmayee Tambe
Multicultural Leadership Council
President



THE RANT

Thank you, Housing. You've successfully ruined my life for the third year in the row.

Dear white supremacists, please stop hating on multiculturalism.

Why has the Branscomb Munchie Mart stopped carrying the healthy pizzas?

If you haven't figured out that you're supposed to be quiet in the Baseball Glove Lounge by now, then you're just an a--hole. Turn off your music and don't loudly answer your phone.

I can't decide who added less to the immigration debate: the smug and possibly-racist Youth for Western Civilization or protesters with reactionary and obnoxiously uninformed signs that only tangentially addressed Buchanan's talking points.

Compiled by Thomas Shattuck

Warped religion

PHIL INGRAM
Guest Columnist

Religion has become so distorted in today's society that no one trusts it. And with good reason. When all the news pertaining to religion is about pastors copulating with altar boys, the church condemning contraceptives and thus possibly causing the spread of AIDS, and the religion-motivated fighting within Israel, it is hard to look at religion and believe it is a good thing. In fact, many have been turned off from religion forever because of the extremists they hear about on a daily basis.

Religion was never meant to be a destructive force. There are undoubtedly a few passages in the holy books of any major religion that one might purposefully misconstrue into support for military movements against other religions; however, these are few and mostly are much more easily interpreted as pertaining to a completely different subject altogether. I can guarantee the word "love" is mentioned in the Bible and Quran hundreds of times more than the words "hate," "fight" and "war" combined. War under the pretense of religion is a false justification. We must realize this and realize also that those who commit warlike acts are extremists no matter what religion they claim.

Moreover, those who claim contraceptives are the spawn of Satan are not only fools but also the reason few respect religion today. Christianity is based upon the Bible, and the Bible never mentions contraceptives or abortion. The ban against them is merely strict interpretation of the Bible by "erudite" church officials (my personal opinion is that since these officials have consecrated themselves to the church and a celibate lifestyle, they wish to make sex as problematic as possible for others). The Bible says nothing against condoms; the closest it comes to doing so is telling people to not murder (using a condom is like murdering a child before a child is conceived before a child knows that he or she is alive before a child is even close to being conceived, obviously).

One might also believe the command to "be fruitful and multiply" forbids condom use as well, but this interpretation is just as valid as saying it means to eat fruits until you are full and do arithmetic. Either way, any clear-thinking, unbiased person will have trouble digesting the support for this Catholic edict, and one can even see at the churches of self-respecting priests the usual lack of conviction in the preachers' eyes as they emotionlessly mumble the church's position on the subject.

However, the most terrible thing upon religion's shoulders that is no fault of the institution itself is the hypocrisy with which some "good religious people" lead their daily lives. Just because church (along with most other religiously-mandated gatherings) is only one day a week doesn't mean the other six should be filled with hate and sin. This involves not only the obviously horrible — the pastor who copulates with the altar boy — but also the people who go about their daily rituals with a smile on their face and hate in their heart. I highly doubt Jesus or Mohammed or any other prophet chatted with somebody and then called him or her a bitch the moment he or she was out of earshot. Religion is not a thing that comes once a week, but one that affects every single action every single day.

In the end, religion in itself is a great thing, but humans have warped it into a terrible atrocity that is rightfully despised. If you are not religious, please keep a more open mind the next time you consider any single religion as a whole, and if you are religious, clean up your act because no one has it all together. This request may be easier said than done, but it is a starting point. The world was not created in a single day.

—Phil Ingram is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at philip.d.ingram@vanderbilt.edu.

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.

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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.

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Youth for Western Civilization misses the point

SOO YANG
Guest Columnist

The Youth for Western Civilization chapter at Vanderbilt is probably receiving more attention than it deserves. However, the group's serious efforts to spread xenophobia on campus should concern all those who understand the value of cultural diversity. Although I do not believe the organization is necessarily racist, their rhetoric is offensive and their platform irrational. This relatively new student group is in fact part of a nationwide campus network that seeks to defeat "trendy multiculturalism," promote cultural assimilation and advance far-right, conservative elements in college campuses by inspiring pride in Western heritage and identity.

Given the group's extremist and dangerous philosophy, it is not surprising that Mark Epstein, a white nationalist, was one of the founding members of the movement. In one of his writings, Epstein shamelessly

claimed, "most Americans don't mind a little ethnic food, some Asian math whizzes or a few Mariachi dancers — as long as these trends do not overwhelm the dominant culture." Most notably, the group works closely with Tom Tancredo, a former congressman and a Republican presidential candidate, who has called for a halt on all immigration and a nuclear attack on Mecca. Again, not too surprising.

What is more interesting about the group is its understanding of Western culture. Despite the inclusive name, the organization generally promotes a very narrow version of pro-American, conservative ideology. The traditional European culture of godlessness, socialism, reproductive rights and gay equality are ignored if not directly attacked. Conversely, the organization shares many of its far-right, conservative values with theocratic Muslim countries.

Furthermore, The Hustler's interview with the founding members of YWC at Vanderbilt reveals

inconsistencies and incompleteness in their views regarding assimilation and multiculturalism. Referring to earlier waves of immigration and the historical resistance to assimilation, one member talks about how "Italians would still hold their dinners the same way and the Jewish people didn't convert to Christianity ..." but there was a "breaking point" when the more recent immigrants refused to speak English.

So, using their logic, when immigrants are using different languages and exercising their constitutional right of free speech, are they being un-American? Similarly, if Jewish people converted to Christianity, would it have accelerated their assimilation into mainstream "American" culture? Another member complains how "rooting against the U.S. in sporting events" and showing support for Puerto Rico, which is actually an American territory, are compromising the "dedication towards America." Seriously? Hanging

a Puerto Rican flag is un-American? What if I have dual citizenship with U.S. and U.K.? Do I still have to root for U.S. when the American team is playing against the British team? Am I even allowed to exist?

It gets even better. The members explain how multiculturalism in England is bringing the Sharia codes into the country and undermining women's rights. However, they were the very ones few months ago protesting the Vagina Monologues for its "assault on decency, ... anti-male hate speech, vulgarity and indoctrination." So, are there any other parts of campus culture that this group dislikes? A member responds: "I think almost every single group on campus is sort of complicit with the multicultural ideology." True, all Vanderbilt organizations must comply with the university's non-discrimination policy. I just wouldn't phrase it quite that way, especially when talking on the record.

Despite the content of the message, the group's educational goals are admirable. For instance, intellectual diversity is as important as ethnic diversity, and free speech should be respected. However, it is obvious the pro-Western, anti-multiculturalism movement is on the wrong side of history. In an increasingly multi-polar and interconnected world, a global mindset is essential and diversity inevitable. The presence of ethnic minorities in Vanderbilt will only increase, and the campus-wide efforts for promoting cultural diversity will only intensify. In less than four decades, the non-white minorities and immigrants will become the majority in America for the first time. Sooner or later, the West must learn to share the world with the East, whether we like it or not.

—Soo Yang is a junior in College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at soo.r.yang@vanderbilt.edu.

Metro up for election

To the Editor:

While November's elections for state and federal offices might now seem like ages ago, there are very important municipal elections being held this Thursday for the Nashville Metro Council District 18, which encompasses both Vanderbilt and Belmont Universities, looks to be a competitive race and I hope you will join me in support of a particularly outstanding candidate. For her record of community leadership, Kristine LaLonde will make an excellent advocate for the interests of Vanderbilt students.

Though Nashville Council elections are technically nonpartisan, Kristine is a candidate with a track record of support for progressive causes. She was active very early in the 2008 efforts for President Barack Obama both in Tennessee and Ohio, and more recently worked in the coalition to defeat the English-Only initiative. In

her words, she is running to provide "thoughtful, progressive, and inclusive leadership" in Nashville.

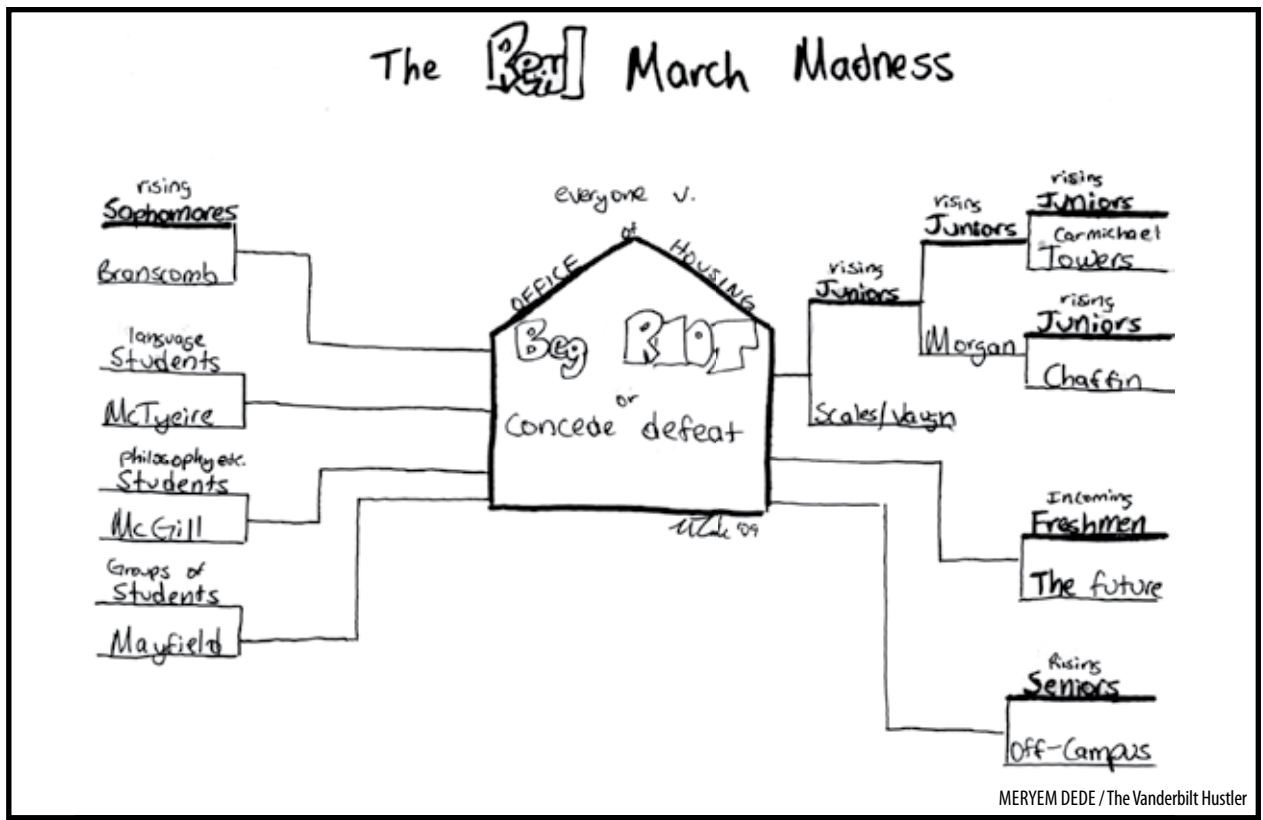
Moreover, as a professor of history at Belmont University, Kristine is very in touch with the interests of college students. In conversation, she noted that while many in Nashville's municipal government like to vilify university students as a local nuisance, she understands the realities of student life and seeks fair, objective treatment of students living off campus.

LaLonde's commitment to community leadership will benefit our neighborhood and Davidson County as a whole. Please give her your support this Thursday.

For more information, you can visit Kristine's website at <http://www.kristineforcouncil.com>.

Matt McGrath
President, Vanderbilt
Students for Barack Obama

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SPORTS

Seniors playing with urgency



MATT YORK / AP
Seniors Jen Risper and Christina Wirth celebrate after defeating Kansas State 74-61 to advance to the Sweet 16 for the second straight season. The two combined for 51 points in the victory.

by NICK GALLO
Sports Reporter

As Vanderbilt heads to Raleigh for its regional semifinal with Maryland, many of the players are taking stock of the season, and their futures. For seniors Jen Risper and Christina Wirth, their next game might be their last, which presents a sense of urgency and desire to continue their season.

In their round of 32 matchup with Kansas State, Risper scored a career-high 27 points, while Wirth racked up 24 while playing all 40 minutes of the game.

On her career high, Risper was humble.

"It was fun, but I was more excited that we won than getting

a career high. I think my family was more excited than I was," Risper said.

Vanderbilt played the first two rounds of the tournament in Albuquerque, which was just a short trip for Risper's and Wirth's families, who live on the West Coast and don't frequently get to see Vanderbilt play. Risper is from Moreno Valley, Calif., and Wirth is from Mesa, Ariz.

"It was great because my family got to come and so did Tina's. And they don't get to come to a lot of games," Risper said. "It meant a lot for them to come and see why I came to Vanderbilt and all the people who support us."

The Risper and Wirth families didn't get to see the typical



26-8, (10-4 SEC) 30-4, (12-2 ACC)

No. 4 Vanderbilt vs. No. 1 Maryland

Saturday, March 28
Tip-off is at 1:30 p.m. CDT
TV: ESPN

Vanderbilt gets a chance to avenge a regional semifinal loss to Maryland almost exactly a year to the day. The Terrapins eliminated the Commodores with an 80-66 victory on March 29, 2008 to advance to the Elite Eight and put an end to Vanderbilt's season.

Both champions of their respective conference tournaments, the Commodores come in riding a five-game winning streak, while Maryland, having won its last 15 games, has not lost since Jan. 30.

Vanderbilt team, however, because they are playing without post player Hannah Tuomi, sidelined with a stress fracture in her left ankle. The injury to Tuomi has caused Vanderbilt to become much more perimeter-oriented, and caused Risper to change positions in order to make the offense flow. The rebounding has taken a hit, and the Commodores have changed their look since losing Tuomi.

"Losing Hannah (Tuomi) was definitely hard because she brings so much. Obviously rebounding and scoring, but also some of the other intangible things that don't show up on the scoreboard," Risper said.

Tuomi's injury, however, has caused a shakeup in most opposing teams' scouting reports. Teams are now not as sure what to expect from the Commodores, and don't have a lot of film to pick up on the new style of play that Vanderbilt is implementing.

"I think people right now see

us as a scary team because of the way we play, because of so many guards and we're quick and scrappy. I think people don't know what to think about us right now," Wirth said.

Wirth is right in that this team is very guard-oriented and will need strong defense in order to both contain and counteract Maryland's Kristi Tolliver and Marissa Coleman. The Terrapins have not lost since January, which is a scary thing to think about for these Commodores. However, as seniors, Risper and Wirth are not ready to end their seasons quite yet.

"There's definitely some urgency, more than we've ever had before. We just don't want it to end. I think we showed that to our teammates, we've said that to our teammates, and our teammates said that to us in our last game: 'we're not done right now.' I think that's a great thing when you can have your entire team saying that you aren't done playing yet," Wirth said. ■

Vanderbilt wants vengeance



JOHN FROSCHAUER / AP
Vanderbilt players and coaches watch during the final minutes of their 80-66 loss to Maryland in last year's regional semifinal. The Commodores have a chance to avenge the defeat Saturday.

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

Senior Christina Wirth was recently reminded of what she said a year ago after she and the fourth-seeded Commodores had been eliminated from the NCAA Tournament by top-seeded Maryland.

"Someone sent me a quote that I said last year, just talking about how next year we're not going to be a young team. We're going to remember this feeling. We're going to build on it or something," Wirth said. "That's exactly how I feel right now."

She didn't need reminding. None of the Commodores do, now that they get another shot at the Terrapins (30-4) Saturday night in Raleigh to avenge last year's season-ending loss.

"I remember that game perfectly," Wirth said. "They

beat us. It's always exciting when you can play a team that beat you and try and get it back."

The similarity to last year's match-up is uncanny. Once again, Vanderbilt (26-8) is the No. 4 seed, Maryland is the No. 1 seed and a berth in the regional final awaits the winner.

Last year, Maryland won with ease, taking a 15-point halftime advantage and leading by as many as 20 en route to an easy 80-66 victory. Wirth was held scoreless for almost the entire first half, and the Commodores shot just 38.7 percent from the field for the game, including anemic 5-22 showing (23 percent) from beyond the arc.

So it goes without saying that Vanderbilt wants a little revenge. Senior Jen Risper relishes getting a chance to take out the Terrapins.

"I would be lying if I said we weren't thinking about that," she said. "That team ended your season the previous year. And a lot of teams don't get to play that team again. We finally got an opportunity and I love the way it played out."

Wirth and Risper were the main cogs behind getting Vanderbilt to the regional semifinal, scoring 27 and 24 points, respectively, to lead the team to a 74-61 victory over Kansas State in the second round in Albuquerque.

Despite two consecutive berths in the Sweet 16 and 10 straight bids to the NCAA Tournament, neither of the seniors feels their team gets a whole lot of credit from outsiders. But, in their words, that's how they like it.

The players were asked how they thought the Terrapins reacted when they saw

Vanderbilt was their next match-up.

"I have no idea. They might think, '(They) don't have Hannah (Tuomi), (they) don't have a post,'" Risper said. "I don't think a lot of teams really respect us. I really don't care what they think anyway. I'm just excited to play them again."

"People don't give Vanderbilt a whole lot of respect in general. I think they're probably not looking at us too much," Wirth said. "More as just another team they have to play."

Wirth wants to make sure the vengeance aspect of the game doesn't distract from the task at hand for her team.

"We just want to keep playing," Wirth said. "They're just a team that's standing in our way, and in order to get to the Elite Eight where we want to go, we've got to get past them." ■

COLUMN

NCAAs lack excitement

by MIKE KRANZLER
Sports Reporter

incident.

Look online at the national standings in various bracket pools, and the leader board is chock full of people who basically picked their winners by which teams had the higher seed.

March Madness is usually one of the most exciting times of the year in the entire sporting world.

The first weekend alone is such a big deal the Vanderbilt wireless network nearly crashed in one of my classes because so many people were trying to watch the games online.

One of the best parts of March Madness is that it gives people a chance to fill out their brackets and join pools with their friends and coworkers to play for bragging rights and often, money.

But something is different this year. The tournament has been exceedingly boring as there have not really been any huge upsets. For the first time ever, the top three seeds in all four regions made it to the Sweet Sixteen. It is not very fun to make bracket picks when the guesswork has been all but taken out of the process.

In my pool, my friends and I are losing to my own girlfriend, who needed me to explain to her what it meant for a team to have a higher seed.

But this is not an isolated

This sort of scenario takes all the magic out of March Madness, as there is a dearth of "Cinderella" teams, like Georgia Mason in 2006, that make improbable runs through the tournament and capture the hearts of a nation.

March Madness always makes for great television, but this year, it is devoid of any great stories. Sports fans like to adopt underdogs once their own teams have been eliminated from the tournament.

But without any real underdogs (no, I do not count Arizona as an underdog just because they are a No. 12 seed), I expect interest in the later rounds to flag, leading to lower ratings.

Order has been restored within the college basketball power hierarchy with all the top teams remaining in contention. But that is not a good thing when it comes to the magical world of March Madness. ■

Senior bowlers building a historic legacy

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

regular season."

Peloquin, Grygiel, Kane and Kaitlin Reynolds made up the bowling program's first recruiting class in 2005 and have helped lead the team to new heights ever since then.

The end of the road is coming soon for the seniors of Vanderbilt's No. 1 ranked bowling team.

But it's been a successful road, the most successful in the history of Commodore sports, including the school's only national championship ever in 2007.

So after winning their record fifth tournament of the season at the Columbia 300 Music City Classic on March 15 by edging out No. 2 Nebraska, the first time Vanderbilt had ever won its host event, there were feelings of nostalgia.

"I think it was an emotional day for us seniors, but not in a bad way," said senior Michelle Peloquin. "It was a great way to end the regular season and hopefully provides a good push-off for Nationals. It was strange to think that the experiences I have had here will soon be coming to end, and in that way, there were some sad feelings."

Senior Karen Grygiel and Tara Kane had similar sentiments.

"The victory was bittersweet," Grygiel said. "It was a great win for us, but it was still sad to think that this journey is almost over. I cannot believe how fast these past four years have gone by."

"I would say there was some melancholy realizing that it was our last regular tournament as seniors, but the excitement and celebration from the tournament win kind of overrode those feelings," Kane said. "The mood became more of a feeling of long-awaited, worthwhile achievement rather than a sad close to our

All four have been a part of countless memorable moments over their tenure with Vanderbilt. Peloquin was named to the All-Tournament team when the Commodores won the national championship. Grygiel was named Most Valuable Player of the Hawk Classic Invitational in November of 2007 to help the team win the tournament. Kane is a three-time All-American and looking for a four-peat. And Reynolds came in relief in the national championship win with two strikes that helped the Commodores pull away from the pack.

"It's very rewarding to be part of such a successful class. In some ways I don't think it has sunk in yet. I give myself and the other seniors a lot of credit for doing what we have done," Peloquin said. "We all took a chance by coming here when the program was first beginning and when reflecting on what we have been able to do in such a short period of time, I see it as truly unique and special."

Wednesday, the team received its fourth straight bid to the NCAA Championships, an elite field that consists of the eight best squads in the country. That marks an appearance at Nationals for every year this senior class has been at Vanderbilt.

For these athletes, it's been a journey they will take with them the rest of their lives.

Please see BOWLERS, page 9

BOWLERS: First recruits made history



USBC PHOTO
Senior Michelle Peloquin, pictured here with coach John Williamson, has been a part of countless memorable moments with Vandy.

From **BOWLERS**, page 8

"It has been amazing, and I feel truly blessed to have been able to be on a team with such talented, intelligent and wonderful people," Grygiel said. "Being a part of this team has been one of the best experiences of my life and I would not trade it for anything else in the world." ■

Committee of Commodores shuts out Raiders, Auburn next on slate

by **ERIC SILVER**
Sports Reporter

Who said you only need to use one pitcher in a shutout?

The Vanderbilt baseball team certainly proved this theory wrong on Wednesday, using five different hurlers to piece together a solid 4-0 victory over the Wright State Raiders.

Sophomore Chase Reid started the game off for the Commodores, pitching a flawless three innings and allowing two hits on only 31 pitches.

One of those hits came on Reid's very first pitch of the game.

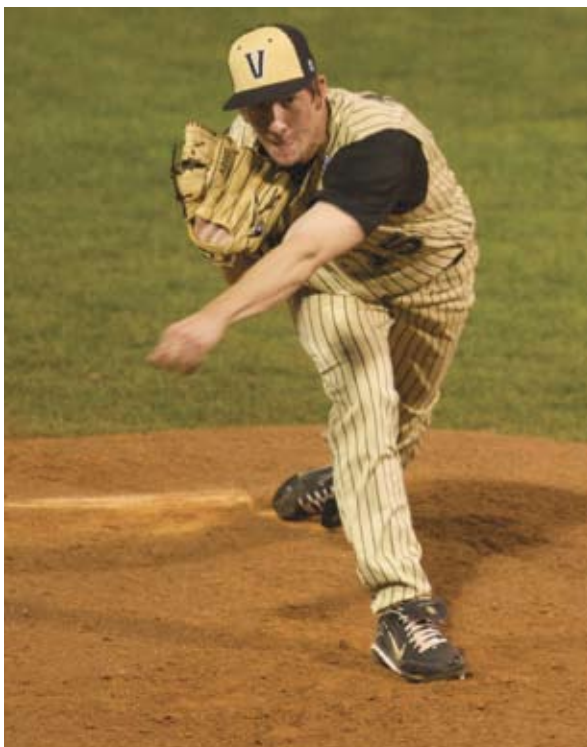
"I just went up there and tried to keep hitters off balance by making the right pitches," Reid said.

One day after scoring eight runs and defeating the top-ranked Georgia Bulldogs, Wright State seemed to have nothing left in the tank against the shutdown pitching and grinding at-bats of the Commodores (16-8, 2-4 Southeastern Conference).

"If you are going to hit like we did tonight you better pitch and play defense well," said coach Tim Corbin.

Indeed, Vanderbilt was perfect on defense, committing no errors, but could only muster six hits on the evening.

Sophomore first baseman Curt Casali helped propel Vanderbilt to an early first inning lead after he singled up the middle to drive in junior



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Sophomore Richie Goodenow pitched an inning of perfect relief to be one of five Commodore hurlers who shut out Wright State Wednesday. Vanderbilt visits Auburn this weekend, still searching for a conference series victory.

Brian Harris from second base, his first of two runs on the afternoon.

Vanderbilt put the game away in the third thanks to Wright State (10-13) mistakes in the field. Sophomore Steven Little drove in Harris on an error by the Raider centerfielder, while freshman Riley Reynolds was able to score on a wild pitch from pitcher Jordan Marker, who was facing his first batter after starter Michael Meintel had been pulled from the contest.

The Commodore pitching picked up the slack from there, as Grayson Garvin and Drew Hayes each pitched two innings while allowing one hit. Richie Goodenow followed with

an inning of perfect relief while freshman sensation Sonny Gray came in to close out the game and earned his fifth save of the year, lowering his ERA to a staggering 0.60.

Things are looking bright for the young Vanderbilt squad, who travels to Auburn Friday for a weekend series against a team that has been struggling as of late following an 11-game winning streak earlier in the year. The Commodores took two out of three games at Hawkins Field when the teams met last season.

As the victory over Wright State demonstrated, with solid pitching, the sky is the limit for Vanderbilt baseball in 2009. ■

Yellow Jackets edge Vanderbilt



ABDULLAH RADZAI / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Freshman Jackie Wu won in straight sets Wednesday over No. 6 Georgia Tech's Noelle Hickey to improve to a 21-7 overall record. She and No. 1 doubles partner Heather Steinbauer also helped win Vanderbilt the doubles point, but Tech rallied to win the match, 4-3.

by **TRAVIS YOUNG**
For the Hustler

Vanderbilt's women's tennis team jumped out to an early 1-0 lead after clinching the doubles point, but it wasn't enough to hold off the sixth-ranked Yellow Jackets, as the Commodores fell 4-3 to Georgia Tech at the Currey Tennis Center Wednesday.

The loss to Georgia Tech, an Atlantic Coast Conference school, was just the second in the last 10 meetings between the teams. "I thought our team showed improvement in a lot of areas today," said Vanderbilt head coach Geoff Macdonald. "We are showing progress in doubles and have made some strides in singles. I want to commend Georgia Tech on the way they played in singles. This is a very solid club that we lost to today."

The Commodores (5-5, 1-2 Southeastern Conference) started off the meet well as they took two of the three doubles matches against the Jackets. Vanderbilt's No. 1 pair of Heather Steinbauer and Jackie Wu picked up their second win over a ranked doubles opponent

Wednesday as they topped Georgia Tech's team of Noelle Hickey and Christy Striplin,

in a tight match, 8-6.

After falling at the number two doubles slot, the doubles point came down to the No. 3 slot. After falling behind early in the match Vanderbilt's duo of Courtney and Keilly Ulery stormed back to take the match 8-6, clinching the doubles point for the Commodores.

The Yellow Jackets (11-5, 4-1) knotted the match score at 1-1 when Sasha Krupina defeated Steinbauer, 6-2, 6-3. The Commodores retook the lead at 2-1, when Wu cruised to a straight set win over Noelle Hickey, 6-3, 6-2, for her third consecutive singles win. With the win, Wu improved to 21-7 overall and 6-3 in dual play.

After the Yellow Jackets had clinched the match with a 4-2 advantage, senior Courtney Ulery posted an impressive 6-3, 6-1 win over Lynn Blau, making the final score 4-3 in favor of Georgia Tech.

The Commodores will return to SEC action for the first time in 12 days as they travel to Auburn, Ala., on March 27 for a 4 p.m. match with the Tigers.

The teams last played on March 21, 2008 in Nashville, with Vanderbilt defeating Auburn in the match by a score of 5-2. ■

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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.

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3/25/09 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

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 - 54 Outside: prof.
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 - 5 Stroll about idly
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 - 11 Matty ___; NL batting champ of 1966
 - 12 Sow's opposite
 - 13 Fast transports: abbr.
 - 19 Get away
 - 22 To the point
 - 24 Choir member
 - 25 Capital city
 - 26 Sir Guinness
 - 27 Hubby & wife
 - 28 Remain
 - 29 Biblical outcast
 - 30 Iron alloy
 - 31 Perpendicular to a ship's keel
 - 32 Crumbly pastry
 - 33 Ready & willing
 - 35 Pitchman's accomplice
 - 38 19th-century Irish tragedy

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T	R	I	Y	B	C	D	E	W	A	T	E	R	S	
			F	O	E	S	C	A	T	S				
A	C	E	R	B	A	I	N	T	E	B	B			
C	A	R	E	S	S	I	N	G	E	L	D	E	R	
T	I	M	E	T	I	N	A	S	A	N	T	A		
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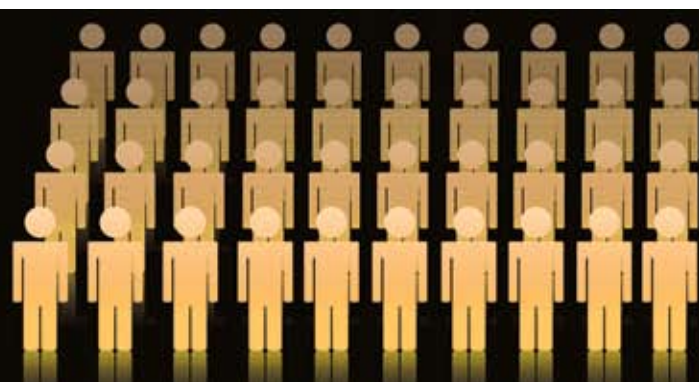


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