



OPINION: Boyle gives some fraternity formal hopefuls tips on surviving the weekend. [SEE PAGE 6](#)

SPORTS: Commodore baseball comes from behind to claim first SEC series victory. [SEE PAGE 8](#)

Faculty heads of house weigh in on Commons



JUSTIN MENESTRINA / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Commons' residential community is the first for Vanderbilt in which students and faculty live together. Heads of Houses said there is always room for gradual improvement.

by HAYLEY KARLAN
News Reporter

The Commons has been largely hailed a success, but what do the Heads of House really think?

Two faculty Heads of House give their two cents.

Each of the 10 houses on The Commons has an apartment for its resident faculty Head of House. Dean of The Commons Frank Weislo said each Head of House, selected after a rigorous application process, is meant to serve as a mentor and a guide for the students within the house.

Ron Schrimpf, a professor of electrical engineering, director for Vanderbilt's Institute for Space and Defense Electronics and faculty Head of House for Memorial House, said he was inspired to apply for the



PATTERSON SCHRIMPF

position after visiting Oxford University in England and witnessing firsthand faculty living with students.

Schrimpf and his wife, Kathy, signed on to be faculty Heads of House for three years and both said they think their role this year has greatly expanded their interaction with faculty and students alike.

Schrimpf had never met any of the other faculty Heads of House, but he said they have gotten to be friends over the year. As a professor of engineering, he said he is not likely to encounter non-engineering professors and the exposure to new disciplines has been fun.

Schrimpf has also enjoyed meeting so many first-year students, as a majority of his classes are for juniors and seniors. Schrimpf said he and his wife agree, however, that they will be making some changes next year.

"We've learned a lot about the student's schedules and time demands and about what they are interested in. We are going to try to front-load a lot of activities in the beginning of the year to build a sense of community right away," he said.

The Schrimpfs said they

were happy to be in Memorial because it is one of the smaller houses and gave them the opportunity to become close to many students, and they are optimistic about the coming years.

"As each year progresses, there will be more understanding. It will be a different atmosphere that will hopefully spread over into main campus," Kathy Schrimpf said.

Tiffany Patterson has had a different, but no less enriching, experience balancing her first year as an associate professor of African American Diaspora Studies at Vanderbilt with being Stambaugh House's faculty Head of House.

Patterson said she has embraced the challenge of beginning her first year of teaching and forging relationships with her colleagues.

"There is a wonderful mix of people. There are so many different perspectives, it is like being a chef — there are so many ingredients," she said.

Patterson said the faculty Head of House's job has been challenging and rewarding because each faculty Head of House had to find ways to adapt to a new role that is very different from just being a faculty member. She said faculty tends to live in solitary environments, making moving in with 157 first-year students exhilarating.

Patterson said the hardest part of being a faculty Head of House was setting boundaries between herself and the students and finding a comfortable balance. Stambaugh hosted a number of events to promote community within the house, such as a coffee house, an exam break and dinners, but Patterson wants to try to connect even more with the students next year.

"I want to push harder to insert myself into the intellectual lives of students, keeping in mind the need for them to have social space," she said.

More than anything, Patterson insisted The Commons will take time to develop and grow.

"Our task is such that we need to give The Commons time to give all the things it has been designed to do. I am going to see the Class of 2012 through," she said. ■

Celebrating Israeli culture with a midnight snack



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Junior Stephen Watkins and sophomore Jason Wen enjoy falafels at midnight in Hillel on Saturday. The buffet was part of this year's "Israelfest," a weeklong series of events put on by Dores for Israel.

HOUSING

Housings costs set to increase, VSG protecting student interests

by ALLISON McDONNOLD
News Reporter

Students will have to pay an extra \$186 per semester for housing next year, an increase of 4.75 percent, according to the new budget proposed by the Office of Housing and Residential Education.

According to Jim Kramka, Senior Director of Housing Facilities Operation and Management, this increase in housing costs, if approved by the Board of Trust, will cover the increase in costs of utilities and plant operations, as well as student financial aid, building replacement reserves and debt service.

OHARE is funded solely by income generated by housing fees and does not receive any subsidies from the university.

"Vanderbilt doesn't do that because doing so would sap money from the academic enterprise," Kramka said. "Housing is expected to pay its own way. We do that by charging students what it costs us to provide their housing."

According to Kramka, student housing fees allocate 38 percent for utilities and physical plant, 6 percent for facilities repair and maintenance, 1 percent for insurance, 1 percent for equipment, 5 percent for provision for replacement

See Editorial for The Hustler's reaction to the housing process and rising costs.

[See page 6](#)

(money set aside for maintenance and repairs), 6 percent for student financial aid and support (resident advisors, head residents, program coordinators and graduate assistants), 15 percent for debt service (paying principle and interest on money borrowed for construction and major repairs and renovations), 17 percent for other university support (paid to other university departments for services like human resources, accounting and Information Technology Services), 8 percent for salaries and benefits, 2 percent for office and administration and 1 percent for programming.

Vanderbilt Student Government has been consulting with OHARE to assure that students are being considered while important decisions regarding housing are being made.

"VSG plans to continue being diligent on projects to improve housing, and we are also working to make the projects more transparent," said VSG President junior Wyatt Smith. ■

HOUSING COSTS BY THE NUMBERS

\$186
increase for next semester

4.75 %
increase in housing costs

HOUSING FEE BREAKDOWN:

38 %
utilities and physical plant

17 %
other university support

15 %
debt service

8 %
salaries and benefits

6 %
facilities repair and maintenance

5 %
provision replacement

2 %
insurance, equipment

2 %
office and administration

1 %
programming

Medical students get chance to aid the uninsured

by EVE ATTERMANN
Managing Editor

It was early in the blustery March afternoon, and already the Shade Tree Clinic's cramped waiting room was filled almost to capacity.

The East Nashville free clinic, which is open for appointments and walk-ins on Tuesdays and Saturdays, was founded in 2005 by Vanderbilt University medical students and is still largely run by them.

"Vanderbilt provides more free care than anyone else in this city," said Co-Director and second-year medical student Meredith Albin. "It's hard for non-profits to survive in this economy, so we are looking at big institutions like Vanderbilt to really make a contribution."

The small trailer on Grace Street is just minutes from Titans Coliseum, in an area dotted with low-income housing, pawnshops and shelters. Among its many free services, the clinic provides medications, testing, counseling, diabetes education and social services.

On April 11, the clinic will be holding its first annual Shade Tree Trot, a fundraising 5K race around campus. The event will begin at 10 a.m. on Peabody campus, with a small entrance fee. Donations will also be accepted.

Albin began working for the clinic in her first year as a diabetes educator and Spanish interpreter and soon developed a passion for it.

"I always knew that I wanted to be involved," Albin said. "I do a lot of the talking to the patients, I don't do a lot of the clinical stuff. It wasn't the learning skills that brought me here. I always did a lot work with the community. I want to work in community health, It's the population that I enjoy working with."

Regular patient Eva Pulant sat in the waiting room by the reception window, where another patient was being instructed, in Spanish, how often she should take her medication.

"I've been coming here for four years," Pulant said. "I am diabetic, I have high blood pressure, I've had two heart attacks in the last four years, and I've just had my foot operated on and it needs to be operated on again because it's broken."

Pulant was just awarded disability benefits after many years of petitioning with the help of the social services division of the clinic. She has been advised that she should buy a handicap tag for her car, but it's going to cost her \$10.

Please see [SHADE TREE CLINIC](#), page 4

NEWS INSIDE: Rising juniors frustrated with the results of their housing lotteries. [SEE PAGE 4](#)



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SNAPSHOTS

compiled by HANNAH TWILLMAN

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TODAY



HIGH **41**, LOW **31**
Rain / snow

TUESDAY



HIGH **43**, LOW **31**
Rain / snow

WEDNESDAY



HIGH **64**, LOW **42**
Mostly sunny

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SERVICE GUIDE

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

FLP hosts campuswide pillow fight to benefit Parkinson's disease research

The First-Year Leaders Program and Vanderbilt Student Government will be teaming up to host Vanderbilt's first ever pillow fight. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

Students can team up for the freeze tag pillow fight on Library Lawn beginning at 6 p.m. on Thursday. Food and live music will be provided, and participants and spectators alike will be able to learn more about Parkinson's disease.

There is a \$50 entry fee per team, with a minimum of 10 team members and a maximum of 13. Students not already part of a team can also come to the event and pay \$5 to be added to a last-minute team. Teams can consist of anything from members of various campus organizations, Greek chapters and residence halls.

Spectators can pay \$2 for admission. Prizes from local businesses such as Yogurt Oasis, P.F. Chang's, T.G.I. Friday's and Fido will be awarded to the top three teams.

Contact Andrew Maguire at andrew.maguire@vanderbilt.edu for information about registration. Checks for team registration fees should be made out to VSG.

2 Vanderbilt University students selected as Goldwater Scholars

Vanderbilt News Service—Two students recommended by the faculty and staff of Vanderbilt University have been selected as 2008 Goldwater Scholars. Each will receive a two-year scholarship worth \$7,500 a year for educational expenses.

The Vanderbilt students who are 2009 Goldwater Scholars are Rosalynne Korman and Andrew Jallouk.

Each year, Vanderbilt and other four-year universities are given the opportunity to nominate up to four outstanding sophomore and junior students in the math, science and engineering fields. Competition for the award is fierce: 278 scholars were selected on academic merit this year from a field of 1,097 students.

Korman is a sophomore from Cincinnati, Ohio, who is studying biomedical engineering. She plans to pursue a joint M.D./Ph.D. in molecular biology, conducting research in immunology and care for immunodeficient patients. She currently works under the direction of Antonis Rokas, assistant professor of biology, in a comparative genomics lab researching the evolutionary relationship of fungal allergens. Korman is fluent in Russian and lives in the Russian hall in the McTyeire Residence Hall. She is an active member of Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science and Vanderbilt Chabad.

Jallouk is a junior biomedical engineering student from Oak Ridge, Tenn. He is interested in earning a M.D./Ph.D. in biomedical engineering, focusing his research on the use of nanotechnology in the development of sensors and instrumentation for early detection and treatment of disease. He works in the lab of Prasad Shastri, assistant professor of biomedical engineering, designing and conducting experiments to analyze the effect of various formation parameters on the physicochemical properties of polymeric nanoparticles. He has spent the past three summers as a research intern at the Oak Ridge National laboratories. His Vanderbilt activities include VSVS, Math Club, Investment Club and the Biomedical Engineering Society.

The Scholarship Program honoring the late Sen. Barry M. Goldwater was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields.

Vanderbilt mathematician wins \$50,000 Sloan research fellowship

Vanderbilt News Service—An assistant professor of mathematics at Vanderbilt University has won a \$50,000 research fellowship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation aimed at encouraging promising young scholars.

Jesse Peterson is one of 118 researchers in physics, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, neuroscience and economics chosen at the early stages of their careers because of their "exceptional promise to contribute to the advancement of knowledge." The recipients can use the grant money to pursue any research that interests them.

Peterson, who came to Vanderbilt in 2008, studies von Neumann algebras, a mathematical object created in the 1920s by the legendary mathematician John von Neumann to describe quantum mechanics, the theory that was developed to explain the paradoxical behavior of sub-atomic particles. Since then, the resulting theory of "operator algebras" has become an exciting and influential mathematical research area on its own.

Peterson's adviser, Sorin Popa of UCLA, pioneered a new technique for studying von Neumann algebras, known as deformation/rigidity theory. Peterson has introduced a kind of weak rigidity, called L2 rigidity, that has had a major impact in the field. His paper "L2-rigidity in von Neumann algebras" appeared recently in the leading mathematics journal *Inventiones Mathematicae*.

"Peterson is a young star in von Neumann algebras," said Dietmar Bisch, professor and chair of mathematics. "Peterson's Sloan Award underscores the recognition that his work has already received and the promise it holds. It is exciting for the department to have him as a colleague."

Leading contemporary Christian music critic to lecture at Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt News Service—Rock critic/biblical scholar Mark Allan Powell will speak on how the Bible is used in popular contemporary Christian songs during a visit to a Vanderbilt University class on The Bible and Music.

Powell, former rock critic for the Houston Post and author of the *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Christian Music*, will speak at 4:10 p.m. April 14, in Room G-23 of Vanderbilt Divinity School, 411 21st Ave. South.

Powell, author of more than 25 scholarly books on the Bible and theology, will play samples of some of contemporary Christian music from the 1960s to the present and examine their use of biblical references and images.

The event is free and open to the public. It will be taped for podcast on VUCast, the Web site of Vanderbilt News Service, at www.vanderbilt.edu/news/.

The Bible and Music class is taught by Amy-Jill Levine, Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School, and Michael Rose, associate professor of composition at Vanderbilt's Blair School of Music. The lecture is sponsored by the Religion in the Arts and Contemporary Culture program at Vanderbilt Divinity School.

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY APRIL 6

• Dodecaphonics Spring Concert

The Dodecs' spring performance will be held in Ingram Hall at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 on the card or at the door, and CDs will be on sale before and after the show for \$10.

TUESDAY APRIL 7

• Model UN Spring Gala

Model UN's annual philanthropy event will feature a guest panel, including Professors Alexander, Buckles, Dalhouse, Getz and Lachs, discussing the global recession and its impacts. Dinner from Nashville and Roma's is included, along with the chance to win lots of free giveaways. Tickets are \$9 on the card and all proceeds benefit the U.N. Foundation's Expanding Mobile Health Program.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8

• International Lens Film Series: "Manderlay"

English Professor Michael Kreyling will host this viewing of "Manderlay," a drama set in a rural Alabama slave plantation. Kreyling will facilitate a post-screening discussion. "Manderlay" will be shown at 7 p.m. in Sarratt Cinema and is free to the public.

THURSDAY APRIL 9

• First-Year Leaders' Pillow Fight Against Parkinson's

Come join VSG for Vanderbilt's first ever pillow fight. Make a team with your friends and battle classmates while raising money for the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Stop by library lawn at 6 p.m. and enjoy the fun and free food. E-mail Andrew Maguire at andrew.maguire@vanderbilt.edu for registration information.

SNAPSHOT

CATCH IT EARLY



SAM KIM / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Catch It Early uses juggling and circus arts to entertain and educate the community about prostate cancer and self-exams. Douglas Denniston, sophomore, and his JPAC friends juggle around campus and downtown to bring awareness to testing for prostate cancer.

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SHADE TREE CLINIC: Med students help the underserved

From **SHADE TREE CLINIC**, page 1

“Most of the doctors here are nice,” she said. “(Dr. Robert Miller, the medical director) prescribes me all my medications, and I have an appointment every two months with him.”

Like Pulant, many of the patients have diabetes and much of the budget goes to their care.

“We have about 60 diabetic patients that we follow right now,” Albin said. “The majority of

our budget, or nearly 40 percent, goes to medicine and supplies for these patients. A large majority also has hypertension.”

“We are raising money to build a (larger) health clinic,” said first-year medical student Adam Wegner.

Wegner has been working at the clinic for three and a half years. Before enrolling in Vanderbilt University Medical School, he was a graduate

student specializing in neuroscience.

“I started working here basically when I decided to go to medical school and I wanted to have experience with patients in a low-pressure environment,” Wegner said.

First-year medical student Akshikumar Mistry said he started working at the clinic for clinical experience as well but hinted at a more personal

incentive.

“My family is uninsured. I’ve been to free clinics and I know what it’s like,” Mistry said. “I know what it’s like to be out there waiting for medications.”

Mistry was born in India and raised in Africa, and he moved to the United States eight years ago. Next year, he will be director of the pharmacy.

“I come here as much as I can,” he said. “The moment

you say yes (to the patients) for more medications, it’s like awesome. You really get to see them change because I have their medical records and I see their progress.”

Still, it seems to many of the students and volunteers that the clinic has been called to serve a role for which it is not entirely prepared. Many of the students said they see this as a serious flaw of the American health care

system.

“This is a consequence of a system without universal health care,” Wegner said.

“I view health care as a right, at least basic health care,” Albin said. “And I don’t think that’s the attitude that everyone has necessarily. If everyone does a little to benefit the community, then a lot gets done. It’s not a huge burden on anyone, and it helps a lot of people.” ■

HOUSING

Rising juniors frustrated with housing process, result

by **ALLISON McDONALD**
News Reporter

CALLIE JONES
News Reporter

The housing assignment process has proven frustrating for many students, especially for rising juniors and the 34 rising sophomores who were put on a wait list for a room for next year.

“Unfortunately, the Class of 2011 is getting hit hardest in the housing process,” said Vanderbilt Student Government President junior Wyatt Smith. “More seniors have gotten the suite selections, which trickles down and causes the rising juniors to break up their groups and settle for doubles.”

In an attempt to accommodate rising juniors, Smith has encouraged the Office of Housing and Residential Education to allow more seniors to live off-campus.

Jason Jakubowski, director of housing assignments, originally granted off campus authorization to 325 students. However, a larger than expected number of those students declined their authorization, and Jakubowski was able to grant about 100 requests he originally denied.

“I have talked extensively with Jason Jakubowski to ensure that the Office of Housing and Residential Education is taking into account the changing enrollment size of each class and the changing number of

beds on campus,” Smith said.

Even with some rising juniors planning on living in Branscomb and Kissam Quadrangles, originally a first-year dorm, for the third year in a row, Kramka said most students understand that the housing assignment process is a seniority-driven lottery and that rising seniors have first priority for housing.

Despite Housing’s movement of more seniors off-campus, some students are still dissatisfied with their housing.

Sophomore Zoe Matthews did not receive her first choice of a triple in Morgan or Lewis Houses or her second choice of a single in Carmichael Towers and will be living in Cole Hall next year.

“In our minds, as rising juniors we were finally going to have a chance to live where we wanted,” Matthews said. “Boy, were we wrong.” She also lamented over not being able to live on Peabody campus.

“In my opinion, the Class of 2011 has been treated terribly by the this year’s housing process. First of all, our class will always feel left out from The Commons experience,” Matthews said. “The Class of 2010 and clearly every first-year class will have the privilege of living there. Although this isn’t Housing’s fault, it has left a lot of students bitter and frustrated with the fact that they expect for some of us to live in Kissam for three years in a row.”

Other sophomores also felt frustrated

with Vanderbilt’s desire to be an entirely residential campus and its impact on the rising juniors’ housing assignments.

“I think the housing process is really unfair to the rising junior class, and I think they need to let more seniors live off campus,” said sophomore Anna Domning.

“I understand Vanderbilt aims to be an entirely residential campus, however this can not be implemented until there is enough housing on campus for all of our students,” Matthews said.

In addition, students also expressed unhappiness with being placed in housing that they had previously occupied and the lack of improvement in their housing that they expect as their seniority increases.

“I think it’s pretty ridiculous that I’ll be living in Branscomb for the third year in a row, but at this point it’s the best option,” said sophomore Michelle Risley. “I also feel like it’s a waste of money. I could live off campus in something much nicer than Branscomb for about the same amount of money.”

Furthermore, students were upset with the housing’s lottery process.

“Another issue with the lottery system was there was no guarantee that we would be able to reside with our friends,” Matthews said. “The rising sophomores get to use ballots but as for the rising juniors it was a cutthroat process that seemed to turn every man for himself. My friends and I got separated as a result.” ■

VUCEPT to make minimal changes

by **KELLY JONES**
News Reporter

Due to the successful past year of Vanderbilt Visions with the introduction of The Commons, VUcept will only be making minimal changes, according to VUcept president junior Emilie Strom. The largest adjustment to the program is within the executive board.

“We have redefined the roles and positions of the (11) board members to better serve the VUceptors as well as the first year students,” Strom said. “The changing roles are in response to the changing needs of our organization. We re-evaluate the positions on the board to make sure they benefit the VUceptors needs as well as ours.”

For instance, Strom said the board created a new position for their True Life presentation, in which upperclassmen discuss challenges and serious topics that arise on campus.

CommonVU, which was a weeklong orientation in August for first-year students this year, is also being modified. The committee looks to shorten the time frame that the first-year

students are on campus without upperclassmen. Instead, the program will begin later and will extend into the first week of classes. Strom said next year’s first-years will only arrive a few days before classes start.

“Having the upperclassmen on campus earlier will allow for more upperclassmen involvement in CommonVU,” Strom said. Other minor changes to specific programs have not been finalized. Prior to having upperclassmen on campus, the first-year students will take part in advising sessions, community building activities and the Honor Code Signing. And during the first week of school, first-year students will attend a True Life presentation, which includes a 45-minute presentation and 45-minute discussion without adults present. According to Strom, the presentation features “difficult issues,” such as alcohol abuse.

Spring orientation began this past week for accepted student and faculty VUceptors. The program mainly focused on developing relationships as well as giving the individuals a more precise understanding of next year’s program. ■

lead.

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GROUP 2

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- Vanderbilt Political Review Editor-in-Chief
- Geist Editor-in-Chief
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- Student Media News Editor
- Student Media Sports Editor
- Student Media Opinion Editor
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APPLICATION DEADLINES

GROUP 2 Applications are due on Friday, April 10 at noon.

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

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submitted by Laura Calabrese

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OPINION

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The Vanderbilt Hustler EDITORIAL BOARD

Don't forget about us



CAROLYN PIPPEN
Columnist

There's been a lot of back and forth this year about the treatment of the freshman class, some serious, some not, but at the end of the day, it's difficult to criticize any effort a university makes to create a system of support for its students. There's just one problem: Vanderbilt is made up of more than just freshmen.

Fifty years from now, I'll get to tell my grandkids that our country hit a national recession right in the middle of my senior year of college, and I survived. What I won't be able to tell them is that my university did everything they could to help me through it. There's an epidemic of panic going through the senior class right now, a class facing hiring freezes, unprecedented grad school competition and an administration too focused on sophomore housing gripes to care.

That's not to say there aren't systems in place to help upperclassmen prepare for life after college, but they're mostly disorganized, antiquated and generally inadequate. The Career Center is a well-intentioned office spread far too thin to make any sort of substantial impact. We all have advisers — some of us know them, some of us don't. Some of them understand the process of grad school admissions and how to navigate the modern workforce, and some of them don't. The one thing they all have in common is that advising students is second on their list of priorities.

My point is this: We need a new system. Just like the confused and unprepared freshmen currently blossoming through endless VUcept activities and Harry Potter-esque dining experiences, we upperclassmen need a more solid support base in our ventures into the real world.

We need to be better educated. Remember how incessantly high school counselors hounded us about college applications and deadlines? Grad school admissions make even less sense, are less streamlined and provide less assistance, and none of that even compares to how hard it is to find a job right out of college in this crappy economy. There is no reason, then, why we should receive less help from our current institutions in understanding what is to be expected.

We need to be better organized. Post-graduate guidance should come from one office and speak with one voice, not a slew of Facebook invites and e-mail addresses with no hint as to which are legitimate and which are just a waste of time.

Finally, it needs to be mandatory. Let's face it — college students do what is required of them, and rarely anything more. That's not because we're lazy or unconcerned about our own futures, it's because a lot is required of us. If you can force freshmen to meet with their VUcept groups, you can make me meet with someone, too. Someone who knows where I've been, where I want to go and what it takes for me to get there.

This may all sound like ranting from a spoiled Vandy girl who wants the world handed to her on a platter, and maybe that's true. But I was a freshman once, and if I rely on the institution to guide me in the right direction, it's because the institution made me that way. Regardless, this school clearly has the resources to do phenomenal things for its students, and it's about time it spent a little less time holding hands with those coming in and a little more giving a leg up to those of us on our way out.

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

EDITORIAL

Sophomores neglected

Students across the board have been having difficulty with the housing assignment process. The problem is due in part to an increased number of seniors living on campus, many in Towers suites. Furthermore, several seniors declined off-campus housing authorization, though the issue was somewhat alleviated by Jason Jakubowski, director of housing assignments, by granting an additional 100 requests. This, however, is merely a symptom of a growing problem.

Rising juniors have been hit harder than most, some whom are living in their first-year housing for the third year in a row. Even more troubling, the decrease in the number of off-campus housing authorizations combined with a rise in housing costs defies economic logic. With the current market situation, the value of homes and rental units is decreasing, but Vanderbilt seems to operate in the reverse. Sure, there has been an increase in the price of utilities, but surely no one thinks charging students more for a single in Kissam than a two-bedroom apartment off campus is entirely reasonable.

There is also a question as to why the rising sophomores were allowed to use ballots — a luxury not given to rising juniors, who during the random selection process were unable to be on a

ballot with other rising upperclassmen. This left many living in singles or doubles, separated from the friends they initially put on suite ballots. Giving priority to the rising sophomores, especially after the bitterness created by The Commons, is simply dangerous. While the administration is trying to help the current first-years adapt to living on main campus, seniority should be taken into consideration.

All things considered, the housing system has not made the necessary adjustments required to fit in the new system. More seniors remain on campus, Peabody campus is closed off to upperclassmen and utilities costs are rising — why wasn't this factored in? Or better yet, if it was factored in, how was the housing process allowed to operate in the way it has?

Jakubowski has been put in a difficult situation. He has to rectify and reconcile problems he himself didn't create. While it's usually practical to wait as the situation improves, Housing will continue to cause problems unless someone directly intervenes. The current situation is untenable and should be fixed immediately. Students should expect some cutbacks as Vanderbilt addresses its financing issues, but housing isn't one of them.

Frat formals: For future reference



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

Being a part of a fraternity formal is quite a privilege. Two whole days of raging and carefree fun in the sun makes for an awesome weekend — if you do it right. Here are a few pointers on how to make sure your formal experience goes smoothly. It may be too late for some of you, but hey, there's always next year ... that is, if there are any fraternities left.

1) Don't lie to your teachers about why you'll be missing class Friday. That sunburn Monday morning will say everything.

2) Don't procrastinate on your cooler. They take forever, and people will be able to tell if you only gave it half of your effort. If you don't have enough artistic talent to free hand the Jack Daniels label, make it personal. If you don't know your date well, Facebook might be helpful.

3) Get your work done before you leave. You may think you're going to hit up that business center at the hotel, but you won't.

4) Put your sunscreen on before you pop that cooler open. It may be 10 a.m., but it is safe to bet you will not be thinking about it later. Also, make sure the person applying the sun block on your back is still straight or there are going to be some weird red designs on your back the next day.

5) Remember your beach etiquette: Keep the glass in the coolers. If you are able to swim it is probably best you bring a buddy with you. Do not puke in front of the children. Oh, and be prepared to have an audience. More than 100 college students camped around brightly decorated coolers isn't something you see everyday.

6) Pace yourself. It's an intense weekend, and you want to experience as much as you can. Intense day drinking is fine because you can always recover with a six-hour afternoon nap, but passing out early in the evening cuts out late night beach activities and 3 a.m. trips to Whataburger. You also have to wake up early the next day and do it all over again.

7) Watch your date closely. You may not even be that into her, but it really stinks when everyone on the trip knows the worst guy in the fraternity was able to swoop in and take her. It also sucks to wake up with your date and treacherous brother sleeping together on the pullout couch in your hotel room.

8) Pack lightly because God knows you won't be feeling your best Sunday morning when you have to gather your things and leave.

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

Charter schools work



NEILY TODD
Columnist

If Nashville schools were running a marathon, they would have been sidelined miles ago. It is no secret Nashville's public schools are in bad shape, leaving many Tennessee government officials wracking their brains for a solution.

Fortunately, one obvious part of the solution is staring them in the face — charter schools. A charter school is a public school that controls its own budget, curriculum and staffing. Because charter schools are independently run, they can focus their curriculum and class sizes to specifically meet the needs of the communities and students they serve. Charter schools provide the individual attention needed.

Seven years ago, in 2002, Tennessee became the 39th state to pass a charter law, and today Nashville has three charter schools: KIPP Academy Nashville, LEAD Academy and Smithson Craighead Academy. Memphis has 10 charter schools and Chattanooga has two, bringing the total to 15. Another nine are scheduled to open in the next few years. Keeping with that pace, Tennessee could have 50 charter schools in the next 10 years.

However, there is one small problem. Under Tennessee law, no more than 50 charter schools can be open in Tennessee. Per the current rate of growth, the demand for charter schools will soon surpass the mandated cap of 50.

The Tennessee legislature is considering House Bill 2146 by Davidson County Reps. Beth Harwell and Mary Pruitt. Under this new bill, the state cap on charter schools would be removed. The restrictions on applicants would also be removed. The current law requires that only students zoned to a failing school under No Child Left Behind or failing at their current school can attend a charter school. The new bill would open enrollment in charter schools to any students who want to attend.

Opponents of the new bill argue that because charter schools are independently run, there is no way to ensure the schools will actually be any good. This is a fairly simple problem to solve, however. If a charter school opens in Tennessee and is not performing to the state's standards, the state could choose not to renew the school's charter and the school would be forced to close. Problem solved.

It will never be that easy to close a failing traditional public school. A second argument against the expansion of charter schools is suggested by Earl Wiman, the president of the Tennessee Education Association. "You can take three or four students out of a school, you can take 25 students out of a school, and unless they all come out of the same grade level, you're not going to reduce the operational cost in the school," Wiman said. His point is true, but charter schools will cut down class size and reduce the burden placed on teachers by overcrowded classrooms.

Too many schools are failing, and in turn, are failing the children of Nashville. In fact, the schools are failing you too, because you will be left with the financial burden of propping up a society of inadequately educated, and therefore underprepared, citizens.

As Metro Board of Education member Alan Coverstone points out, "Our community's capacity to provide excellent education will never be centered in just one type of school. That's why I have argued that every family ought to be able to choose the best school for its children." An educated city is in everyone's best interest, and charter schools are an important element in reaching that goal.

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

THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff.
Compiled by Thomas Shattuck

China		Eight Chinese who used high-tech communications equipment, including mobile phones and wireless earpieces, to help their children cheat at university entrance exams have been jailed on state secret charges, local media said.
Plaboy		British media regulator Ofcom has fined Playboy TV 22,500 pounds (\$32,990) for airing sexually explicit images in breach of broadcasting rules. As if they'd be broadcasting anything else ... yeah, real smart move Ofcom.
Dogs		Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's pet dog gobbled up a special tea prepared for bosses of Russia's ruling party. While Putin discussed ways to help the local food industry, his favorite black labrador Koni ate the delicacies prepared for leaders of his United Russia party.
Athletics		French pole-vaulting champion ran naked with his pole through the streets of Paris and posted the video on the Internet, hoping to draw attention to his quest for a new sponsorship deal. Hell, I'd sponsor him.
Coke		Coca-Cola recently made ads claiming Coke did not make children fat or harm their teeth. The full-page print ads also sought to combat public perceptions that Coke was packed with large amounts of caffeine. That's not false at all.
Marriage		A German woman has divorced her husband because she was fed up with him cleaning all the time. The wife managed to get through 15 years of marriage putting up with the man's penchant for doing household chores, tidying up and rearranging the furniture.
Lemonade		A Norwegian church used lemon-flavored cola instead of water in a baptism ceremony after its taps were temporarily turned off because of freezing temperatures. When life gives you lemons ... douse a baby in lemonade?

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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Western civilization values cultural diversity

JESSE JONES
Guest Columnist

On Friday morning, a gunman opened fire on an immigration center in Binghamton, N.Y., killing 13 innocent people. Similarly, ever since the anti-immigration rally sponsored by the Youth for Western Civilization, the Hustler Opinion section has been turned into a battleground of inflamed passions. This debate must be resolved because it strikes at the heart of who we are as a university, and it must be resolved in favor of diversity and tolerance.

More than anything else, Vanderbilt is a place for the open exchange of ideas. We are here to listen and learn from everyone, no matter his or her gender, color, sexual preferences or creed. To hone the most nuanced ideas requires reaching out to the whole world and pursuing all areas of knowledge, including but not limited to "classical learning."

In contrast, YWC wants to shut down "trendy multiculturalism" that has "taken over" college campuses. What they fail to realize is that their platform of "restoring ... classical learning" across college campuses would be exactly that — a trend. Furthermore, the idea is insulting to professors and students of the "wrong" disciplines, let alone those of the "wrong" national origins.

America's "traditional values" and "multiculturalism" are not mutually exclusive; in fact, they depend on one another. By celebrating diversity we are really celebrating the founding principles of our nation.

It makes absolutely no

difference to me whether my neighbors set off fireworks on the Fourth of July or root for Puerto Rico's football team or practice Wiccan rituals in their spare time. What really matters to me is that in America we have the freedom to celebrate any day of the year any way we wish.

America is viable as a nation precisely because it is open to change; it evolves over time in response to the changing conditions of the world. It is not rooted in 1776 or 1860 or any other year. The 1960s were different from the 2000s, and the 2040s will be different from today. If we failed to adapt we would certainly cease to be the most powerful nation on earth.

Diversity brings strength. "Diversify your portfolio" is the first rule for investing in stocks. The same rule applies to societies; dividing tasks up allows for specialization depending on people's talents. Our trades and our philosophies are intertwined; engineering sees the world in a different way than humanities, and economics views the world differently than sociology.

Assuming Westerners and Easterners share the same basic, universal human values — tolerance, respect, openness to ideas — they have much to learn from each other.

Immigrants come to America seeking a better life, not because they want to undermine our country. They bring with them what they can: their hopes, a few possessions and their traditions. Of course they want to learn English, but many work extremely long hours, and there are not always enough ESL teachers to go around.

Immigrants deserve the right

to hold onto their traditions without being criticized or judged by those in the "majority culture." If you moved to China, wouldn't you still speak English at home and hold onto your belief in democracy? Would it feel fair if the Chinese asked you to conform to every aspect of their society's "superior" culture?

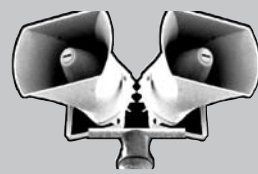
Indeed, who is to say that "Western civilization" is superior? It has dominated over the past few centuries for a number of complicated reasons outside the scope of this column. But today, developing countries such as China and India are expanding their economies even as the rest of the world is contracting. In case you haven't noticed, international students tend to have a stronger work ethic than those of us who take college for granted.

Vanderbilt is on right path and doing just fine, thank you. Our professors are incredible and each incoming class is more selective and qualified than the last. Tom Tancredo, instead of trying to change Vanderbilt, take some of those pork-barrel dollars and try founding your own university based on your idea of "Western values." If the education at said college is truly superior, then you will attract the best and the brightest teachers and students away from our backward, closed-minded institution and ensure your everlasting fame.

But in all seriousness, let's stop screaming at each other and let our values speak for themselves.

—Jesse Jones is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at jesse.g.jones@vanderbilt.edu.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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SPORTS

Only a freshman, Gray makes immediate impact in relief

by MEGHAN ROSE
Sports Reporter

The transition into collegiate baseball is often a daunting process for freshmen. This season, the Commodores have relied on youth to fill a number of important roles on the mound, in the field and at the plate.

While the Southeastern Conference baseball stage can be intimidating to even a seasoned veteran, freshman right-handed pitcher Sonny Gray's physical and mental talent has allowed him to excel on the mound early in the season. While gaining closing and relief experience, Gray has pitched in a number of crucial innings, helping his team win from the mound.

To date, Gray has recorded close to 20 innings, striking out 19 batters and only giving up four earned runs on 15 hits. He earned his second win Sunday against Florida with two scoreless innings of relief.

"He's someone we're leaning on right away because he possesses a great arm and breaking ball," said Vanderbilt coach Tim Corbin. "It's more than getting him experience — he's coming in to help us win."

For Gray, this added pressure to perform in clutch situations is nothing new. The Tennessee native was a four-year starter and varsity letter winner on the Smyrna High School baseball team, helping the Bulldogs to a No. 3 ranking in the state his junior season. As a quarterback and three-year starter on Smyrna's football team, Gray also led the Bulldogs to back-to-back state championships.

Gray has been able to carry his winning mentality and drive into the collegiate innings he has pitched this spring. The pitcher is 1-0 on the season, with a 2.16 earned run average.

"It's tough for a freshman to come in and pitch at a level like this right away, but he's a very confident player," Corbin said. "He strives on competition, and in the end, he knows how to win."

With a fastball, changeup and curve in his collegiate repertoire, the right-hander's baseball IQ has allowed him to adapt his pitching style for success against more competitive batters. During the offseason, Gray worked with Derek Johnson, Vanderbilt pitching coach, to pinpoint the location of his pitches and ensure consistency in the strike zone.

"In high school, you can throw hard and throw it past a lot of batters, since they don't see fast pitching everyday," Gray said, who was drafted in the 27th round of the 2008 first-year draft by the Chicago Cubs. "At the college level, you actually come in and learn how to pitch strategically."

While Gray's impressive arm strength has aided the velocity of his pitches, it is the freshman's intangibles that make him a volatile threat to opposing batters.

"He's a great competitor, with good instincts and baseball savvy," Corbin said. "What is impressive about Sonny is that he is able to react to what is going on around him in the field while he is on the mound."

This season, Gray has been able to learn from older pitchers



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Freshman Sonny Gray passed up a chance at the major leagues to play for the Commodores and has been sensational so far, recording four saves, two wins and a sparkling 1.83 ERA.

on the staff, such as senior Nick Christiani, junior Mike Minor and sophomore Caleb Cotham. While implementing their strategies and advice in games, Gray hopes to gain the respect of both his teammates and his coaches in upcoming seasons.

"I want to be able to learn from the upperclassmen, and listen to the coaches," Gray said. "Hopefully in a couple of years, I will be able to understand what the coaches are saying

even before they say it."

For now, however, Gray's primary goal is to help the Commodores win games in any way possible.

"You have to take everything one step at a time — as a team, we want to keep winning games, and play well at the SEC tournament," Gray said. "Whenever I get the opportunity to pitch, I want to execute pitches and help the team win." ■

Huge rally earns Vanderbilt first conference series win

by DAN RYAN
Sports Reporter

Vanderbilt won its first Southeastern Conference series of 2009 on Sunday, exploding for seven runs in the eighth inning for a 16-9, come-from-behind victory over No. 19 Florida.

The big inning was punctuated by junior Brian Harris parking a three-run home run in the top row of the left field bleachers at Hawkins Field.

Coach Tim Corbin stressed the importance of the win for his team's psyche.

"It was really big for our confidence," he said.

The insertions of sophomore Alex McClure for redshirt freshman Aaron Westlake at designated hitter and senior outfielder Johnathan White for redshirt sophomore Alex Hilliard in center field in the bottom of the sixth inning contributed mightily to the offensive outburst by the team.

"That's what you want to do when you get in to the game," Corbin said, referring to White's two-run, bases-loaded single in the seventh.

White also reached on one of three errors by Florida shortstop Josh Adams, allowing two runs to score. Florida's four total errors led to three Vanderbilt runs and helped extend the five-run Commodore seventh inning.

Sonny Gray (2-0) earned the win for the Commodores (19-12, 5-7), pitching the eighth and ninth innings after relieving regular Sunday starter senior Nick Christiani,



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Steven Liddle is congratulated after scoring a run in Vanderbilt's come-from-behind 16-9 victory over Florida on Sunday. The Commodores scored 14 unanswered runs in the win.

who allowed two runs. Gray struck out three, and his fastball consistently touched the upper 90s as Florida batters struggled against the hard-throwing freshman.

Sophomore Taylor Hill, who saw minimal action in Friday night's game, started in lieu of Christiani, but did not fare much better giving up two

earned runs in three innings of work. Sophomores Russell Brewer and Sean Bierman also appeared briefly in relief. Brewer gave up one hit and issued one walk, and Bierman was charged with three earned runs on two hits in the fourth.

Florida took game one of the series on Friday night, 8-4. The Gators had 18 hits

while holding Vanderbilt to just five. Junior Vanderbilt starter Mike Minor (2-3) went seven innings, giving up five runs, four earned, and struck out nine on 104 pitches before giving way to Hill in the eighth. Hill threw seven pitches, giving up two singles and recording one out.

Vanderbilt sophomore Richie Goodenow came on to replace Hill, allowing both runners he inherited from Hill to score. Brewer pitched the ninth inning, surrendering three hits and the final Gator run. Brewer struck out two and did not issue a walk.

Freshman third baseman Jason Esposito hit a solo home run over the left field wall in the third and junior catcher Andrew Giobbi knocked a triple down the first base line with the bases loaded in the sixth to score three runs. Vanderbilt would not score for the rest of the game, and did not record a hit after the sixth inning.

Vanderbilt responded to Friday's loss on Saturday by beating the Gators 4-3 behind a stellar performance from starting pitcher Caleb Cotham (4-3). In a game played in bright sunshine and a slight breeze, the sophomore surrendered four hits and three runs, only one of which was earned. He struck out six and walked five on 116 pitches.

Gray made his first appearance of the series in the ninth picking up his fourth save of the season.

Liddle, Giobbi, Westlake and Esposito each had one RBI for Vanderbilt in a low-scoring affair. ■

Bowlers seeking another national title

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

Vanderbilt's only national championship team is back in familiar territory.

The top-ranked Commodore bowling team heads back to the NCAA Championships on Wednesday, leading a field of eight teams that includes all five teams that have won the national title since it began in 2004.

Defending national champion Maryland-Eastern Shore, as well as Nebraska, Central Missouri, Arkansas State, New Jersey City, Fairleigh Dickinson and Delaware State are also in the field of elite squads competing for the championship. One year ago, Maryland-Eastern Shore came from behind to eliminate Vanderbilt in the semifinals of the tournament, 4-3, and ruin any chance of the team defending its 2007 national title.

Despite the pressure of championship play upon them, the Commodores are not changing up their routine much. After all, coming off a year that has seen them win a record five tournaments, there doesn't seem to be a need to fix what isn't broken.

"To prepare, our practice formats mainly stay the same," said senior Tara Kane. "We practice spare shooting and practice in the Baker and team-game formats that will expect at the national tournament."

In the NCAA Championships, Baker games are involved in the match-up. In this style of play, five bowlers from each team bowl two frames apiece in a 10-frame game, with the first bowler doing frames one and six, the second bowler doing frames two and seven and so forth. The first day of competition is very important in deciding seeding for the remainder of the tournament. The Commodores earned a No. 3 seed after the first day in their 2007 national title run and a No. 2 seed last season.

As Kane said, a focus on spare conversion will be key to the team's chances of capturing its second national title in three years. The team excelled in that regard in 2007 but struggled in 2008 en route to its surprising early exit.

This season, as always, the bowlers are intent on having a level-headed attitude throughout the tournament.

"There is a serious emphasis on focus and consistency, but coach also wants us to have fun with practice so we can replicate that attitude in Detroit," Kane said. "Being relaxed will be key to a good performance."

Fellow senior Michelle Peloquin agreed.

"Usually the team that is most successful is the one that is relaxed and has fun while competing, so I hope that's what we can do," she said. ■

Wirth receives another postseason honor

by CHRIS WEINMAN
For The Hustler

Senior Christina Wirth earned another postseason honor Sunday, being named to the All-Senior All-America Team by the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award committee.

Voted on by a nationwide panel of coaches, media and fans, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award and All-Senior All-America Team are presented annually to college basketball's top NCAA Division I senior student-athletes.

An acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: classroom, community, character and competition.

An honorable mention All-American on the court for the Commodores, Wirth has also excelled in the classroom and made an impact in the community.

The Mesa, Ariz., native began graduate studies at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing this past fall while also finishing up her undergraduate degree in Human and Organizational Development, where she has boasted a 3.60 grade point average.

Wirth is quite active in community service efforts, including the annual Buddy Walk and the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. The women's basketball team's representative to the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Wirth has helped coordinate outreach events for all of Vanderbilt's student-athletes.

The Lowe's Senior CLASS award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards that a senior season can bring.

As a senior, Wirth led the Commodores to their sixth Southeastern Conference



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Christina Wirth earned another honor on Sunday as she was named an All-Senior All-American by the Lowe's CLASS committee.

Tournament championship and a 14th appearance in the NCAA Sweet 16. She was named Most Valuable Player of the SEC Tournament, leading the Commodores in scoring in all three games. In the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 game, she scored a career-high 28 points against Maryland.

Joining Wirth on the 2008-09 All-Senior All-America First Team is: Shalee Lehning, Kansas State; Renee Montgomery, Connecticut; Lowe's Senior CLASS Award winner Courtney Paris, Oklahoma and Kristi Toliver, Maryland. The Second Team consists of Jada Frazier, New Orleans; Rachel Galligan, Eastern Illinois; Koren Schram, Dartmouth; Taktia Starks, Texas A&M and Abby Waner, Duke. ■

LAX runs past Johns Hopkins

by BRIAN LINHARES
Sports Reporter

In the preceding four matches versus Johns Hopkins, Vanderbilt has emerged victorious on three occasions.

Nonetheless, several days prior to Saturday's home date with the Blue Jays, sophomore defenseman Claire Leonard commented on the rivalry, saying, "There's bad blood. They're having a down year, but it's always a tough game."

But for the 11th-ranked Commodores, it did not seem that way.

The Commodores opened on a 7-0 run in the first 10 minutes, two courtesy of sophomore attacker Katherine Denkler, en route to an 18-8 victory.

Despite being outscored by the visiting Hopkins 3-2 to close out the half, Vanderbilt still held a comfortable 9-3 advantage at intermission. Freshman midfielder Ally Carey added two goals towards the end of the first period.

The Blue Jays were the first to strike in the second half, as

freshman Alyssa Kildare cut the Commodore lead to five.

However, five was the closest the visitors would come.

Over the subsequent 15 minutes, junior Sarah Downing connected for three goals, to help extend the lead to nine.

Johns Hopkins continued to trade scores with the Commodores, before junior Carter Foote notched her second and third goals of the contest, with nine and five minutes in regulation, respectively.

Foote lengthened the Vanderbilt lead to 18-7, before Hopkins junior Angela Hughes added the final score.

With the victory over the American Lacrosse Conference counterpart, the Commodores increased their conference record



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Junior Laura Keenan (20) scored a goal and was second on the team with five shots as the Commodores defeated Johns Hopkins, 18-8.

to 2-1, as well as overall to 7-3.

The triumph over Hopkins is the fifth consecutive victory for the Commodores, following a defeat at Duke on March 11. Moreover, four margins of victory in the streak have been by at least ten.

On Wednesday, the squad begins a two-game road stretch, traveling to the University of New Hampshire. Next Sunday, Vanderbilt pays a visit to Ohio State University in Columbus. ■

Women's tennis wins fourth straight

by TRAVIS YOUNG
For The Hustler

The Vanderbilt women's tennis team won five of the six singles matches after dropping the doubles point to defeat No. 27 Ole Miss 5-2 at the outside courts of the Curry Tennis Center.

The win over the Rebels gives the 19th-ranked Commodores their fourth straight Southeastern Conference win and improves their conference record to 5-2. Sunday's win over Ole Miss (10-7, 3-5 SEC) marked the final regular season home match for the Commodores. Vanderbilt finishes the 2009 home campaign 8-3. Vanderbilt handled both opponents from the Magnolia State over the weekend, dispatching Mississippi State with ease on Friday, 6-1.

"I am really impressed with the way our team responded after dropping a tight doubles point," said coach Geoff Macdonald. "We maintained our composure and everyone competed at a high level in singles. We just beat a real good Ole Miss team and I want to give them credit."

Vanderbilt (9-5, 5-2 SEC) went 1-2 against the Rebels in doubles play as the freshman tandem of Jackie Wu and Heather Steinbauer notched an 8-6 victory over Ole Miss's 45th-ranked pair of Kristi Boxx and Karen Nijssen for their seventh win of the season.

The Commodores tied things up one a piece when Wu defeated Mississippi's 80th-ranked Karen Nijssen in straight sets, 6-4, 6-1. With

the win Wu improved to 23-8 overall and 8-4 in dual play. Vanderbilt grabbed its first lead of the match when Kelly Ulerly topped Laura van de Stroet in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3.

Following Ulerly's win the Commodores got within one point of clinching the match when Chelsea Preeg picked up her ninth win of the dual season, beating Gabriela Rangel in consecutive sets, 6-4, 7-5 to give the Commodores a 3-1 lead. Preeg improves to 23-8 overall and 9-3 in dual play.

With three singles matches still in progress, Steinbauer took the match into her own hands. After dropping the first set 2-6, the former Texas prep state champion found her groove and clinched the match for the Commodores by winning the second and third sets over Abigail Guthrie for the three-set win. It marked the third time in the last 10 days that Steinbauer had clinched a dual match for Commodores. With the win, Steinbauer pushes her singles mark to

18-5, including a perfect 7-0 in SEC play.

With the match already clinched, Vanderbilt's Courtney Ulerly won her final regular season home singles match by topping Pippa Reakes in three sets, 6-3, 6-7(5), 6-3. It was only fitting that Courtney's 90th career singles win came in her final regular season home match.

Vanderbilt's Catherine Newman nearly recorded her eighth win over a ranked opponent Sunday before falling in a tight two-set tiebreaker, 5-7, 7-6 (10-2).

"It's unfortunate that Catherine had to finish up in a tiebreaker instead of playing the final third set," Macdonald said. "She is at her best when she can go the distance and wear people out with her athleticism."

The Commodores will return to the hard courts next weekend as they travel to Athens, Ga., and Knoxville, Tenn., for weekend tilts with No. 2 Georgia and No. 13 Tennessee. ■



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Senior Courtney Ulerly wrapped up her home career at Vanderbilt on Sunday with a three-set victory over Mississippi's Pippa Reakes for her 90th career win.

Ryan commits to Vandy

by MIKE KRANZLER
Sports Reporter

Fresh off their biggest Junior Day in recent memory, the Commodores football program picked up their first verbal commitment to Coach Bobby Johnson's 2010 recruiting class in defensive end Thomas Ryan from Marathon, Fla.

At 6 feet 4 inches and 240 pounds, Ryan had 80 tackles and 12 sacks as a junior at Marathon High School. He chose Vanderbilt over offers from Duke and Kentucky, among others, and received serious interest from Boston College, Florida and Tennessee before pulling the



CHRIS CARROLL / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson picked up the first recruitment of the 2010 recruiting class in defensive end Thomas Ryan as the Commodores continue to build off their Music City Bowl win.

trigger and choosing to join the Black and Gold.

The Commodores wrapped up spring practice last week, getting in their final session on Thursday after waiting out a long rainstorm.

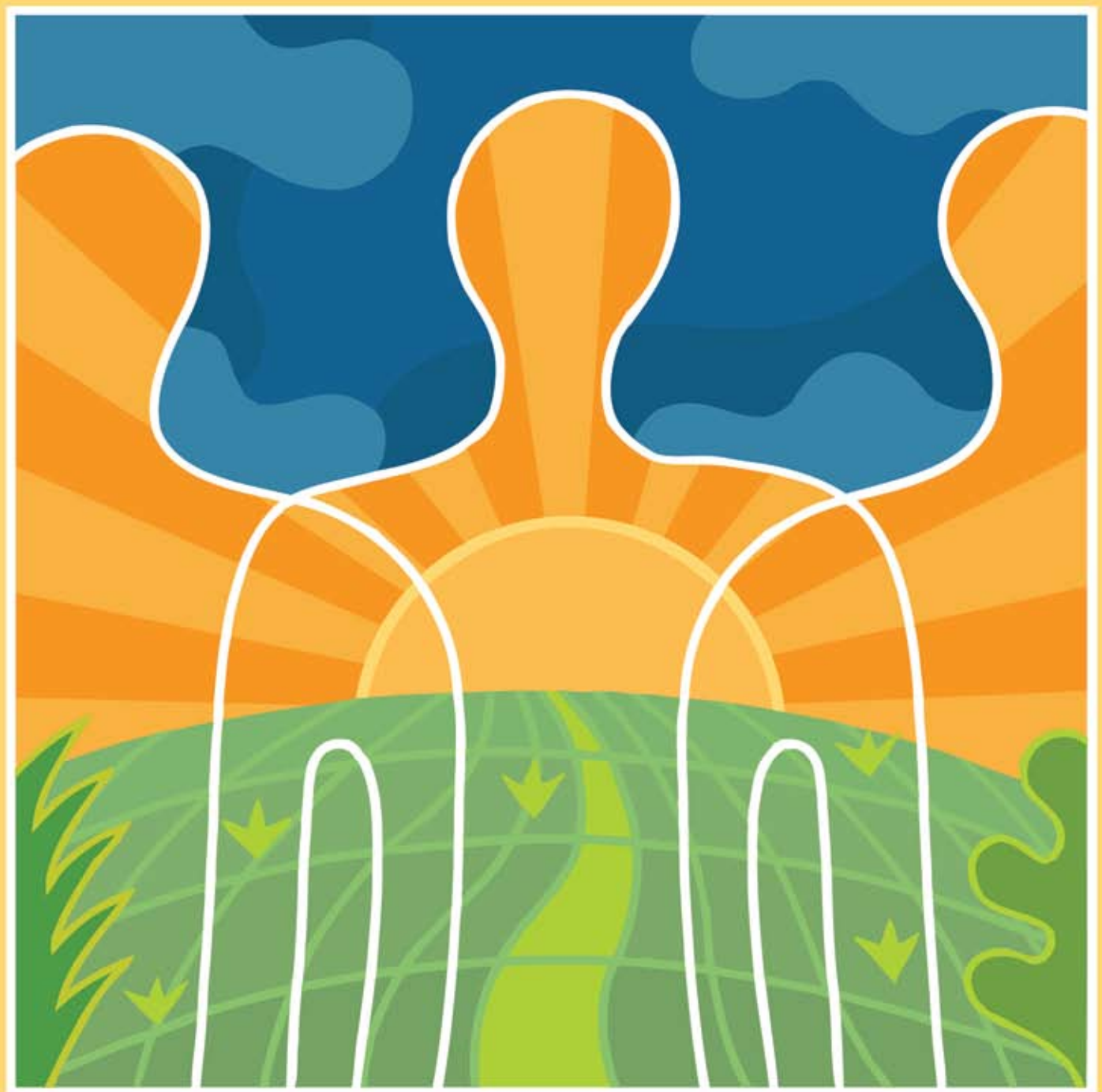
Johnson was pleased with the overall intensity of the players throughout the spring practice season. The team now takes a break for the summer until pre-season workouts start again in August.

The first game of the season will be Sept. 5 when the Commodores host Western Carolina; the following week Vanderbilt opens Southeastern Conference play, heading to Baton Rouge to take on the Tigers of LSU. ■

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4/3/09 SOLUTIONS

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Scorch
 - 5 Clean
 - 9 Oliver Twist, for one
 - 14 Broad
 - 15 First name in folk music
 - 16 Speak publicly
 - 17 Gershwin and others
 - 18 Foreign money
 - 19 "...shall never see a poem lovely as"
 - 20 Dispositions
 - 23 Gold or silver
 - 24 Spot
 - 25 Public transport
 - 28 Wacky
 - 32 Become merciful
 - 34 Diver's danger
 - 35 Sell
 - 37 "Laugh-In" regular
 - 38 Of ___; recently
 - 39 Relocates
 - 40 Stuck-up
 - 41 Late tyrant
 - 42 Beverage container
 - 43 Abhors
 - 44 Division
 - 46 Spurred a horse
 - 48 Bradley and namesakes
 - 49 Free
 - 51 Sushi bar item
 - 52 People overly concerned with wealth
- DOWN**
- 1 One of the stars of TV's "M*A*S*H"
 - 2 "Land of Saints and Scholars"
 - 3 First of zillions
 - 4 One who answers
 - 5 Woodrow's successor
 - 6 Cantata air
 - 7 Bridge term
 - 8 Pits
 - 9 Vandyke
 - 10 Part of M.A.
 - 11 Deface
 - 12 Ending for graph or favor
 - 13 Originally
 - 21 Times
 - 22 Unpopular kids
 - 25 Chew out
 - 26 Loosened
 - 27 British guns
 - 28 Shone
 - 29 Pranks
 - 30 State boldly
 - 31 Cut

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4/3/09 SOLUTIONS

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Total Access Events



Total Access: Sports Industry SPORTS MADNESS!

Thursday, April 9th
 7:00 - 9:30pm
 SLC Board of Trust

NETWORK and LEARN firsthand from industry experts!

Employers and sports professionals will educate students on the sectors of the sports industry and discuss how the industry is moving forward. In addition, employers will communicate how to pursue opportunities within the industry such as jobs and internships.



Total Access: Arts, Media, & Communications

Tuesday, April 14th
 4:00-6:00pm
 SLC Board of Trust

Come and listen to professionals in the Arts, Media, & Communications fields talk about their experiences in the industry. Learn about their career paths, a snapshot of their typical days, and advice they have to those just starting out. There will be time for questions from the group and networking!



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Friday, April 24
 6-7:30 p.m.
 211 Deer Park Drive—shuttle provided
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