



OPINION: Katherine Miller laments how the freshmen don't study in The Commons **SEE PAGE 7**

SPORTS: Jamie Graham talks about his move from wide receiver to cornerback. **SEE PAGE 8**

Paying their way

by **HAYLEY KARLAN**
News Reporter

Thanks to the first year of the Global Summer Fellows Program, 38 students participating in 19 different study abroad programs will be able to travel to countries around the world for an uncommon summer experience.

The Global Summer Fellows Program was proposed by junior Wyatt Smith and senior Joseph Williams during Williams' tenure as Vanderbilt Student Government president and initiated with the help of the Global Education Office and Richard McCarty, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. The program would offer scholarships to students for summer study abroad programs from a \$250,000 fund.

Smith, who is the current VSG president, said he wanted to expand access to study abroad programs to students who normally would not be able to go abroad, particularly due to financial and time constraints.

Before the Global Summer Fellows Program was proposed, the only option of financial aid available to students for summer study abroad was loan-based due to strict federal guidelines that required financial aid to be spent only on a semester basis.

In the original proposal, applications would include essays and a budget plan for how applicants would spend their scholarship, as well as an interview in which students would explain their financial need and how studying abroad would enrich their undergraduate careers. Smith said he initially estimated the program would be able to grant 25 to 30 students scholarships that would not exceed \$8,500.

Smith said he especially wanted student representatives to serve on the selection committee and to take part in the interview process.

"The idea was to provide an added perspective to the review process in understanding the managing of intense academic coursework and campus involvement," he said.

He did not want to be personally involved



in awarding the scholarships, however. Once the program was approved and funded by the provost's office, he entrusted the implementation and administration of the program to Ara Pachmayer, the director of the Global Education Office.

Please see **GSF**, page 4

Some students left behind due to lack of funding

by **HANNAH TWILLMAN**
News Editor

While 38 students were granted scholarships from the Global Summer Fellows Program, many others did not receive funding, complicating their summer study abroad plans.

Six such students were selected in December to be participants in the Vanderbilt Initiative for Scholarship and Global Engagement and have been participating in the first module of the program the whole semester, but now could be unable to travel to their service-learning sites after not receiving adequate funding.

VISAGE offers students a yearlong learning experience that begins with a spring semester course in preparation for a four-week summer service project abroad. In the fall semester, students engage

in a capstone research project and community service work in Nashville.

Many of the students who had been denied funding found the program's application process to be frustrating.

Four students who are going to the Cape Town, South Africa site are in jeopardy of being unable to go on the summer trip after not receiving adequate funding. Two participants of the Nicaragua VISAGE site may not be able to go, either.

First-year student Kion Sawney, who was chosen to go to South Africa, applied to Global Summer Fellows but did not receive funding, although he was able to procure funds from another source. He said the program lacked organization and transparency, leaving students unaware of the details of the application process.

Please see **VISAGE**, page 4

Engineering to offer iPhone application development class

by **SAMANTHA SMITH**
Senior Reporter

The Vanderbilt School of Engineering will introduce a class focused on smart phone technology next year in collaboration with Apple and AT&T. The course will be a modification of the current EECE 261 and 262 classes, allowing students to apply networking theory to iPhone applications.

It has only been one year since Apple began allowing third party developers to write software for the iPhone and Google released Android, its phone programming system. However, such curriculum transitions are necessary to compete with other top universities, such as Stanford and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who have already established similar programs.

Research Assistant Professor of Computer Science Jules White, who expects the engaging format of the course to increase interest in the class, will teach the course.

"Ever since the dot-com age, we've seen a drop off in computer science courses," White said. "We think these courses are crucial to make the subject interesting again."

The department hopes to expand the course from its current enrollment of 11 students to about 20-30.

"The way you (increase popularity) is by bringing in



To listen to a podcast of Smith's interviews with White, Schmidt and Hamilton, visit InsideVandy.com.

the cooler stuff, so we decided to go with smart phones. That's where the real money is at," said junior Hamilton Turner, who is majoring in computer engineering.

Two Vanderbilt students already independently develop iPhone applications for Apple Stores and have earned an estimated \$20,000, according to Turner.

The course can result in a big payoff for businesses as well.

"The companies are very excited about getting involved. We get a chance to use their devices and they get the opportunity to let a bunch of bright students develop applications for them," said Professor of Computer Science Doug Schmidt.

According to Schmidt, Apple has already donated five iPhones for the class.

The expanding possibilities of smart phone technology will allow students to apply computer theory on an

entirely new level. Phones are increasingly adopting many functions of the computer and more focus is being put on wireless technologies.

"We wanted the course to keep its strong focus on theory and also emphasize this brand new world of networking," White said.

Although he is currently enrolled in the class, Turner will work with White to develop the new curriculum this summer.

Although he is currently enrolled in the class, Turner will work with White to develop the new curriculum this summer. The course would consist of about 10 programming projects, allowing students to grow familiar with applying the abstract theories to real world models. The course will also allow for plenty of experimentation.

"If you have a good idea and we like your concept, we'll say 'sure, do it!'" Turner said.

"As far as engineering is going, and this is from the students' perspective, we don't do early enough hands on," Turner said.

The redesign of the computer engineering class could be a move toward a more application-based curriculum. "Its students like Hamilton Turner and (junior) Ben Gotow who are really helping to push the curriculum to evolve," Schmidt said. "It's a great example of student initiative."

Schmidt said such programs might also be a selling point for potential Vanderbilt students.

The EECE class will be a two-part course offered in the fall and spring semesters. ■



Vanderbilt student treated for meningitis stable

by **NORAH SCANLAN**
News Editor

A Vanderbilt University undergraduate is being treated for meningococcal bacterial meningitis after being taken to the Vanderbilt emergency room around midnight Monday, according to an alert issued to students, faculty and staff.

According to the Vanderbilt News Service, the student remains in stable condition.

Grace Powell, a first-year Arts and Science student and resident of Sutherland Hall on The Commons, was admitted to the hospital after she experienced a severe headache, rash and high fever, according to the alert. Powell is a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

At press time, there were no other reported cases, and 150 students had received doses of the antibiotic Cipro, which reduces the risk of infection.

Because of federal guidelines, the university does not typically release student health information, but the decision was made to include the name in this case because of larger public health concerns, according to university officials.

Meningococcal bacterial meningitis is a relatively rare but life-threatening infection that is spread by close contact with an infected person. The Centers for Disease Control defines "contact" as intimate contact (such as kissing), or prolonged, close face-to-face contact, as

in the case of a roommate or teammate. "Casual" contacts in the classroom setting or as a spectator at an athletic event would not be considered high-risk contacts.

There are alternatives for those contacts who are allergic to Cipro. The university is working to retrace Powell's recent activities in order to make appropriate parties aware of her situation and any health risks.

Any students who might have come in close contact with Powell in the last week are urged to come to the Student Health Center to obtain preventive medication free of charge. These students include residents of her dorm, members of her sorority and students in her classes. However, any students who have had any contact with Powell and are concerned are welcome to come to Student Health for preventive treatment.

Faculty or staff who might have been exposed should go to Occupational Health Services for free preventive care. Since the meningococcal vaccines do not cover all strains of disease, even those who have had the vaccine should receive the preventive medication if they have had close contact with Powell.

Anyone experiencing fever and headache should be seen in the Student Health Center or the Vanderbilt Emergency Department. If you have questions, please talk with your RA or call the Student Health Center at 322-2427. ■

NEWS INSIDE: Nearly all of Delta Force proposal accepted by IFC presidents, changing traditions. **SEE PAGE 4**

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SNAPSHOTS

compiled by SYDNEY WILMER

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TODAY



HIGH **68**, LOW **45**
T-storms

THURSDAY



HIGH **63**, LOW **41**
Mostly cloudy

FRIDAY



HIGH **68**, LOW **51**
Mostly cloudy

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SERVICE GUIDE

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

FRIDAY SPICE

Hammer time for cell phone used to run up \$5K bill with text messages

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP)—A cell phone used by a Wyoming 13-year-old to run up a nearly \$5,000 phone bill will text no more thanks to her angry father and his hammer.

Dena Christoffersen of Cheyenne sent or received about 20,000 text messages over about a month, and her parents' phone plan didn't cover texting.

Gregg Christoffersen told KUSA-TV of Denver this week that he thought texting had been disabled on her daughter's phone, which he smashed hours after getting a phone bill for more than \$4,750.

The family says Verizon has been willing to knock the bill down to a reasonable level.

Dena has been grounded until the end of school. She says she feels bad and has learned her lesson.

Thief caught on video swiping Maine woman's 66-year-old bike

LEWISTON, Maine (AP)—A thief in Maine stole a 66-year-old bicycle that belonged to an 83-year-old woman.

Ruth Slovenski got the blue Huffy bicycle as a gift when she was a teenager in 1943. The bike was stolen after she left it unlocked Saturday during a visit to a nursing home in Lewiston, a southern Maine city of about 35,000 residents where Slovenski lives.

Police say Slovenski had left the bike near a mailbox. When she went back to it two hours later, the bike was gone.

The bicycle has wide fenders and a large metal basket. A nursing home security video shows a man wearing a hat and dark clothing riding off on a bike that fit that description.

Police say Slovenski told them the bike had great sentimental value.

Alums upset over missing NY school time capsule buried in 1981

SYOSSET, N.Y. (AP)—Some adult alumni of a Long Island elementary school are heartbroken over the disappearance of a time capsule they buried in 1981 — and they're demanding an explanation from school administrators.

The Berry Hill Elementary School time capsule contained Smurf dolls, a Rubik's Cube, baseball cards and other mementos. Former students of the Syosset school planned to open the capsule in 2006 to mark the 25th anniversary, but they say school officials have told them it is missing.

It was buried in an area that was paved over in the mid-1990s. It was supposedly removed for safekeeping.

One alum, who's now 39, has started a Facebook page, "Hand Over the Berry Hill School Time Capsule!"

A school spokeswoman says administrators are investigating.

Woman's tofu license plate curdles in Colo., called 'X-rated'

DENVER (AP)—One Colorado woman's love for tofu has been judged X-rated by state officials.

Kelly Coffman-Lee wanted to tell the world about her fondness for bean curd by picking certain letters for her SUV's license plate.

Her suggestion for the plate: "ILVTOFU."

But the Division of Motor Vehicles blocked her plan because they thought the combination of letters could be interpreted as profane.

Says Department of Revenue spokesman Mark Couch: "We don't allow 'FU' because some people could read that as street language for sex."

Officials meet periodically to ensure state plates stay free of letters that abbreviate gang slang, drug terms or obscene phrases.

The 38-year-old Coffman-Lee says tofu is a staple of her family's diet because they are vegan and that the DMV misinterpreted her message.

Say amen: Ark. church holds Easter service in bar, unclear if legal

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—A fledgling Arkansas church will see if distilled spirits can mix with the Holy Spirit this Easter weekend.

A new Little Rock church called The River will hold both of its Easter services at The Rev Room, a bar and nightclub in the city's River Market.

Pastor Shane Montgomery told KLRT-TV that it's an effort to attract a new audience to his nondenominational ministry.

However, bar employees say it's not yet clear if their liquor license will allow them to serve beer and booze during a Sunday morning service.

The church says it would also like to hold Mother's Day and Father's Day services at a bar.

Conn. man handcuffed by wife files for divorce in attempt to reconcile

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (AP)—A Connecticut man is filing for divorce from his wife, who is accused of handcuffing herself to him in a bizarre attempt to reconcile.

In March, Fairfield police said they rescued Robert Drawbaugh at his home, where they found him handcuffed to his wife with bite marks on his torso and arms. They say he managed to use his cell phone to call for help.

Drawbaugh filed divorce papers in Bridgeport Superior Court on Tuesday, saying his seven-year marriage to 37-year-old Helen Sun had "broken down irretrievably."

Sun is charged with assault and other crimes. Police say she told them she used the handcuffs because it was the only way she could have a full conversation with her husband.

CALENDAR

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Good Friday service

All are invited and encouraged to participate in a campus-wide Good Friday service in St. Augustine's Chapel at noon. It will be a simple service comprised of ordered prayers, responsive readings, hymns and musical meditations, all relating to the Gospel narratives surrounding Good Friday.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 – SATURDAY, APRIL 11

The Original Cast

The Original Cast will perform Friday and Saturday night at 8 p.m. at the Belcourt Theatre in Hillsboro Village. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$10 at the Sarratt Box Office and at the door.

"Bright Beach Memoirs"

Neil Simon's "Brighton Beach Memoirs" will be shown at Neely Auditorium Theatre at 8 p.m. both nights. The play is Simon's semi-autobiographical account of New York during the Great Depression.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Harp Ensemble Concert

The Blair School of Music's Spring Harp Ensemble Concert will be held at Ingram Hall. The concert is open to the public and free. The event will begin at 6 p.m.

SNAPSHOT

DODECAPHONICS



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The all-male a capella group Dodecaphonics perform at their annual spring concert on Monday in Ingram Hall.

PHOTO of the WEEK

The photographers who cover campus for student media are working hard to capture images of life at Vanderbilt.

This image was selected as the Photo of the Week.

Check here next Friday to see another standout student photo.



Sophomore John Fontaine practices his trombone in a Blair School of Music courtyard on March 30.



NIKKY OKORO and fellow photographer Nicole Mandel went to Blair School of Music to capture some shots of the students playing their various instruments. She said, "I ended up taking a close-up shot with the subject to the left and a background of bricks. With the focus on the trombone, I feel like the colors and composition of the photo complemented each other well, especially with the lighting of the day."

Student photographers interested in joining the staff are invited to the next meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, in Sarratt 130.

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lead.

As media continues to change nationally, Student Media at Vanderbilt is also making some changes to our structure to allow for more in-depth news gathering and improved content streams.

We invite you to consider applying to lead our efforts into the future of Student Media at Vandy.

The Vanderbilt Student Communications Board of Directors is seeking applications for the following leadership positions for the 2009-10 academic year:

GROUP 2

VTV Station Manager
The Vanderbilt Review Editor-in-Chief
Slant Editor-in-Chief
Commodore Editor-in-Chief
The Vanderbilt Torch Editor-in-Chief
Orbis Editor-in-Chief
Talented Tenth Editor-in-Chief
Vanderbilt Political Review Editor-in-Chief
Geist Editor-in-Chief
Vanderbilt Fashion Quarterly Editor-in-Chief

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Student Media Sports Editor
Student Media Opinion Editor
Student Media Features Editor
Student Media Multimedia Editor

Applications are available at www.vscmedia.org

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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GSF: Summer aid process needs adjustments in first year

From **GSF**, page 1

According to Assistant Provost for International Affairs Joel Harrington, the process was set up in two parts — a financial need assessment and a written application which consisted of a two-page essay in which students explained how studying abroad would help them develop as global citizens and why they could not study abroad during the school year, a current transcript, resume, proposed budget and letter of recommendation.

A committee of faculty members from all four undergraduate colleges ranked the applicants based on their responses, combining these scores with the compiled scores

of financial need to determine the final allotment of scholarship awards.

“It was an extremely fair and rigorous process, and generous considering the financial pressures on the university. We’re about the only institution offering a scholarship for the summer; there’s nothing like it. The scholarship shows Vanderbilt’s strong commitment to study abroad,” Harrington said.

The selection process, however, did differ slightly from Smith’s original plan. The student representatives and applicant interviews, key components of the original proposal for the program, were not included in the review

process for reasons of personal and financial privacy, as well as time constraints, explained Dawn Turton, executive director of the Vanderbilt International Office.

Turton said the response to the Global Summer Fellows program was both unexpected and overwhelming. She said they had anticipated 40 to 50 applicants, but instead received 119. The sheer number of applications was a major factor in the committee’s decision to not conduct interviews.

“It just became impossible,” Turton said. “Just reading over the applications along with four committee members was quite an involved process.” The committee decided that

interviews would only be held if a tiebreaker were necessary to choose between students with identical financial need and evaluation scores, a situation that did not occur.

She also said the committee made the decision to not include student representatives in the application review process because of the sensitive nature of the financial need information and some answers to the essay questions.

“Some of the things students put in their applications were incredibly personal,” Turton said. “We didn’t anticipate that. I could not envision a situation where a student would have written these things and have felt comfortable having other

students read them. Some of them were very moving, to the point of tears. It was a judgment call (to not include students on the committee).”

Turton, Harrington and Smith all agreed that the process could be reassessed to better prepare for the program’s second year. Turton said they especially need to be better prepared to handle the unexpected, like the overwhelming number of applications as well as guarding against overly personal responses to allow for student representation on the selections committee.

“Any feedback we get is good feedback because it’s the first year of the program,” Turton said.

Each also said they were proud to be able to fund a summer abroad for 38 students who otherwise would have been unable to go, an effort Harrington and Turton said is unique to Vanderbilt.

“(The development of Global Summer Fellows) is my proudest accomplishment I’ve had in student government. It’s also something we need to reassess going forward — look at the model, look at how it’s carried out, and then track those outcomes from this summer, and then make recommendations for how it should be carried out going forward,” Smith said. ■

Hannah Twillman contributed reporting to this article.

VISAGE: Students unable to study abroad despite informal assurances of aid

From **VISAGE**, page 1

“We were kind of out of the loop when the decisions would be made, how much funding would be given, how many people were going to apply and what qualified an individual to receive the money,” he said.

After not receiving an award from Global Summer Fellows, junior Nick Williams is still unsure whether or not he will be able to travel to South Africa with the rest of his group in June. He said he thought there would be an interview component to the application process, which he had relied on to explain his unique financial situation — he must fund his trip entirely on his own.

“I was banking on an interview to explain myself,” he said. “I know I’m not ‘need-based’ but if I don’t get funding, I’m not going, and I’m already in VISAGE.”

Several VISAGE students, including Williams, said they had thought it was implied that because they were already part of the program, adequate funding would be procured to allow them to go on the trip.

“It was implied that if you had need, it would be met. Nothing was guaranteed, but finances were not discussed in detail. It didn’t seem like it would be the issue it has become,” said first-year student Meryem Dede, who is another one of the four who cannot go to South Africa due to the lack of funding.

Dede said she felt the students were not given a realistic idea of the funding available.

“VISAGE is an award-winning program, which is why it is sad to see the program fall through the way it did — it is heartbreaking. I feel like the financial aid process has been opaque, and it should have been clear from the start. The severe lack of funding that Vanderbilt has to offer was understated. I know there was nothing guaranteed, but it seemed implied. It did not seem like it would be the issue it has become,” Dede said.

Professor of History Marshall Eakin is leading a VISAGE trip to Nicaragua this summer; two of the eight students on his site did not receive necessary funding and will therefore not be traveling with the group. He said he agrees funding is an issue for the VISAGE program, but the amount and availability of funding was clear from the beginning.

“I think part of the problem was the euphoria over having \$250,000 that was not there before, but nothing’s guaranteed,” Eakin said. “It may have felt like it was more of a sure thing than it was, and even though \$250,000 sounds like a lot, it only funds about 40 students.”

Sawney said the university sent mixed messages about the accessibility of study abroad programs.

“They really push study abroad really hard and then you can’t go if you can’t afford it,” he said.

Hayley Karlan contributed reporting to this article.

Original Cast is ‘Good and Crazy People’



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt’s premiere Broadway group The Original Cast performs its show, “Good and Crazy People” April 10 and 11 at the Belcourt Theater, performing songs from “Legally Blonde the Musical,” “Les Miserables,” “Company” and “Grease.”

Fraternity presidents vote for IFC change

by **HANNAH TWILLMAN**
News Editor

In one night of voting, the presidents of the Interfraternity Council fraternities adopted many of the tenets of the proposal submitted by the Delta Force nearly two weeks ago.

The task force of 10 IFC men had, after months of research and planning, proposed several changes to the recruitment process and other aspects of fraternity life.

The main theme of the proposed changes was a focus on encouraging different types of recruitment, including more alcohol-free rush events and a focus on community service. The most notable changes are the move to a formal recruitment process during the first week after winter break, no longer allowing first-year students at winter semi-formals and \$5,000 penalties for violations.

Nearly all of the aspects of the proposal were accepted by the presidents, with the exception of the \$5,000 fine for recruitment during finals, according to junior Jesse DeOms, the chair of the Delta Force and president of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey said a couple other facets of the proposal were voted on as a concept and therefore will need to have some small amendments made to them, such as the Greek Legacy Fund and the publicity proposal.

Both DeOms and Torrey said they were pleased with the outcome of the vote on the task force’s proposal. DeOms said he was impressed with the presidents’ reactions.

“It was very clear that the presidents took it very seriously. They clearly took the time to understand all the proposals that were made,” he said. “I’m glad everyone is on the same page, that’s what we were working for.”

Torrey said she believes the vote was a positive change for both the IFC and Greek communities.

“This is a good example of students making the right steps to create change for themselves on their own terms before the changes need to be made for them. I think that showed great courage in ending some traditions that have gone on here for a long time,” Torrey said. “It was a vote of commitment to one another that they will do their best to hold themselves and their organizations accountable to the agreement they made as men in that room.”

DeOms recognized that the acceptance of the proposal is only the first step in a longer process.

“It doesn’t really stop here. Everything we talked about is going to take a lot of work to implement and be sure it’s done right,” he said. ■

Vanderbilt ‘Tweets’ financial aid advice

by **LAUREN KOENIG**
Senior Reporter

Users of social networking sites often forge the most unexpected connections with old friends and acquaintances. An even more unlikely connection was made between a university and a fictional character when Vanderbilt directly communicated on Twitter with Lyla Garrity, a character on NBC’s TV show “Friday Night Lights.”

The character’s Twitter blog, a marketing ploy for the weekly show, allows fans to leave comments for Garrity and keep tabs on her life.

Garrity, currently a senior on the show about small-town life in Texas, dreams of attending Vanderbilt University. After her father loses her college savings in a bad investment, it seems Lyla has no option but to attend a more affordable state school.

Melanie Moran, associate director of Vanderbilt News Service, is the creator of Vanderbilt’s Twitter account. She was watching the show on March 20 when she learned of Lyla’s dilemma. Shortly afterward, Moran noticed that “LylaGarrity” was a frequent visitor to Vanderbilt’s own Twitter account.

“I started using Twitter a little over a year ago after learning about its use for keeping up with breaking news,” Moran said. “I created the Vanderbilt Twitter presence soon after to enable Twitter users interested in Vanderbilt to easily keep up with the university and to find new ways to interact with our various audiences.”

Even though Garrity is not a real prospective student, Moran figured it would be interesting to alert Garrity of her financial options.

“I saw it as a good opportunity to share

information about our new expanded aid policy. It was an easy and fun way to get the word out about Vanderbilt to a niche audience,” Moran said.

“Be sure to see Vanderbilt’s new Expanded Financial Aid program — more help, no need-based loans,” Moran wrote to Garrity on Vanderbilt’s Twitter feed.

Garrity responded, “Thank you! The Financial Aid program looks exactly like what I need right now.”

Moran, who watches Friday Night Lights occasionally, views the exchange as a kind of experiment.

“It’s possible that some FNL fans who might not have been overly familiar with Vanderbilt might explore the university a little further. But, overall, I think it is just an entertaining twist to hear the university discussed in yet another popular medium,” she said. ■



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submitted by Laura Calabrese

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Some tips for napping



JUSTIN POYTHRESS
Columnist

Right now, you may be feeling that this napping task is insurmountable. You may feel overwhelmed, stressed out, anxious and a little bit drunk. That's fine, assuming that you're reading this after noon.

The point is, the first stage to achieving any goal is starting. Do you think Neil Armstrong was able to walk on the moon by crawling everywhere he went? Same goes for you. Too many times, I hear people complaining that: "I really wish I could take naps, but once I'm up, I'm up." That's just silly. I just took two naps while writing the first sentence of this article. The problem here stems from one of two issues: You haven't taken a nap since kindergarten or you're getting too much sleep. If you really struggle with this, try staying up for three days straight and see if you still struggle.

Step 1:

Find a secure, comfortable napping location. I can't overemphasize the value of this first step. Consistency in napping is vital to a pleasant experience at every stage. The natural choice would be your own bed, but not a necessity. Maybe you or a friend own a very cozy couch, or you have a boring and overly talkative boyfriend/girlfriend who also has a nice bed. Flexibility is fine here because step 2 overrules step 1.

Step 2:

Nail down a regular nap schedule. Stick to it. Routines are crucial when establishing any habit, especially a nap. Leave yourself some flex time on both sides, and make sure you are not in a rushed or stressful mood, or are too hungry. It will probably take all of three days before your body is virtually asleep before you even hit your nap time. One final word of advice on this step: Once you're settled into the routine, don't try to skip a day, or your body will punish you. Ignore this rule at your own peril.

Step 3:

Set nap duration. Once you have your nap schedule blocked, set an allotted time, or how long you will be sleeping for. I would suggest somewhere in the range of 25 to 45 minutes. Any shorter, and you may not really fall asleep, but longer, and you will come out more tired and be highly tempted to stretch it into a two or three hour affair that leave you wondering where your day went.

Step 4:

Ensure the proper sleep environment. Different people have different methods of sleeping. Personally, I demand silence and lights out. I don't feel that this is unreasonable. However, if you need techno music with break-dancing clowns, that's also reasonable. Don't let anything else define your world of sleep. Also, the working roommate must defer to the sleeping one. Work can be done elsewhere, sleep cannot.

Step 5:

Prepare a regular, easy-going wake up procedure. There are certain times that you should avoid talking to other people: if they are in the middle of a fight, if they just found out they're living in Kissam or if they just woke up. Be kind to yourself when you wake up. Have something tasty to eat, watch some TV and trick yourself into thinking that you'll go to bed early that night.

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

EDITORIAL

GSF provides funding for many students

The Global Summer Fellows Program was initially proposed as a way to provide financial support for students during summer abroad programs, allowing some students to pursue studies that were otherwise unavailable to them. To say the program failed is misleading. The Global Education Office allocated 38 monetary grants using a \$250,000 fund set aside for that purpose.

The real issue involves the Vanderbilt Initiative for Scholarship and Global Engagement program, which involves an amalgamation of service and learning, to provide a comprehensive educational experience. VISAGE is separated into three parts, including a four-week summer service project at various sites in the world. Some students who did not receive GSF funding felt misled. Meryem Dede, a freshman in the program, said, "The severe lack of funding that Vanderbilt has to offer was understated. I know nothing was guaranteed, but it seem implied."

In GEO's defense, students should not have expected funding, no matter their need or personal merit, however, there was no interview process nor was there a student representative. So it would be reasonable for students to feel left out. The main problem comes down to the fact that VISAGE is a three-part component, only one of which involves a summer abroad program. This meant several students completed their spring semester requirements, but will be unable to continue with the program.

Perhaps VISAGE should have a separate fund, but that is costly and might detract from other summer abroad programs. Furthermore, it would give the appearance that VISAGE has priority over other programs. In reality, the simplest approach would be to assign monetary grants before the spring semester. Either way, GSF has met with some success and in reality only really needs minor tweaks.

The failure of bonding at The Commons

To the Editor:

In the past few weeks, I have read in The Hustler about the overall positive response to The Commons. I believe that the perception of such a popular positive assessment of The Commons is misguided and inaccurate. Certainly, there must be people who agree with me that The Commons have been lacking in many regards, as I will explain below.

The Commons' purported goal is to facilitate bonding among the freshman class at Vanderbilt. To achieve this goal, almost every single student in the freshman class is assigned to a double room. In this way, people who are not outgoing, like me, can be paired with people who think of their room (and mine) as a party headquarters. This all-doubles design is clearly intentional, as there are no singles except those forced by building planning considerations, even in the newest dorm, Hank Ingram. Clearly, the committee who planned The Commons was under the misguided impression that, no matter how large the differences, randomly assigned roommates would bond.

In a similar vein, the attempt to create house identity has miserably failed. Each house was assigned a faculty Head of House, a randomly selected group of students and uniform T-shirts with their team color and team animal (not really). To increase the house identity, houses participated in Community Creed rites (Gillette House just signed the thing and played games; I feel sorry for those who had to write a song about "Scholarship"). Further, there was also scheduled to be the Commons Cup, which would answer the ages-old question of whether the students

randomly assigned to be Silver Snakes — excuse me — Gillette Hall residents were better than the rest of the freshman class. Fortunately, I have heard nothing about this Cup, which means that it was probably deep-sixed for everyone's good.


I am also disappointed in that VUcept is not changing for next year, because it was another failed bonding exercise. The exercises in VUcept reminded me of middle school (and not in a good way); those exercises included such important activities as painting pumpkins to demonstrate stereotypes, talking about how to balance academics and (my non-existent) social life, and a relay race that involved the actual use of GPS receivers.

I don't blame the VUceptors (as they did the best they could with the curriculum); rather, I blame the curriculum and whoever thought of the brilliant idea of putting 20 unrelated students in a room on a Tuesday on which they would not otherwise have late afternoon classes and seeing who comes out alive, or rather, seeing them bond together. (Which I must say was a success, as by the end of VUcept, I knew the names of three of the 20 VUceptees in my group.)

In all, to me, the bonding experience promoted by the creation of The Commons appears to be a miserable failure. While I do see how some could appreciate the experience, I just cannot see how the reviews could be overwhelmingly positive, as The Hustler implies.

Greg Gauthier
First-year student
College of Arts and Science

THE RANT



What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on any issue you want. Send in your rants with the subject "Rant" to: opinion.vanderbilt@gmail.com.

Compiled by Thomas Shattuck

"Why can't Vandy ever seem to send out an alert to all students? No alert about the tornadoes, no e-mail about meningitis, is it that hard?"

"Logic: Most girls at Vandy cannot pull off the cowboy boots with dress look. Therefore, most girls at Vandy should think thrice before going out in public dressed in such a manner."

"If I'm being forced to live in a 10-by-10 cell on this campus, I shouldn't have to pay an extra \$372 each year."

"Pizza Night at Rand ... what a letdown. That pizza was exactly the same kind they served at my elementary school!"

"If I swipe into my building, there's no reason why the security guards should analyze my Vandy Card when I walk through the door."

Small steps for same-sex marriage



AIMEE SOBHANI
Columnist

The gay rights movement has been gathering steam since the 1960s, and slowly but surely, progress continues to be made. The recent legalization of same-sex marriage in Iowa and Vermont represents a small step in the direction of equality, but the battle's only just begun.

Same-sex marriage has been a hot-button issue in recent elections. Though not an issue that defines most candidates' campaigns, it is an issue that stimulates passionate debate on both sides.

With the rise of the religious right, the balance was in favor of those who could not stand the idea of two men or two women bound in the ties of holy matrimony. Several states enacted laws banning same-sex marriage and/or civil unions. Some, seeing the issue as particularly serious, even went as far to amend their constitutions to include the definition of marriage as "one man and one woman." Even as recently as the last election, Californians, arguably some of the more liberal inhabitants of the U.S., voted in favor of Proposition 8, which eliminated same-sex couples' right to marry. After this point, advocates of same-sex marriage probably started to feel pretty worried, considering the fact that a state with legalized medicinal marijuana did not support their progressive cause.

However, after this setback, things started to look a bit brighter for proponents of same-sex marriage. The California Supreme Court will rule on the legality on the constitutionality of Proposition 8 any day now, and two states have legalized gay marriage.

The two most recent victories are pretty significant. Being in the Midwest, Iowa is not traditionally a bastion of progressivism so the Iowa Supreme Court's decision to lift the ban on gay marriage is a bit of a shock.

I would argue the legalization of same-sex marriage in Vermont is even more important, however. Sure, Vermont legalized same-sex civil unions a while ago so legalizing gay marriage seemed like the next logical step. However, unlike other states, in which it took judicial action to allow marriage between members of the same sex, Vermont's legislature overrode its governor's veto of a bill supporting the right of "nontraditional" couples to marry.

While judicial action is typically the way to go when trying to protect minority rights (think civil rights and the Warren court), courts are subject to criticism since federal judges are appointed, not elected, meaning they do not necessarily represent the "will of the majority." However, state legislators actually do represent the opinions of their constituents, giving the legalization of same-sex marriage in Vermont a little more power.

For the time being, it seems likely more progress will be made on the front of gay rights. The election of a Democratic president who promised to support gay rights suggests the pendulum might be swinging in a more favorable direction for activists. The economic crisis could make the issue of gay rights less salient, which could make it less divisive. On the other hand, the diminished attention on the issue could make more moderate people on both sides of the debate fall away, leaving only the most hardcore proponents and opponents.

Obviously, allowing gays and lesbians to marry does not guarantee them equality, nor does it eliminate the presence of homophobia. Support for same-sex marriage depends largely on who is in power, meaning changes in legislative majorities or new executives can result in dramatic policy changes. Still, the legalization of same-sex marriage has a great deal of symbolic value and affects the quality of life for millions of American citizens.

—Aimee Sobhani is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at aimee.f.sobhani@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.

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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Admission policies just might work



THOMAS SHATTUCK
Opinion Editor

Over the course of the past three decades, the law has played a significant role in determining the admission policies of educational institutions across the nation.

In 1978, the U.S. Supreme Court determined in *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* that using any kind of rigid quota system to enforce affirmative action violated the 14th amendment. In 2000, *Gratz v. Bollinger* led to the decision that while race could be used as a factor in admitting students to University of Michigan, the practice of adding points to minority students' applications could not.

In this case, applicants were judged on a 150-point scale, where any student

scoring over 100 was admitted. At the time of the case, being a minority student was worth 20 points and having a perfect SAT score garnered only 12.

Unsurprisingly, the revelation of these policies caused uproar both on the campuses involved and in America as a whole. In the current era, such policies are not only frowned upon but also illegal, forcing admission departments to come up with new methods of generating diversity. Douglas Christiansen, dean of admissions, described Vanderbilt's policy as holistic, citing a need to consider all facets of a student's application.

From Christiansen's view, diversity does not just imply race, but many different factors including socioeconomic status, region, and country of origin and extracurricular participation. Some might be

concerned with giving some applicants an unfair advantage, but it all comes down to relativity. The application is judged subjectively, not objectively, to take in account various deviations from the norm or background (like rural community versus urban environment). Furthermore, from the Office of Admissions' viewpoint, diversity is inherently good.

There is some truth to that. The Office of the Dean of Students claims there are over 300 organizations on campus and with that, there arises a need to provide a student base to support those many varied interests. In other words, if Vanderbilt intends to promote (and brag about) a vibrant campus life, it needs to provide the resources to maintain just such a community.

Of course, creating an active campus community is no substitute

and extracurricular participation do. In a traditional sense, Vanderbilt does not practice affirmative action. Current admission policy focuses heavily on finding students with both academic strengths and varied background to create an interesting campus. Does it work? It's a subjective question that's difficult to answer on absolute terms. Statistical analysis of the campus does provide some insight, but the data cannot be taken entirely at face value — some interpretation is still required. For better or worse, Vanderbilt Admissions attempts to balance several factors, and with any luck, perhaps it works.

It's just with over 19,000 applications this year, Admissions has the ability to be selective about whom it accepts. As Christiansen points out, no one factor is necessarily decisive in an applicant's acceptance. In other words, racial background does not guarantee acceptance — high GPA, tests scores

and extracurricular participation do. In a traditional sense, Vanderbilt does not practice affirmative action. Current admission policy focuses heavily on finding students with both academic strengths and varied background to create an interesting campus. Does it work? It's a subjective question that's difficult to answer on absolute terms. Statistical analysis of the campus does provide some insight, but the data cannot be taken entirely at face value — some interpretation is still required. For better or worse, Vanderbilt Admissions attempts to balance several factors, and with any luck, perhaps it works.

—Thomas Shattuck is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at thomas.w.shattuck@vanderbilt.edu

Freshmen waste Commons



KATHERINE MILLER
Columnist

So, it's been a while since I've written a column. I've been studying, you see.

All this studying, however, has ignited a terrible, populist rage in my little heart that always comes back to two facts: There aren't enough outlets in Rand, and the freshmen waste The Commons egregiously.

A hearty handshake and a pat on the back to Vanderbilt Student Government for getting Rand opened 24 hours a day, but seriously, there are like three outlets in there, excluding the trick fake one by the Jr. Varsity Market, so people just wander around aimlessly in there like zombies, sadly clutching Apple power bricks, eying people near said outlets with contempt and disgust.

This wouldn't even be a problem if we hadn't all gotten conditioned to studying for the transfiguration O.W.L. at The Commons last year. Every Sunday through Wednesday night at The Commons was like stepping into this mythical college experience where everyone you knew was all studying together in the dining hall and distracting each other. Times were had.

Quite honestly, studying there actually sold me on the concept of The Commons. Marvel at this testament to casual community

and fraternity, I evangelized to prospective students, we actually all study here, it's great.

Now, the freshmen utterly waste the glories of the space. What the hell, freshmen? Why don't you study there? Why do you squander your good fortune?

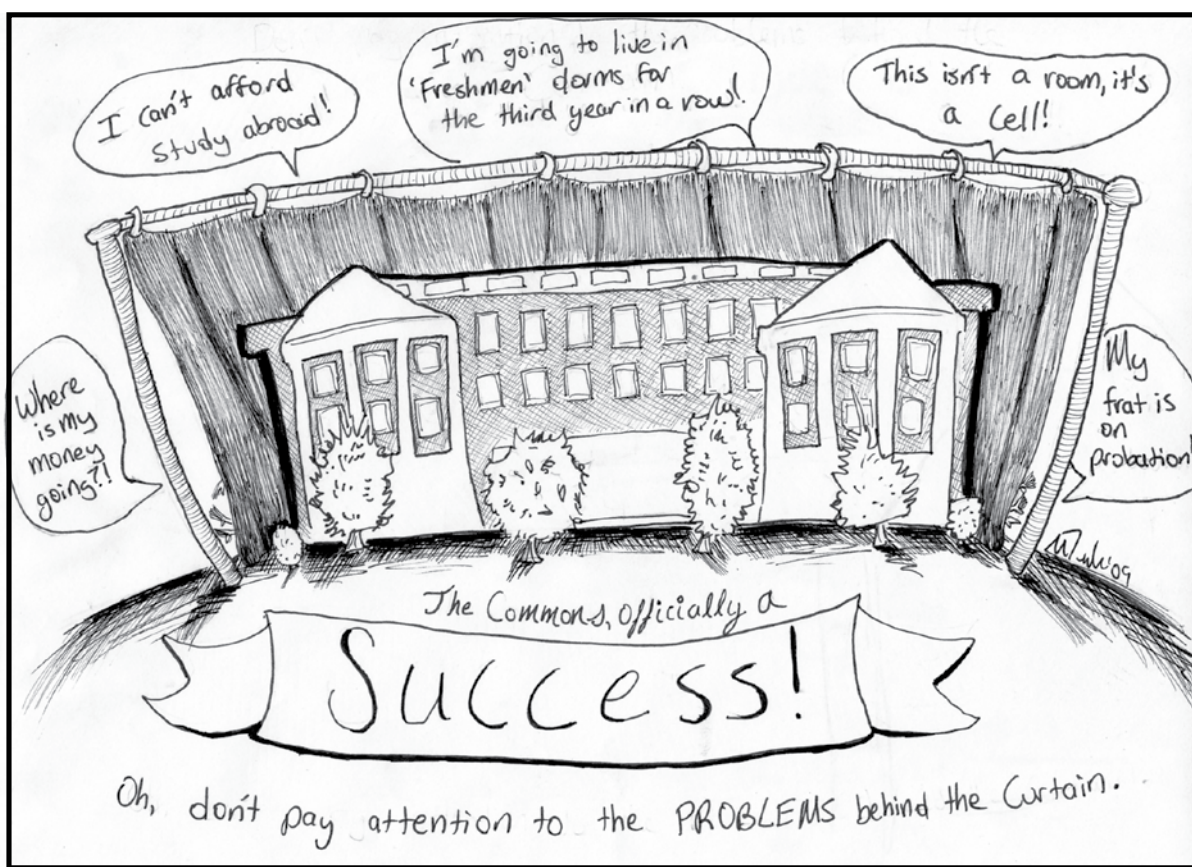
Seriously, last week, there were four people studying in the dining hall last Monday night — one senior, three juniors. I thought the point of The Commons was for everyone to clasp hands and sing "Fah who for-aze, Dah who dor-aze, Welcome, welcome Christmas Day" together, except without the politically incorrect taint of Christmas.

I thought this derived from the suddenly mediocre lighting and air conditioning that flirts with ice age temperatures. After a year of disuse, though, one can hardly blame The Commons staff for not turning it into the General Electric booth at the World's Fair.

But then I talked to a few freshmen. They claim they prefer the common study space of their dorms. Well, junior mints, you've wasted the opportunity to achieve Hogwarts at Vanderbilt just for some hermit's seclusion. For shame.

—Katherine Miller is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at katherine.m.miller@vanderbilt.edu

EDITORIAL CARTOON



MERYEM DEDE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Dean of The Commons and VUcept are proud to announce the Faculty and Student VUceptors for the Class of 2013



STUDENT VUCEPTORS

- Brian Alosco
- Austin Ayres
- Sarah Barr
- Rohan Batra
- Chase Blood
- George Boghos
- Maggie Bowers
- Lisa Branding
- Lizzy Brown
- Lauren Bruns
- Kelly Cashen
- Kristen Cattoi
- Hanna Chapman
- Justine Chess
- Bentley Coplin
- Courtney Corcoran
- Maria Crist
- Ekua Davis
- Matt DeNuzzo
- Jenna Donovan
- Fabiani Duarte
- Michelle Eckland
- Gheremey Edwards
- Anna Elliott
- Eric Fischer
- Tyler Frazier
- John Gaffney
- Lynsey Gaudioso
- Matt Glassanos
- Genna Greenberg
- Ellington Griffin
- Paige Harmony
- Rachel Hart
- Caroline Hart
- Gabe Horton
- Jillian Hughes
- Maggie Johnson
- Quinton Jones
- Paula Jones
- Deepa Joshi
- Olympia Kabobel
- Hayley Karlan

- Miron Klimkowski
- Leslie Labruto
- Sanah Ladhani
- Harry Lopez
- Roark Luskin
- Andrew Maguire
- Lauren Margolis
- Maggie Martinez
- Kelley McIlhatten
- Caroline McKinney
- Jessica McLellan
- Sarah McPhillips
- Nehal Mehta
- Rebecca Metry
- Adam Meyer
- Erica Mills
- Annalise Miyashiro
- Neelam Mohammed
- Sarah Muller
- Frank Murchison
- Lori Murphy
- Ian Myers
- Madeline Myers
- Sam Newman
- Hannah Niebulski
- Katie Ostrander
- Nathan Presmyk
- Kelly Quindlen
- Mengting Ren
- Eppa Rixey
- Will Roberts
- Alex Rogers
- Liz Rogers
- Tom Rosen
- Lauren Ross
- Pauline Roteta
- Sarah Sagan
- Theo Samets
- Lucas Scholl
- Ben Scott
- Michelle Spada
- Dan Taylor
- Ali Thomas
- Marquise Thomas

- Nhat Vo
- Jeremy Williams
- Maggie Wilson
- Brad Wolfson
- Mikey Yee
- Keegan Zuk

FACULTY VUCEPTORS

- Frances Alpren
- Claudia Andl
- Patricia Armstrong
- Soheyl Asadsangabi
- José Aznar
- Katherine Baker
- Bob Barsky
- Greg Barz
- Bharat Bhuva
- Lyn Bingham
- Swati Biswas
- Tatiana Botero
- Derek Bruff
- Jeff Canter
- Andrea Capizzi
- Celco Castilho
- Lori Catanzaro
- Pamela Corley
- Anastasia Curwood
- Carolyn Dever
- Frank Dobson
- Katherine Donato
- Todd Doran
- Denise Due-Goodwin
- John English
- Vernat Exil
- Andrew Finch
- Reid Finlayson
- James Forbes
- Phillip Franck
- Kathy Gaca
- Victoria Gardner
- Lynette Gillis
- Terryl Hallquist
- Vicki Harris

- Pat Helland
- Clint Hendrix
- Brian Heuser
- Chris Janetopoulos
- Christina Karageorgou
- Bastea
- Leslie Kirby
- Karon LeCompte
- Alicia Lorenzo
- Jim Lovensheimer
- John McCarthy
- Richard McCarty
- Josh McGuire
- Catherine McTamane
- Rich Milner
- Roger Moore
- David Muller
- Patrick Murphy
- Gayathri Narasimham
- Rosevelt Noble
- Leslie Norton
- Doug Perkins
- Shawn Phillips
- Prasad Polavarapu
- Randy Rasch
- Jim Ray

- Frank Robinson
- Barbara Rose
- ML Sandoz
- David Schlundt
- Waldir Sepúlveda
- Pearl Sims
- Craig Smith
- Joe Solus
- Terrie Spetalnick
- Ramprasad Sripada
- Ronnie Steinberg
- Megha Talati
- Tara Todd
- Norman Tolk
- Georgene Troseth
- Vasundhara Varthakavi
- Leigh Wadsworth
- Deanna Walker
- Frank Wcislo
- Joe Wehby
- David Weintraub
- Amelia Winger-Bearskin
- Marian Yagel
- Nicholas Zeppos
- Grace Zoorob

Congratulations to all new and returning VUceptors!

Student VUceptors were selected from 410 applicants and represent all four undergraduate schools and colleges.

Faculty VUceptors are from the College of Arts and Science, Peabody College, the Medical Center, Blair School of Music, Law School, School of Nursing, and College of Engineering.

SPORTS

Commodores visit top-ranked Hogs

by DAN RYAN
Sports Reporter

Vanderbilt (19-13, 5-7 Southeastern Conference) will travel to Fayetteville this weekend for a three-game series with the top-ranked Arkansas Razorbacks (24-6, 10-2).

Arkansas, fresh off an impressive two-game series sweep of top-ranked Arizona State on Tuesday and Wednesday and ranked No. 1 for the first time in program history, will look to keep building momentum with the Commodores in town. Vanderbilt, after taking two of three from then-No. 19 Florida last weekend in a confidence-boosting series, dropped its mid-week game against Middle Tennessee State University 8-0 in frigid temperatures on Tuesday night in Murfreesboro.

"The good thing about baseball," said Vanderbilt coach Tim Corbin in the weekly SEC coaches teleconference on Thursday morning, "is you get to redeem yourself right away."

Vanderbilt will have its work cut out for them as it looks for redemption on the road against the Razorbacks, playing in one of the premier, and most hostile, environments in collegiate baseball.

"Arkansas is tough to beat at home," Corbin said.

The Razorbacks set an attendance record with their 8-7 victory over Arizona State at Baum Stadium in Fayetteville with an announced crowd of 11,014 for Wednesday night's game.

"The fans were a big part of both wins against Arizona State and we appreciate the support that we've had all season," said Arkansas coach Dave

Van Horn.

A large and rowdy crowd won't be the only obstacle the Commodores will have to overcome if they hope to win their second straight series against a ranked conference opponent.

"They have an aggressive coach who does a nice job with his team," Corbin said.

The Razorbacks currently lead the SEC and have been on an absolute tear in conference play.

While Arkansas has not posted gaudy offensive statistics on their way to the top of the conference standings, the Razorbacks have a knack for generating runs in the late innings.

"It seems like we've been doing that a lot lately," Van Horn said on his team's successful rallies in both games against Arizona State.

Vanderbilt batters, who have struggled against Friday night starters in the SEC, will have to find a way to build and sustain a lead if they hope to have any success in Fayetteville.

The Commodores figure to face Arkansas ace Dallas Keuchel in Friday night's game. Keuchel boasts a 5-0 record with a 3.45 ERA in seven appearances this season. Mike Minor will be the probable starter for Vanderbilt, coming in at 2-3 on the season with a 3.55 ERA in seven appearances as well.

"We know we've got our hands full with Minor," Van Horn said.

Caleb Cotham and T.J. Forrest will be Saturday's probable starters for the Commodores and Razorbacks, respectively. Cotham has been Vanderbilt's most consistent starter at 4-3 with a 3.92 ERA in his seven



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Commodores followed up a rousing 16-9, come-from-behind win over Florida that earned them their first conference series victory with an 8-0 loss at MTSU. They travel to Fayetteville this weekend to face the Razorbacks, who just received the first top ranking in their program's history. Mike Minor will likely be Vanderbilt's Game 1 starter.

appearances. Forrest is 2-2 with a 4.32 ERA in seven appearances this season.

Vanderbilt has struggled to find a Sunday starter since the beginning of SEC play, as Nick Christiani, at 3-2 with a 6.51 ERA, has been less than stellar since his win at Kentucky. Taylor Hill, the Sunday starter against Florida, went only three innings before giving way to reliever Sean Bierman.

Justin Wells will make his first start on Sunday for the Razorbacks

according to Van Horn.

"We want an experienced pitcher on the mound. The players trust him," the coach said of Wells, who is 1-0 in 13 relief appearances this season with a 3.51 ERA.

Freshman Sonny Gray, who is 2-0 with a miniscule 1.83 ERA in 12 relief appearances for the Commodores this season, figures to play a prominent role in this weekend's series. Gray possesses an overpowering fastball, and if he is able to locate his curveball,

has proven to be nearly unhittable, giving up 15 hits and striking out 19 in just over 19 innings of work.

Arkansas has received excellent work from its deep bullpen this season, owing much of their success to their middle and late relievers, highlighted by closer Stephen Richards who is 4-0 with five saves and a 1.27 ERA and 29 strikeouts in 21 innings of work.

"The kids know their roles," Van Horn said. "We feel good about our bullpen." ■

Streaking tennis team hits the road



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Leading the way at No. 1 singles, Catherine Newman and the 19th-ranked Vanderbilt women's tennis team have strung together four straight SEC match victories.

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

Women's tennis has been Vanderbilt's most consistent postseason team for over a decade, and once again, the Commodores are heating up at the right time.

Nineteenth-ranked Vanderbilt (9-5, 5-2 Southeastern Conference) is riding a four-match winning streak into this weekend, where it will visit SEC foes Georgia and Tennessee before ending the regular season on April 18 at Kentucky. The Commodores have made it to at least the round of 16 in the NCAA Tournament for 11 straight seasons and, after a rocky patch, appear to be back on track to continuing that streak.

Senior Courtney Ulery, who captured her 90th career win on April 5 against Ole Miss, said the recent run, which also included wins over Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi State, gives the team a boost heading into the road stretch.

"The wins give us more confidence as a team; when we all show up and perform

together, we can definitely accomplish anything," she said. "I — and I feel that I can speak for the team — think we are in a good position heading into our last three SEC matches."

The streak is more significant given the tough stretch the team endured in March, dropping four out of five matches, all of which could have easily gone the other way, including a tight 4-3 loss to No. 6 Georgia Tech on March 25.

"We had a few tough, close losses early to really good teams which hurt, but they also helped us realize how good we were," said junior Catherine Newman.

All aspects, and ages, of the team have been clicking. Vanderbilt's heralded freshmen have showed no signs of growing pains with the transition into college play.

Heather Steinbauer was just named the SEC Freshman of the Week after going 2-0 in singles and 1-1 in doubles over the weekend against Ole Miss and Mississippi State. With a come-from-behind, three-set win at No. 5 singles over the Rebels, it marked the third time

in four matches she clinched a dual win for the Commodores. Her record in conference singles play stands at 7-0.

She's not alone in excelling among the team's rookies; Jackie Wu improved her record to 23-8 with a win over Ole Miss and Chelsea Preeg has a 9-3 dual record and 23-8 overall record on the season as well.

"The freshmen have done an amazing job this year," Newman said. "They contribute both on and off the court, and I'm just really happy with how they've been doing in all aspects."

With Ulery and Newman providing veteran leadership as well, the Commodores are starting to pick up some momentum with postseason play beginning April 23.

"When it gets down to the wire, momentum becomes extremely important," Ulery said. "I feel that we have been slowly working our way through matches and improving. Now, heading into our final three matches, I think we are playing the best tennis we have played all season, collectively." ■

Graham back at original position



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jamie Graham will be playing cornerback, his originally recruited position, for the Commodores in 2009. The versatile athlete mainly played wide receiver for Vanderbilt last season but also saw time at running back.

by MIKE KRANZLER
Sports Reporter

Jamie Graham is no stranger to position changes.

After originally joining the Black and Gold as a cornerback, he was switched to wide receiver last spring due to injuries and an overall lack of depth at the position. In his first season on offense, Graham hauled in 17 catches for 125 yards and three touchdowns and also saw spot duty at running back late in the season when Jared Hawkins was hobbled with an ankle injury.

But this spring, Graham was moved back to cornerback in order to help replace D.J. Moore, who left school early to declare for the NFL Draft. He will likely occupy the same role Moore held in his time with the Commodores, spending most of his time at cornerback while also seeing occasional snaps on offense and special teams.

"I talked to Coach (Ted) Cain about trying me over (at wide receiver) sometimes to help out with the depth," the rising redshirt sophomore said about his new assignment. "To be able to take D.J.'s role and be at the corner and play a little offense, it's actually fun."

Coach Bobby Johnson's newfound depth at wide receiver also facilitated Graham's position change, as transfers

Terrence Jeffers (from Connecticut) and Tray Herndon (Minnesota) are likely to see significant action, as are redshirt freshman John Cole and redshirt senior Alex Washington, who are both returning from knee injuries. Incoming freshman Brady Brown will also get a strong look in his first season due to his size and hands.

"We got some recruits and some transfers so the depth at wide receiver is real good right now," Graham said.

While many would expect the Commodore secondary to take a step back in production after losing the services of Moore and four-year starting safety Reshard Langford, Graham does not necessarily think that will be the case.

"We've got some young guys in there, but we've got Myron (Lewis), and he's a veteran guy. He's played in some big games since he's been here," he said.

With the talent level at the highest it has ever been in Coach Johnson's tenure, Graham is confident that last year's success in the secondary will not be an anomaly.

"We can definitely be good as they were last year," he said, "But it's going to take some time."

And now that the Commodores have done away with 53 years of futility, Graham and his teammates have all the time in the world. ■

Wirth and Risper selected in WNBA draft

by CHRIS WEINMAN
For The Hustler

Vanderbilt's Christina Wirth and Jennifer Risper were both selected in the 2009 WNBA Draft, held Thursday in New York.

Wirth, a 6-foot-1-inch forward from Mesa, Ariz., was chosen by the Indiana Fever with the 19th selection.

Risper, a 5-foot-9-inch guard from Moreno Valley, Calif., went to the Chicago Sky with the 29th overall selection.

"We are excited for two more Commodores to have a chance to continue their playing careers in the WNBA," said Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb. "Christina and Jennifer will be well-prepared to compete at the next level, and I'm sure they will both make the most of their opportunities."

The duo become the 11th and 12th Commodores selected in the WNBA draft. Since Balcomb took over at Vanderbilt, a total of eight players have heard their

names called on draft day.

Aside from being co-captains for the past two years, Wirth and Risper are best friends and college roommates.

Wirth led the Commodores in scoring at 16.6 points per game and pulled down nearly six rebounds per game. Vanderbilt went 26-9 this season, advancing to the NCAA Sweet 16 for the 14th time in school history. Wirth was named the Most Valuable Player of the Southeastern Conference Tournament, which the Commodores won for the sixth time.

"It's really amazing to have an opportunity like this," Wirth said. "We've both been playing our whole lives, and all the hard work continues to pay off. When you're young, you hope to be able to play in college. We were lucky enough to have that chance, and now to get to play professionally, at the highest level, is very exciting."

Less than 300 miles north of Nashville, the Fever call the

Conseco Fieldhouse home in Indianapolis. The Fever went 17-17 a season ago, finishing fourth in the Eastern Conference.

Fever Head Coach Lin Dunn selected Arizona State's Briann January with the sixth overall pick before taking Wirth with the sixth pick of the second round. The Fever will also have the sixth pick of the third and final round (32nd overall).

Indiana's 2009 WNBA Season begins on June 6 with a game at Atlanta, returning home the next evening to host Minnesota.

Risper was named the 2009 WBCA National Defensive Player of the Year for her tenacious play this season. She led the Commodores in steals as Vanderbilt ranked No. 1 in the SEC in both turnover margin and takeaways.

"Basketball is something that I love and I'm passionate about, so I've always wanted to take it as far as I could," Risper said. "Vanderbilt has done a great job to prepare us for this opportunity,

and we're excited for what this can do for the program."

With a record of 12-22 a year ago, the Sky finished fifth in the Eastern Conference. The Sky have relied on players from the Southeastern Conference in recent years, taking LSU's Sylvia Fowles in 2008 and Ole Miss' Armintie Price in 2007.

Sky Head Coach Steve Key chose Maryland's Kristi Toliver with the third overall pick Thursday before taking Texas A&M's Danielle Gant in the second round. Risper was chosen with the third pick of the third round.

The Sky will play their first game of the 2009 season at Minnesota on June 6, returning to Chicago's UIC Pavilion to open their home schedule on June 12 against Atlanta.

As conference rivals, the Fever and Sky are scheduled to meet four times in the 2009 regular season. The teams will face each other in a preseason game on May 28, at Indiana. ■



MATT YORK/AP

Vanderbilt's Jen Risper (middle) and Christina Wirth (right) were drafted by the WNBA's Chicago Sky and Indiana Fever, respectively, Thursday afternoon in New York.

Bowlers earn No. 4 seed



NEIL BRAKE / VU Media Relations

At the NCAA Championships, junior Josie Earnest and the top-ranked Vanderbilt bowling team earned a No. 4 seed in Thursday's qualifying round in Canton, Mich.

The Commodores face fifth-seeded Fairleigh Dickinson on Friday in the opening round of the double-elimination tourney.

Men's golf earns third-place finish

by CHRIS WEINMAN
For the Hustler

A runner-up finish by sophomore Adam Hofmann led the Commodore men's golf team to third place at the 2009 Reunion Intercollegiate, hosted by Ole Miss.

The 15-team field included six teams from the Southeastern Conference as the league prepares for its annual championship, which begins on April 17 in Sea Island, Ga. All of the SEC teams at the Reunion finished in the top half of the field.

Cold, windy conditions and fast, firm greens elevated scores for the week, with team champion LSU scoring 25-over for the three-round event. Arkansas came in second place at 28-over, eight strokes in front of third-place Vanderbilt at 36-over, as the SEC dominated the field.

"It's important to see how you fare against SEC teams throughout the year," said Vanderbilt coach Tom Shaw. "We know we can certainly play with anybody going into next week's championship."

Hofmann was the only individual under-par entering Tuesday's third and final round on the 7,416-yard, par-72 layout of the

Reunion Golf and Country Club. The Pittsburgh native shot a three-over 75 to finish three strokes behind Andrew Landry of Arkansas, but was four strokes clear of the next closest competitor.

"Adam had all facets of his game working this week," Coach Shaw noted. "He's been working extremely hard on his game. It's nice to see a young player step up and show that he can play on an SEC level."

Commodores Hudson Johnson and Jon Curran also earned Top 15 finishes in the field of 75 golfers. Johnson went three-under on the back nine Tuesday to shoot an even-par 72 and move into a tie for ninth place. Curran carded a three-over 75 in the final round to finish in a tie for 14th.

Senior Tyler Matthews finished his tournament with a birdie on the final hole — one of only six birdies recorded all week on the treacherous 462-yard, par-four 18th hole. Matthews finished in a tie for 28th.

The Commodores will return to Nashville Tuesday night and have a week to prepare for the 2009 SEC Championship in Sea Island, Ga. ■



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Senior Jon Curran was one of three Vanderbilt golfers to finish in the top-15 of the 2009 Reunion Intercollegiate. The Commodores finished in third place in the tournament.

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