



Five confirmed cases of H1N1 on campus

H1N1 BY THE NUMBERS

34,076

Number of diagnoses of the 2009 influenza A (H1N1) throughout the U.S. and its territories

7,983

Hospitalizations associated with H1N1 in 2009

522

Deaths associated with H1N1 in 2009

1

Death associated with H1N1 in Tennessee

75%

Percentage of those hospitalized who were under the age of 49

60%

Percentage of those who died related to H1N1 who were under the age of 49

90%

Percentage of seasonal influenza-related deaths that occur in people age 65 and older

98%

Percentage of all subtyped influenza A viruses that were the 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses during the week of August 9-15

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, flu.cdc.gov

Student Health reports 28 total influenza-like illnesses

by SARA GAST

News Editor

There are five confirmed cases of H1N1 from state testing centers on Vanderbilt's campus, according to Public Affairs Officer Missy Pankake, and 11 are still awaiting confirmation.

The Student Health Center had reported 28 total influenza-like illnesses as of Tuesday, Pankake said. Seniors Stephen Uffelman and Nancy Tan as well as sophomore Arian Flores all said Student Health told them they have a "likely case" of H1N1, the derivative of type-A influenza virus commonly referred to as swine flu.

"They can't test for any strain of flu (at the Student Health Center)," Uffelman said, "but it's not flu season for any other strain and I had all the symptoms."

Student Health Services sent out a letter to some students living in areas where there are confirmed cases. Mark Bandas, the dean of students, said Vanderbilt is ready for a potential outbreak, referring to emergency plans prepared on the university Web site.

"As has been widely reported in the media, H1N1 has been circulating throughout the U.S. all spring and summer, including in Nashville and the VU community," Bandas said. "It is not surprising that VU students are included in cases that are seen at VU and in Nashville. ... The Student Health Center will continue to work with Vanderbilt's Emergency Preparedness Team, VUMC

and the Tennessee Department of Health to carefully monitor the situation."

Flores, Uffelman and Tan experienced typical flu symptoms.

"(Symptoms started on) Friday," Flores said. "Light cough that got worse. I got a lot of chest pain. I started getting a runny nose. All the symptoms of a regular flu. I was suddenly very cold, then hot."

Uffelman noted the same problem.

"Originally I felt really tired, but didn't sleep well because I was really hot, really cold, really hot, really cold all night. I also had sore muscles and a 102 degree fever."

Both students believe they got sick as a result of a road trip they were on together before school started.

Pankake said Tuesday the Student Health Center was not overwhelmed with sick patients.

"They're seeing about the normal amount of students for this time of year," Pankake said.

Flores said he was given Tamiflu, Mucinex D and Tylenol and says he "feels a lot better now than I did." Uffelman also said he was feeling better.

Tan's fever has gone down significantly, and she said Student Health just gave her non-fever-reducing medicine. Tan had been in different airports all week, trying to get back from Shanghai after travel difficulties. Other members of her trip (college students at other schools) have also said they are sick.

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Freshmen start their college careers on a 'green' note

by AMANDA NIEMAN

Asst. News Editor

Freshmen got a green greeting from Move Crew when they arrived at their houses early Saturday morning.

With double the volunteers from last year, according to Lilly Massa-McKinley, the assistant director of the Office of Active Citizenship and Service, participants focused on the initiatives to make the process more environmentally friendly.

Students were given information about housing on recycled paper and reusable water bottles to fill at water coolers, a change from previous years when thousands of plastic bottles were handed out.

Vanderbilt provided Styrofoam recycling for the first time, according to Vanderbilt News Service, in addition to recycling for aluminum cans, cardboard, paper and plastic that was already in place.

In an effort to get volunteers, Students Promoting Environmental

Awareness and Responsibility encouraged students to volunteer to help out with the advantage of moving in early, according to junior Lora Aboulmouna, a member of the Cardboard Crew, which was in charge of the cardboard discarded during move-in.

"We generate tons and tons," said senior Leslie Labruto, president of SPEAR. "I think naturally as years go on, every process and event that goes on at The Commons will be increasingly greener" due to the LEED certifications and green roots of The Commons.

The changes made to move-in highlight the "sense of friendship, community and service" at Vanderbilt, Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos said. ■



NICOLE MANDEL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Cardboard Crew members broke down boxes after freshmen moved into their rooms Saturday morning on The Commons. Styrofoam recycling was also available this year.

Incoming students get shorter orientation into Vandy community

by DALLAS JESSUP

Contributing Reporter

After Vanderbilt launched The Commons last year with a nine-day orientation, it looks like the extended program wasn't a success.

The university returned to a normal schedule this year, with freshmen moving in four days before the start of classes.

The shortened orientation, along with several other changes, were implemented in order to make the CommonVU orientation program a more effective way for integrating freshmen into the school community.

According to Emilie Strom, the president of VUcept, the first of three changes to the CommonVU year-long freshman orientation program was to reduce the number of orientation days before classes begin. Student Government President Wyatt Smith said the primary reason orientation is shorter this year is because of calendar commitments.

"The university wanted to keep it shorter so school wouldn't let out so late in December," Smith said.

In order to shorten the orientation week, some of the freshman activities were altered. According to Sean Topping, VUcept Executive Board Member, Commodores in the Community was cut and put

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The Farmers Market promotes personal and environmental wellness
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INSIDEVANDY:
Check out the videos created by first-years at Media Immersion
INSIDEVANDY.COM



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Frannie Boyle and Aimee Sobhani give freshman survival tips
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OPINION:
VSG President Wyatt Smith has advice on navigating OASIS
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NEW YEAR NEW CARD

All returning undergraduate students' Commodore Cards will expire October 12.

Stop by 327 Sarratt from 8:30-4:00 p.m. for your new card.

Seniors: September 21-25
Juniors: September 28-October 1
Sophomores: October 5-9

BRING IN YOUR OLD CARD TO AVOID PAYING A \$20 REPLACEMENT CARD FEE.

To find out more, email commodorecard@vanderbilt.edu or call (615) 322-2273.



Page Two

compiled by LAURA DOLBOW

WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

TODAY



HIGH **91**, LOW **68**
Sunny

THURSDAY



HIGH **89**, LOW **69**
Isolated T-storms

FRIDAY



HIGH **83**, LOW **66**
Mostly sunny

SNAPSHOTS

How does living in Kissam compare to The Commons last year?

"I think the hardest part will be the community aspect compared to The Commons. It seems more cliquy, but it's only been a couple of days. I'm a people person, though, so my door is always open."
— Catherine Garvey, 2012, Mims Hall

"I think it's going to be OK. I didn't really want a single, but the girls on my hall seem pretty amazing. I was expecting it to be really bad, but I was pleasantly surprised."
— Kirstin Early, 2012, Kissam Hall

"I'm pretty excited. We have a good group of students. I was in Gilette last year, so the size of the room is pretty comparable. It's just like the roommate was taken out."
— Nolan Young, 2012, Dyer Hall

"I'm near my friends, so there is still a feeling of community, especially since most sophomores are here. I love being on main campus. I have room for a couch, and my bed's not lofted, so I'm happy. I also have a beautiful view of trees on the quad."
— Sandy Jensen, 2012, Mims Hall

CRIME LOG

Monday, Aug. 24, 9:12 a.m. — Robbery at Wendy's on 21st Avenue South. Wendy's employee was approached in the parking lot by a white male with a small silver handgun. The suspect took cash and the employee's handbag.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 4:14 p.m. — Vehicle pulled over for altered license plate, and she was driving with a revoked driver's license. Arrest was made on West End Avenue and 21st Avenue South.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 7:49 a.m. — Person found passed out in an elevator. He smelled of alcohol. Arrest was made in Lupton.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 5:30 a.m. — Person was passed out, and she admitted to drinking. Arrest was made in Carmichael Towers West.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 3:40 a.m. — Two persons with a strong odor of alcohol were stumbling down the street. They entered a vehicle and began to drive. Arrest was made at 23rd Avenue and Children's Way.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 3:19 a.m. — Driver of a speeding vehicle admitted to drinking seven beers. He had red watery eyes, slurred speech and a strong odor of alcohol. Arrest was made at 21st Avenue South and Medical Center Drive.

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

• Scholarship application information

Students interested in applying for Fulbright, Marshall, Mitchell or Rhodes scholarships must contact Office of Honor Scholarships immediately. Completed applications and all supporting documents for Marshall, Mitchell and Rhodes scholarships are due to the OHS by Sept. 11. Fulbright applications are due to the OHS by Sept. 18.

THURSDAY, AUG. 27

• Zeta Phi Beta's meet and greet

Come out and meet representatives from the best places to shop, eat, party, relax and worship in Nashville at 6 p.m. at the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center.

• Farmers Market

The weekly market will include a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. It runs from 3-6 p.m. at the Medical Center Plaza across from Langford Auditorium. Please be green and bring your own bags.

• VU Theatre auditions: "The Merchant of Venice"

Auditions and crew positions are open to any student on campus. Scripts and copies of an information sheet will be available in Neely 207 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Auditions will be held from 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUG. 28

• Women's soccer vs. Mercer

The women's soccer team will face Mercer at the Vanderbilt Soccer/Lacrosse Complex at 7 p.m. Students have free admission.

• Student Organization Fair

Various student groups will have booths set up in The Commons Center from 3-6 p.m.

SNAPSHOT

Girl Talk tickets draw a crowd as summer ends



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students wait in line Tuesday morning in Sarratt Student Center to get tickets for Girl Talk during the first day of sales. The \$15 student tickets may be sold out, but the general public can still buy tickets for \$35. Girl Talk (also known as Gregg Gillis) will perform in the Memorial Practice Gym on Sept. 25.

Exclusive back-to-school savings for Vanderbilt University students.



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WELCOME TO NASHVILLE FAIR



AUGUST 31 FROM 3 TO 6 STUDENT LIFE CENTER BALLROOM STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF MEET YOUR LOCAL MERCHANTS FOR TONS OF DOOR PRIZES AND VENDOR GIVEAWAYS

Vanderbilt Student Communications and the Student Life Center are hosting the annual "Welcome to Nashville Fair" on August 31.

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

This is a great chance to meet your local merchants, many of whom are within walking distance of the campus. Each vendor will have a booth and we encourage you to visit as many as you can. They will go out of their way to make it worth your while with free food, product samples, coupons and much more. Restaurants, Wireless communication providers, Eyewear stores, Salons, Banks, Fitness, Fashion, Sports Venues, Tanning Salons, and much more will be represented at the event.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Many vendors are donating nice door prizes that represent their industry. That means that there will be a door prize given away to a student, faculty or staff member about every 5 minutes over a 3-hour period! Plus- many vendors will be giving away freebies, coupons, discounts and more! These vendors want your business and they will make it worth your while to show up. Free snacks and beverages provided by the Student Life Center.

HOW MANY VENDORS WILL BE THERE?

We are allowing up to 50 vendors to attend. We won't have a final count until the last minute but we expect a full house.

DO I NEED TO BRING ANYTHING?

Free bags will be provided courtesy of Fed Ex-Kinkos so you can carry away all the great stuff you collect while you are there.

WHAT ABOUT GIVING OUT PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION?

We are asking vendors not to ask for personal information (e-mail, phone number, etc) but if there is a legitimate reason for giving out your personal contact information, (Example- some banks will need your personal contact info to process your application) ultimately it's up to you. We don't want to encourage spam e-mailings.

Following is a partial list of vendors who will be attending the Welcome to Nashville Fair and some of the give aways. Many vendors will be donating generous door prizes to encourage you to stop by. In addition to door prizes, some vendors will be handing out coupons and offering one day only discounts for goods and services. So come on out, make some new friends, and load up on freebies.

1. ASCEND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, 8GB IPOD
2. ATHLETES HOUSE
3. BELL PARTNERS APARTMENT MANAGEMENT
4. BANK OF AMERICA, PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
5. BIG BANG,
6. BRENTWOOD DOWNS, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE
7. BRUEGGER'S BAGLES
8. CABANA, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE
9. CAROL G'S SALON, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE
10. COLLEGEBOOKRENTER.COM, 2 \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATES
11. CORNERSTONE FIANCIAL, \$100 VISA GIFT-CARD
12. COSMETIC MARKET, \$500 GIFT BASKET
13. CROSSINGS OF BELLEVUE, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE
14. CVS PHARMACY, \$200 GIFT CERTIFICATE
15. DEAN OF STUDENTS FILM PROGRAM, BELCOURT T-SHIRT, 2 -1YR MEMBRSHIPS FOR FRIST CENTER FOR THE ARTS
16. DORMESTICS
17. EYE CANDY SALON, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR SERVICES ONLY
18. FIFTH THIRD BANK
19. FIRST TENNESSEE BANK
20. F.Y.E., \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE
21. GRAYLINE TOURS, 5-HOUR CHARTER ON A 56-PASSENGER BUS (\$525 VALUE)
22. GREAT ESCAPE, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE
23. HAURY AND SMITH
24. ICON IN THE GULCH, IKEA SLEEPER SOFA
25. JET'S PIZZA
26. KAPLIN TEST PREP, FREE SCHOLARSHIP FOR A KAPLAN PREP COURSE (UP TO \$1,899 VALUE)
27. LEAN PERSONAL TRAINING, 3 PERSONAL FITNESS TRAINING SESSIONS (\$120 VALUE)
28. LIVESCRIBE, PULSE SMARTPEN
29. LOFT SALON, FREE HAIR COLOR AND CUT
30. MACKE'S RESTAURANT, BRUNCH FOR 4
31. MARINE CORPS, GRAB BAG OF LOGO SHIRTS & WATER BOTTLE
32. NASHVILLE CAB
33. PIZZA HUT, 15 GIFT CERTIFICATES
34. QDOBA, CATERED HOT TACO BAR FOR 20
35. SELKIN LASER CENTER
36. SEMESTER AT SEA, COFFEE TABLE BOOK
37. SPRINT, BLACKBERRY CURVE INFERNO PHONE
38. SUN TAN CITY, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE
39. SUNSET GRILL, \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR SUNSET OR MIDTOWN
40. T-MOBILE, BLACKBERRY PHONE AND A BLUETOOTH HEADSET
41. TPAC,
42. TRUE BLUE SALON
43. VANDERBILT DENTAL
44. VANDERBILT DONATE LIFE
45. VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE
46. VANDERBILT WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE
47. VELOCITY IN THE GULCH, SLEEPER SOFA
48. WHOLE FOODS MARKET, 2 KINGS OF LEON CONCERT TICKETS AT THE SOMMETT, 2 DECEMBRISTS CONCERT TICKETS AT THE RYMAN
49. ZUMI SUSHI

H1N1: Hand sanitizers part of prevention

From **H1N1**, page 1

"Other people there were much more miserable than I am," Tan said. "I'm feeling a little bit better."

Uffelman noted the potential for the virus to spread quickly.

"If a whole bunch of people already had it, and then came to school, then there's going to be a whole lot more with the flu," he said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Vaccine Treatment and Evaluation Unit at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center both have said they hope a vaccine will be available to students before the flu season begins in mid to late October.

The CDC classified H1N1 as a contagious disease because of its dangerous tendency to spread from person to person. H1N1 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization in June.

Like most universities, Vanderbilt is facing pressure from the CDC to shield its students from H1N1, said Liz Latt, assistant vice chancellor for news and communications at

Vanderbilt.

Flores said he was not encouraged to quarantine himself but says he avoided leaving his room. Both students received masks from Student Health.

"They told me that usually they quarantine people like this, but they don't have the facilities, so we should quarantine ourselves," Uffelman said. "(The Student Health Center) told me to not go out without a mask until my fever went down."

The administration and Student Health are conducting a joint effort to avoid an outbreak like the one at Mississippi State University. According to information released by the MSU administration, 209 probable cases of H1N1 have been reported there as of Aug. 25.

"There will be more hand sanitizing areas for when you can't get to soap and water," Latt said.

Dr. Louise Hanson, medical director of the Student Health Center, has been tasked with educating housekeeping and residential

advisers on maintaining a hygienic environment for students. According to Jim Kramka, senior director of Housing Operations, extra measures will be taken by the residential staff to keep communal bathrooms clean and personal cleanliness will be stressed to resist contamination.

Despite these precautions, if students experience a temperature of 100 degrees accompanied by other flu symptoms, Tamiflu can be an effective tool.

"The flu responds well to Tamiflu," Latt said, "and it is available at the Student Health Center."

Latt also advises students feeling ill to follow the CDC's advice to remain isolated by staying in their rooms and enlisting a roommate or friend to get medicine and supplies. ■

—Hannah Twillman, Samantha Smith, Katherine Miller, Michael Brett and Sarah Gillman contributed reporting.

SYMPTOMS OF H1N1

Symptoms of 268 hospitalized novel H1N1 patients

Symptom	Number (%)
Fever	249 (93%)
Cough	223 (83%)
Shortness of breath	145 (54%)
Fatigue/weakness	108 (40%)
Chills	99 (37%)
Myalgias (muscle pain)	96 (36%)
Rhinorrhea (runny nose)	96 (36%)
Sore throat	84 (31%)
Headache	83 (31%)
Vomiting	78 (29%)
Wheezing	64 (24%)
Diarrhea	64 (24%)

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

WHY IS OUR DEMOGRAPHIC MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO H1N1?

"The H1N1 virus is new to most of the population. Children and young adults are that part of the population that is completely susceptible to this new strain of influenza, so the virus has had the greatest impact on them. Older persons, especially those over 60 years of age, likely were infected years ago with a virus that was similar to the current H1N1 (the 1918 Spanish influenza). As a consequence, older persons appear to have persistent immunity, which gives them partial to complete protection against the virus."

— DR. WILLIAM SCHAFFNER
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW TO PREVENT GETTING H1N1?

Student Health advises getting plenty of sleep, staying physically active, managing stress, drinking plenty of fluids and eating well. Washing your hands and covering your mouth when you cough also prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

WHEN SHOULD I GO TO STUDENT HEALTH?

The Student Health Center Web site recommends "any student with a temperature greater than 100.0° and a cough or sore throat should call the Student Health Center at 615-322-2427 and make an appointment for evaluation." They stress that students with flu-like symptoms not attend "classes, labs or social/athletic events" and recommend staying in your room until 24 hours have passed without a fever, with the exception of leaving to get medical attention or necessities.

ORIENTATION: Camp feel result of program



NICOLE MANDEL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Visions groups were led by their VUceptors in outdoor games, spirit competitions and trivia matches Tuesday. Winning teams will be announced today before the class photo. VUlympics was a part of the revamped CommonVU orientation program, which continues through the week.

From **ORIENTATION**, page 1

into a service and community fair to reduce the strain on the school and strain put on its partners in the community to prepare for the freshmen.

Many VUceptors see this as a positive change.

"I believe they shortened it so it'd be more impactful for the students," VUceptor Jeremy Williams said. Last year's freshman orientation program was so long it was like a Vandy camp, Williams added.

The second change to CommonVU, running part of it concurrent with classes, is also an improvement to the orientation program, VUceptor Rebecca Metry said.

"CommonVU occurs simultaneously with classes this year in response to student feedback," Metry said. "Every time there is a new event planned, there are bound to be a few flaws, but these flaws are typically eliminated the second time around. This year's CommonVU is already running more smoothly than last year."

The third change to the orientation process is more behind-the-scenes and relates to the relationship between VUceptors and resident advisers. Both groups are responsible for mentoring freshmen through the beginning

of their Vanderbilt experience, but confusion existed last year due to the overlap of their roles. CommonVU change No. 3 was designed to eliminate that.

The VUcept executive board and Vanderbilt Visions, working along with the dean of the Commons and staff of the Dean of Students' Office, decided to combine VUceptor and RA training so that the two groups could work more as a team.

"Both RAs and VUceptors got a chance to both network and discover our common goals," Metry said. "They are even building a loving community where trust can be built. I trust them to keep my fish, and I also trust them to take care of the students on their halls."

According to VUceptor Lori Murphy, the joint-training goal was achieved through the changes to CommonVU.

"At the end of the day, what we're all here for is to make the first year experience the best that it can be," Murphy said. "It's not about us. It's not about the RAs. It's not about the administration. We're all here to ensure that every first year on this campus has just as good of an experience as we all did."

Although the freshman orientation was shortened for the Class of 2013, some freshmen are still overwhelmed.

"It felt more like summer camp than school," freshman Carlyn Rosenblum said. "I wish we had a little more free time to explore the school on our own and meet people on our own."

Freshman Michael Thomas also said the orientation resembled camp.

"Activities would go all day from eight in the morning until eleven at night. By the end of the program, many freshmen, including myself, were eager to start class simply so we could get into a routine and do things on our own," Thomas said. "I think CommonVU could be even more effective if the activities were condensed into just the weekend."

According to other freshmen, the CommonVU improvements have helped students easily meet their peers and become acquainted with the Vanderbilt campus and community.

"VUcept has made the transition process easier," freshmen Kelsey Gallo said.

Classmate Liesel Burks agreed.

"VUcept is a great way to meet people from other houses that you normally wouldn't run into on campus," she said. ■

—Joslin Woods and Libby Marden contributed reporting to this article.

Out with the old

Commodore Card completely re-vamped over the summer for better appearance and personal security.

by ERIN PRAH
Editorial Fellow

The card has received a face-lift.

All Vanderbilt students will need to replace their old Commodore Cards with a newly designed and more secure version by Oct. 12.

Rick Wood, director of business service systems, said the card needed a redesign from the look it's had for the past 12 years. The card office also used this as a chance to use new technologies to make the card more secure.

In the past, Commodore Cards were coded with a student's social security number. Now, Woods said, the card office is trying to get away from using Social Security Numbers and instead creating randomly generated

numbers to link students with their identity.

"We're trying to get as many (old cards) off the street as possible," Woods said, "just so that we can make sure there's nothing out there than can be used by scrupulous folks."

Students can get their new cards at 327 Sarratt Student Center weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. beginning Sept. 21, but each class will be given preference during specific weeks. Seniors will have preference from Sept. 21 to 25, juniors from Sept. 28 to Oct. 1 and sophomores from Oct. 5 to 9. Freshmen received the new version of the card when they moved in.

Getting a new card is free as long as students turn in their old cards. If not, there is a lost card fee of \$20.

If undergraduates do not get a new card by Oct. 12, Woods said they will still be able to get into buildings and eat at the dining halls, but their Commodore Cash would be frozen until they get the new version. ■

—Hannah Twillman contributed reporting to this article.

An annual Commodore tradition? Think again.



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Freshmen and transfer students joined their resident advisers, heads of house and VUceptors during the symbolic Founders' Walk. It's actually not a long-established tradition — Sunday's march was just the eighth in university history since Founders' Walk was established in 2002 under the chancellorship of Gordon Gee, according to Public Affairs Officer Missy Pankake. New undergraduates carried banners while marching through the main gate and past the Cornelius Vanderbilt statue, cheered along by hundreds of upperclassmen and members of the university's administration, faculty and staff.

Growing a community appreciation for local produce



COURTNEY KISSACK / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Nashville Farmers Market comes to campus every Thursday in partnership with HealthPlus. Students and faculty can get fresh produce from local growers every week at the plaza outside Langford Auditorium until Oct. 29.

Go to [InsideVandy.com](http://www.insidevandy.com) for video and a slideshow on the Vanderbilt Farmers Market.

RAs move into their new role

by KAITLIN LEE
Contributing Reporter

A "Remember the Titans"-style song and dance routine may be an unlikely exercise in leadership and responsibility, but that's exactly what resident advisers did to prepare for their new hallmates.

Despite the lightheartedness of the skit, RAs were trained to deal with far more serious issues.

"Their job is to get the student to the people who are actually trained to help them," said Scott Rausch, the associate director of Residential Education. Although it's not the job of an RA to counsel a troubled resident, if a resident has a personal crisis or another problem, the RA can offer resources and information, as well as encourage the resident to seek treatment. According to Rausch, RAs aren't supposed to be experts but "conduits of information."

Rausch, who worked for the Center for Talented Youth in Baltimore before moving to Vanderbilt two years ago, has focused on innovative, student-centered RA activities. Training is constantly evolving thanks to the input and feedback received from each year's RAs.

Issues discussed at RA training sessions included everything from alcohol to sexual harassment — some were even led by students.

Riannon Hambleton and JoAnne White, seniors and returning RAs, designed and led a seminar on how to help residents with eating disorders.

"It's an issue that we as RAs felt we needed to be prepared to address with our residents in order to ensure that they're healthy and happy," White said.

In addition to seminars, the RAs also role-played real situations they may face with their residents.

"One really, really valuable event we did ... was called 'Behind Closed Doors,'" said junior Shereese Woolard. The RAs were put in groups of and rotated around 11 different rooms, each with a different scenario. "You reflect on the training that you learned from the week and use that to handle the situation as best as we thought, which I thought was really valuable."

While the RAs received a great deal of hands on training, they ultimately must strike a balance between being a mentor and a friend.

"They have the ability to empower the student to be responsible for themselves," Rausch said. "A great RA experience is an RA who comes in, asks a question and shuts up." ■



Go to [InsideVandy.com](http://www.insidevandy.com) to see a video on the RA training process.



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Junior Deno Saclarides is the head resident of North Hall.

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EDITORIAL

Despite H1N1 cases on campus, information slow to reach students

According to a report released by a presidential advisory panel on Monday, the H1N1 virus could potentially infect half of the U.S. population and a potential 90,000 deaths could result.

Unlike most viruses, H1N1 puts college-aged students at greatest risk for infection. As the school year begins and other colleges like Mississippi State University report 209 probable cases of the virus known as swine flu, one would expect a full-scale assault on the virus at Vanderbilt. Residential advisors have distributed hand sanitizer and a letter from the Student Health Center with helpful tips for students on keeping well and preventing a possible spread of the virus, but the university response has

To learn about the current status of H1N1 on campus, please see the news stories on Page 1 and 4.

been a little underwhelming.

There is no doubt this pandemic has been blown slightly out of proportion

and the Vanderbilt Web site contains a section entitled, "Be prepared for flu season." It is just a matter of publicizing it.

The university claims to be well prepared, but administrators need to better communicate that fact ...

and there is no need to panic, but an e-mail or statement from a Vanderbilt administrator would be nice.

There are five confirmed cases of swine flu within the Vanderbilt community thus far and rumors of additional cases, but we have yet to receive any sort of official announcement explaining the university's prevention strategy or how the university has prepared for a potential campuswide outbreak. We do have an emergency preparedness plan

Vanderbilt is one of eight testing sites for swine flu shots in the country. The Student Health Center is equipped with Tamiflu, the drug used to alleviate the virus' symptoms. With all of these resources, the university should be ahead of the curve in dealing with the virus.

It has been difficult to get information from the administration about the current status of the virus on campus. With a new class of freshmen just

arriving, maybe Vanderbilt is waiting for parents to get off campus before breaking the news. At the same time, Vanderbilt could be concerned that too much emphasis on H1N1 will cause unrest among students.

Some people have received letters in their residential areas and Dean of Students Mark Bandas says that in the next couple of weeks the Student Health Center will update the Vanderbilt community on the status of H1N1 on campus. Hand sanitizer dispensers have appeared all over campus, but the lack of any significant communication with students has made the whole situation a little mysterious. The university claims to be well prepared, but administrators need to better communicate that fact to concerned parents and students. In the coming weeks we will see if Vanderbilt's response was enough to prevent the spread of the virus and a campuswide problem.

COLUMN

Freshmen: Do somethin' crazy



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

Many upperclassmen can join me in saying, "Wow, I can't believe I did that freshman year." So with this, first-years, know that what you do now will always be remembered (maybe not by you, but memories are always swimming in the silvery Pensieves of others).

Older students laugh about the first year, but oftentimes things come back to bite them. Here are some tidbits of categorized information to help your future years at Vandy sting a little less.

Class:

Most of you will think school is easy at first. Then you will completely abuse your free time by hanging out on the girls' floor below yours, "bro-ing out" at lunch everyday and/or going out on weeknights. Then you will realize what's difficult about college.

People will tell you to manage your time better, but it is not until you sleep through your first class when you'll realize that you actually should.

Dining:

The "freshmen 15" happened to the best of us, but it will be really pathetic if it happens to you. The Commons provides you with a gym, an extra long distance to walk and you've only been given three meals a day, down from four last year (although, you are pretty much paying the same price).

Housing:

"Dorm-life," I know about, but I am not experienced in "palace-life." I hope you get sent to Kissam next year.

Extracurricular:

There are two types of people at Vanderbilt: Those who are involved in nothing and those who are involved in everything. Chances are, you will be in the "everything" category.

Being cool:

Now you are in college, you can venture out more. Don't listen to that

girl on your hall who says you should "stick with people your own age," or "I can't go out because I don't want to get blacklisted from a sorority." Ignore that guy who says, "forget fraternity parties, let's be real and (insert activity like 'smoke hookah,' 'play instruments,' 'juggle' or 'jump out of bushes and scare people into meeting us') on Wyatt Lawn tonight instead."

Yeah, some of that stuff is cool (I guess), but I suggest you jump on a VandyVan and hit up Greek Row at least once before you rule it out for the rest of your Vanderbilt career. Know that the "freshman experience" used to involve jumping in the back of sketchy black Suburbans that pulled out in front of Branscomb in order to find fun at off-campus frat parties. Risky? Yes. Dangerous? Probably. But it was cooler than walking around with embarrassingly large groups of other freshmen to find fun.

Girls, be warned that older boys will sleaze at every opportunity. I guarantee at least five guys at any party within the first three weeks will come up to you and ask, "Hey, are you a freshman?" within the first five sentences of a conversation. To avoid trouble, lie and say you transferred from an all-girls university and that you currently have a roommate who sleeps on the bottom bunk.

Guys, don't worry about this. The occasional cougar will come along, but really, older girls are just sulking about less attention.

The new you:

Don't be surprised two years down the road when the freshman boy wearing a Theodore Roosevelt T-shirt the first day of classes turns into the junior donning a pink, un-tucked Polo. Sad, but it happens. I suggest you take everything in, but don't lose your quirkiness, because in the sea of sundresses and pastel button-downs ... it will be what sets you apart when you graduate.

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

COLUMN

Setting yourself up for success



AIMEE SOBHANI
Columnist

Starting college is probably one of the most exciting — and scariest — events in most people's lives. Freshmen probably have several pre-conceived notions about what life will be like inside the Vanderbubble, and these ideas could potentially lead them to one of two extremes: standing on the sidelines and missing out on great experiences or diving into the "deep end" of college life without knowing how to swim.

There are lots of things I wish I had known going into freshman year, and here are a couple of them:

1. Freshman year actually matters. I personally didn't take my first semester very seriously because I just assumed college was a parent-free, slightly more difficult version of high school. I was wrong; you have to actually study (sadly). What you do your freshman year affects the course of your college career and your life in general. Yes, it's possible to recover from a bad semester, but it's obviously easier just to start out ahead in the first place.
2. On a related note, go to professors' office hours. They possess a wealth of information, and striking up a relationship with them could help you in the future when you need advice or a teacher recommendation.
3. Ratemyprofessor.com — use it! While some people may see it as an unfair portrayal of a teacher or a class, it has never steered me wrong. It can be particularly helpful when choosing what section of a class to take.
4. Actively participate in VUcept. VUcept may be boring and pointless to some, but it's a good way to meet people. After two years, I am still very close to some of the people from my VUcept group.
5. Not having a car doesn't mean you

are stuck on campus. Buses are free for students, and cabs can be a little expensive but very convenient. Campus life is great, but Nashville has a lot to offer: concerts, historical sites, parks and a great nightlife, to name a few. Don't limit yourself!

6. Don't assume your new friends and old friends will get along. Though it's nice to have visits from people from home, sometimes, the home world and the school world are best left apart.

7. Get involved. Participating in dorm events and joining student organizations can help you meet fellow freshmen and forge relationships with upperclassmen. Also, getting involved can help distinguish yourself from the other nameless faces in the crowd (which could be helpful if you hope to enter politics one day).

8. Reinvent yourself. No one knows what stereotype applied to you when you were in high school, so now is the perfect time to become who you've always wanted to be.

9. Use your meal plan wisely. I'm proud to say I've become a master of getting the most out of the meal plan. Always get the maximum amount of food you can get, and save some for later so you won't have to waste meal money. Also, don't forget about the five guest meals; they disappear if you don't use them.

10. Respect your roommate while simultaneously making sure he or she gives you the respect you deserve. Not addressing issues will probably lead to a blow out at the exact moment when you are trying to deal with some other catastrophe.

Following these suggestions won't guarantee success, but they can definitely help you avoid difficult situations.

— Aimee Sobhani is a junior 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 hustlernewseditor@gmail.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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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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LETTER

VSG explains how to avoid OASIS overload

To the Editor:

For over a decade, Vanderbilt students have faced difficulties navigating OASIS, our university's cumbersome, complex and often frustrating system for course enrollment. Many students continue to voice displeasure with system overloads, expiring wait lists and bumped courses. Unfortunately, calls for reform of our outdated system have yielded few results. Due to the highly integrated nature of the Vanderbilt IT network, creating a new course enrollment system requires patches for student records, financial aid, Medical Center, student employment and university billing databases to communicate with the central system. Building a unique model for Vanderbilt requires time and substantial financial resources, two elements that can be fleeting in times of economic scarcity.

Despite the challenges of replacing the system, university administrators agree that the archaic OASIS model for course enrollment is unacceptable for a top tier institution such as ours. Hearing the concerns of Vanderbilt Student Government representatives, the Vanderbilt's Enrollment Management Systems division has committed significant financial, employee and time resources towards developing a new model. Under the leadership of Cheng Khoo, the university registrar, and Lori Shipley, the director of enrollment management and information systems, Vanderbilt is on track to introduce an OASIS replacement in Spring 2010 that will massively improve the course enrollment experience.

The new system looks to provide a host of exciting functions, including advanced course search filters by instructor and time of day, a shopping cart for "tagging" courses of interest with quick views of course availability, and "drop if enroll" capability to allow for students to drop a course only if they find a seat off the wait list in a more desirable one. Also, wait lists will no longer require updates every 24 hours, as students will only lose their wait list seat if they gain enrollment, are removed by the university registrar, or remove themselves. Although the improvement is overdue, it will tremendously improve the course enrollment experience upon implementation.

Until next spring, VSG is committed to easing student navigation on the current system. Over the past several days, we have been collaborating with the registrar's office to develop strategies for easing navigation on OASIS and educate students about ways they can improve their experiences in the coming add/drop period. The capacity level of OASIS is extremely limited — VSG has learned from the university registrar that the system can only serve 250 users at one time. In order to reduce overloads on OASIS during the next week, we encourage you to practice these strategies:

1. Seek out the university course catalog to find your class meeting rooms. By logging into OASIS to find out where your chemistry section is meeting, you are preventing other students from making changes to their schedule.

2. "Log-off" the system once you have completed actions on OASIS. Simply closing the window does not automatically take you off the system and limits other students from accessing OASIS.

3. If you are not updating your position on wait lists, focus your time on OASIS on non-peak hours in the afternoon or evening. Try to avoid unnecessary browsing for courses during the add/drop period, as many students are attempting to gain access to the system at one time during the first week of classes.

By following these simple steps to reduce congestion, students can make OASIS more accessible for everyone and reduce overloads within the system. Until the improved course enrollment system is introduced, VSG plans to keep students informed of progress in the implementation timeline and updates in the functionality of the replacement model. As always, we welcome student questions about our efforts and look forward to hearing your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions for improving the undergraduate experience at Vanderbilt.

Wyatt Smith
Student Body President
Vanderbilt Student Government

COLUMN

Intelligent health care reform preserves the American dream



STEVE BRAUN
Guest Columnist

Significant attention should be given to the health care reform debate going on across the nation during the Congressional recess. The result of this debate will seriously impact the endurance of the American Dream.

Rooted in the Declaration of Independence, the American Dream suggests "all men are created equal" and should have the same chance at a prosperous life. Yet under our current health care system, Americans do not have the same access to clinically proven preventative medicine. Our country recognizes income status should not prevent you from getting an education. Our country should similarly seek to provide access to basic health care to every working-class family; many don't qualify for health care under current federal programs.

Opponents of expanding the availability of health care coverage seem to think providing this coverage is a way of eschewing personal responsibility. Unfortunately, many working class families are forced to make deleterious choices about eating well or maintaining a healthy household. I suggest all of you attempt to walk in their shoes next time you go to the grocery store. Take a \$20 bill and see how many calories you can buy per dollar of health food and compare that with frozen pizzas and macaroni and cheese. The problem is obvious: You can feed a family of four with one option, and you can't with the other.

This makes health care a class issue. By ignoring the uninsured working family, we are essentially accepting health care segregation, agreeing that the American Dream is not for everyone. What is best about expanding preventative care under health care reform is that ultimately a socioeconomic handicap is taken away while still saving taxpayers' money. Indeed, under the current system, once the working poor do finally face a medical problem severe enough to seek treatment, the taxpayer must foot the bill when they show up to the

emergency room.

Many Blue Dog Democrats, alongside Republicans, question the fiscal viability of an expanded public health care option. Most of these skeptics point to TennCare, Tennessee's experiment in universal health care coverage, which at its most expensive point ate up almost a

By ignoring the uninsured working family, we are essentially accepting health care segregation, agreeing that the American Dream is not for everyone."

third of the state's budget. Yet, part of the reason TennCare failed is because the state opted to contract out the administration of the program to the very same private corporations that have driven our nation's health care system into intensive care.

America should realize corporations are in the business of making money, not saving lives. The tobacco companies don't advertise their products' harmful effects; the insurance agencies and health care mega corps don't want change from the status quo because they are making money off America's suffering. It is time to take a concerted stand to win back the American Dream for all by electing to go forward with a public insurance option for working class Americans.

— Steve Braun is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at steven.a.braun@vanderbilt.edu.

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OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Here's who's who at each position for the 2009 Vanderbilt Commodores, who are looking for the first back-to-back postseason appearances in the history of the program. Look for more on the team on Friday.

QUARTERBACKS

by MEGHAN ROSE
Asst Sports Editor

With the graduation and departure of quarterback Chris Nickson this past spring, the Commodores are looking for both redshirt senior Mackenzi Adams and redshirt sophomore Larry Smith to step up and fill the void left at quarterback this season.

Adams saw action in every game last season, including starts against Duke, Florida and Georgia. When ESPN "College GameDay" visited Nashville last October, Adams impressed on a national stage, completing 13 of 23 passes for two touchdowns and 153 yards in Vanderbilt's win over Auburn. However, Adams was plagued by shoulder and knee injuries toward the end of the season, which limited him to a relief role behind Nickson.

While redshirt sophomore Larry Smith only saw playing time in two games last season,

his first career start against Boston College in the Music City Bowl was a memorable one: The Commodores beat the Eagles 16-14, earning their first postseason victory in school history. Smith impressed, completing 10 of 17 passes for 121 yards, while sharing quarterback duties with Nickson in the contest.

While the starting quarterback for this season's opener against Western Carolina has not yet been announced, both Adams and Smith must grow from both their triumphs and mistakes of last season, as they lead their team onto the field this fall. Smith looks to have the edge, but the more veteran Adams has shown time and time again he cannot be underestimated.

Redshirt junior Jared Funk stands out in practice on the scout team with his cannon arm and could very well be called upon this year, but Smith and Adams will be looked to first. ■



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Mackenzi Adams (9) and Larry Smith (10) are locked in a battle for the starting quarterback position. Smith seems to be the favorite, but coach Bobby Johnson, as usual, has been tight-lipped on the subject.

meet

LARRY SMITH RS SOPHOMORE, NO. 10

ON THE BOWL WIN

It played a real key part in my confidence. I was comfortable with the offense and the receivers as the game went along, and just watching Chris (Nickson) and Mackenzi (Adams) and learning from those guys all year allowed me to do well in the Music City Bowl.

ON HOW THE WIN IMPACTED TEAM MORALE

Last season we started off 5-0 and hit a little adversity, but we were able to bounce back. In past seasons, we probably wouldn't have been able to bounce back and become bowl eligible, but last year we were able to. That victory gave the team a whole lot of confidence coming into this season.

ON HIS FEELINGS BEFORE THE GAME

I thought I'd be nervous, and the night before I really couldn't sleep. But during the game I was pretty prepared. I just watched a lot of film, paid really close attention to detail during practice, and went out there and executed the game plan pretty well, and we ended up with a victory.

ON THE POSSIBILITY OF STARTING

I'm just going to take one play at a time, one practice at a time. That's all you can do — take everything step by step. You can't really get everything done at one time, and you can only take small baby steps during the season.

ON THE ROLE OF THE REST OF THE TEAM

Although the play starts with the quarterback, it's a team effort — the quarterback can't do it by himself. It takes all 11 guys on offense and all 11 guys on defense to get the win. It's basically a team effort in everything that we do.

RUNNING BACKS

by DAVID SHOCHAT
Sports Reporter

Vanderbilt will enter the 2009 football season with its deepest group of running backs in recent memory. Last year's starter Jared Hawkins returns as the leader of the group; however, due to a nagging injury suffered toward the end of last season, it looks like true freshman Zac Stacy may open the season as the starter for the Commodores.

Stacy is just one of a trio of freshman running backs for the Commodores. Fellow freshmen Warren Norman and Wesley Tate also figure to see time at running back and/or special teams this season. All three freshmen were highly touted out of high school with Norman

known for his big play ability, Tate for his strong and powerful "downhill" running and Stacy a combination of the two.

Along with the freshmen, redshirt junior Kennard Reeves looks to make his mark this season after some impressive performances toward the end of last year when Hawkins got injured. Redshirt junior Gaston Miller looks to have lost some weight over the offseason and looks like he could be a nightmare for opposing teams on either special teams or third down situations with his quickness.

Redshirt sophomore Jermaine Doster returns from suspension and gives the Commodores another solid back with a good blend of size and speed. ■



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Freshman Zac Stacy could be the starter at tailback on opening day, although veteran Jared Hawkins still has the inside track for the job.

meet

ZAC STACY FRESHMAN, NO. 21

ON THE TUTELAGE OF JARED HAWKINS

Yeah, it's been a lot of fun. JHawk is a proven leader. I ask stuff to JHawk a lot. He tells where to line up, and if I make a mistake he's kinda like another coach, so just the advantage part of JHawk being (hurt) is just us freshmen getting reps and what not, but we still look up to him a lot.

ON PICKING UP ON THE NUANCES OF BLOCKING AND RUSHING SO QUICKLY

Basically, coming in this summer really helped a lot and looking at the playbook almost every day has helped too, so it is beginning to come down to knowing everything.

ON HIS SPECIALTY AS A RUSHER

Mainly, it is just my versatility, just coming out of the backfield, getting into open space and catching routes.

ON FAVORITE NFL PLAYER

LT (LaDainian Tomlinson)

ON THE BENEFITS OF AN EXPERIENCED OFFENSIVE LINE

A good running back is based off of his great offensive line, so just to have a great line is really a plus.

WIDE RECEIVERS

by DAVID RUTZ
Sports Editor

A host of injuries and the losses of veterans Sean Walker and George Smith to graduation have greatly thinned out the Vanderbilt wide receiving corps, but this unit remains confident it has the ability to produce, even while not at full strength. In addition to the career-ending ACL injury to veteran Justin Wheeler in the spring, big Connecticut transfer Terrence Jeffers-Harris was declared academically ineligible earlier this summer and must sit out the season.

The most experienced and healthy player right

now is redshirt senior Alex Washington, who has demonstrated how dangerous he can be during the spring and then during camp. While not a physical presence, Washington has outstanding speed and is the sort of big-play threat that can stretch a defense.

Speedy redshirt sophomore Udom Umoh, a standout on special teams last season, will be a starter out wide. He made his first three career receptions in last year's Music City Bowl to lead the unit in catches in the win and has overcome shoulder problems to get to nearly full strength this season. John Cole was lost last season to a torn meniscus but will be counted on

to make a contribution in his first year of collegiate action. Also extremely fast, Cole will likely also be used to return punts.

Redshirt freshman Akeem Dunham has greatly increased his strength over the spring and summer and will be used in the slot, and coaches may take advantage of redshirt junior Justin Green's unique size in the red zone. Hardworking redshirt senior Chris Reinert is back from injury and hopes to produce as well.

In addition, true freshmen Collin Ashley and Brady Brown hope to contribute. Brown in particular is a rare combination of both imposing size and great speed and will be used solely out wide, while Ashley plays in the slot. Transfer Trey Herndon could also figure into the mix. ■



JOHN RUSSELL / VU Media Relations

Udom Umoh is one of a few receivers still standing after several injuries and other problems decimated the unit. He led the Commodores with three receptions in the Music City Bowl victory.

meet

UDOM UMOH RS SOPHOMORE, NO. 23

ON THE DIFFICULTIES OF LOSING PEOPLE TO INJURY

Everybody else has to step it up and plus we have these young guys. Since we are young, we're all learning so we all have to step up and be accountable for ourselves. We each have to make our own plays and do what we need to do, so that somebody else doesn't have to pick up the slack for us. And then we have to push that much harder for whoever's out.

ON HOW MUCH OF AN IMPACT THE FRESHMEN CAN MAKE

I think both of them, both Collin and Brady. Watching them, sometimes we forget that they're freshmen. These boys out here, they know the plays, they're picking up what used to take us a year, they're picking up in one week.

ON THE RAPPORT WITH QUARTERBACK LARRY SMITH

He puts the ball on the money, man. We all know whatever route, you'd better get there in a hurry because he's going to stick it on you whether you're there or not. You don't want to get a ball knocked off your face, that's embarrassing. Larry's going to be a great quarterback, he knows what he's doing. He's a great competitor. We drop it, you know he's mad. He expects that much out of us and we expect the same thing from him.

TIGHT ENDS

by **DAN RYAN**
Sports Reporter

Depth at wide receiver and questions concerning the quarterback position for the Vanderbilt offense have placed the team's tight ends in a pivotal role for the upcoming season.

Vanderbilt's leading returning receiver is redshirt sophomore Brandon Barden, who topped the squad in touchdown catches in 2008 with four and led the nation's freshmen tight ends in receptions with 28.

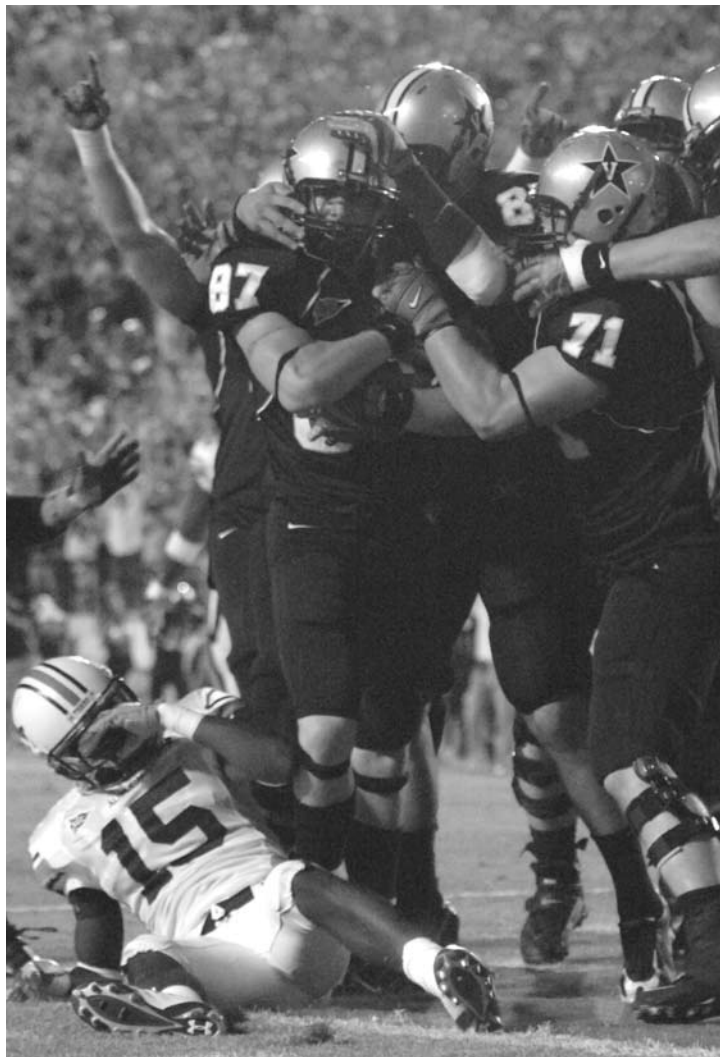
A year removed from his All-American and All-Conference freshman season, Barden looks to improve upon his stellar freshman campaign by playing a larger role in the offense by providing a steady target for the quarterback and relieving some pressure from an untested receiving corps.

Fellow redshirt freshman Austin Monahan also figures to play a large part in the offense's quest to improve

upon the 2008 season. After suffering a season ending injury to his shoulder at Ole Miss last season, Monahan will work in tandem with Barden to provide the Commodores with two offensive threats from the tight end position. Improved blocking from the tight end position was a point of emphasis during the off season as Barden worked to add strength and improve blocking technique.

The coaches have also installed a package utilizing both Barden and Monahan simultaneously, primarily for goal line situations.

However, look for added wrinkles from this two tight end set as the season progresses. Vanderbilt's move to the no-huddle offense for the 2009 season does not figure to have an appreciable difference on the role the tight ends will play this fall, but the significance of this unit to the success of the Commodores this season cannot be underestimated. ■



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Brandon Barden (87) celebrates his touchdown catch in last year's 14-13 win over Auburn. He will wear No. 6 in 2009 and hopes to build off a season where he led the nation's freshman tight ends in catches.

meet

BRANDON BARDEN RS SOPHOMORE, NO. 6

ON HIS ROLE CHANGE WITH THE NEW OFFENSIVE SCHEME

We're doing a lot of the same things. The only thing that's different really is the no huddle. I should be getting some more balls this year.

ON BEING AN ALL-SEC FRESHMAN

I've always prided myself on trying to work hard. This summer I did a different workout than I usually do. I worked on getting faster and stronger and I gained like 15 pounds. I'm at the size I need to be right now, I just have to maintain.

ON WHAT TO EXPECT OUT OF THE TWIN TIGHT END SET

Right now we really don't have much except for goal line situations. They've talked about splitting one of us out some and keeping the other one in and using us both blocking different ways and running routes. I was hoping they would put that in, but maybe later.

ON HIS ADDED STRENGTH

Well, the weight has helped me a lot. I've gotten stronger and quicker off the ball. I used to just like to catch the ball, and I didn't really like to block but I realized that you really have to be a blocker if you want to be a complete player. I've worked on my technique and with hat placement and it has really helped me out a lot.

ON THE NEED FOR OFFENSIVE IMPROVEMENT

As an offense we have to get better. We didn't do good last year, we had our off and ons with maybe three games where we played good offensively I think, and the rest of them I really don't think we did what we should have done. Personally, I want to continue to grow. I've worked on my blocking and I love to catch the ball, that's my passion so hopefully I can get the ball more and be the best I can. If any other honors come, they come, but I'm just trying to be the best for the team.

OFFENSIVE LINE

by **DAVID RUTZ**
Sports Editor

With every member of last year's offensive line returning with a year of starting experience under their belts, the Commodores look to see vast improvement from a unit that believes it underachieved last season. The team is making the transition to a no-huddle offense after last year's unit was one of the nation's worst in yardage.

Redshirt senior Bradley Vierling leads the unit at center and has been placed on the Rimington Trophy watchlist, an award given annually to the nation's most outstanding center. A standout in the weightroom, Vierling has made tremendous strides in adding bulk and quickness. He's also a workhorse; Vierling snapped the ball on 95 percent of Vanderbilt's plays last season.

Redshirt senior Thomas Welch will start at left tackle after an

outstanding 2008 campaign that earned him offensive line MVP honors. Welch started all 13 games last season at right tackle and blocked consistently well. He makes the switch to the other side and has the all-important job of looking out for Vanderbilt quarterbacks' blindsides.

Redshirt sophomore James Williams went from little-used last season to the surefire starter this year at right tackle after an excellent spring that impressed coaches.

Redshirt senior Ryan Custer looks to have the starting job at left guard, with Kyle Fischer, a redshirt sophomore, the likely back-up who got valuable playing time last year. Uppersized yet agile, Fischer can also slide over and play tackle.

Redshirt junior Reilly Lauer returns as the likely starter at right guard, with redshirt senior Eric Hensley, who made seven consecutive starts to end last season, right there to back him up. ■



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Vocal co-captain and starting center Bradley Vierling anchors the team offensive line that wants to, in his words, be more nasty this season.

meet

BRADLEY VIERLING RS SENIOR, NO. 60

ON WHAT THE LINE'S FOCUS WAS DURING THE SUMMER

First things first with this new offensive tempo was our conditioning. Making sure we were in top shape going into camp. That was first and foremost. After that, being physical. Developing a nasty and tough mentality up front. We're going to have some young running backs running the ball this year, so we've got to take care of things up front.

ON THE SWITCH TO NO-HUDDLE

Yeah, it's been an adjustment but it's definitely been a positive for us. We're keeping our defense on their heels and we've been doing really well with it. I think we've had two of our best scrimmages, the best offensive output we've had.

ON THE LINE'S ABILITY WITH EVERYONE RETURNING

Very dangerous. I think a lot of people are going to look past us for our offensive output last year, how it was one of the worst in the country. I think we've got a lot to prove and we're excited about that.

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THOMAS WELCH

Thomas, what's he done, put on over 70 pounds? He's doing great. He moved over to left tackle in the spring and he's really adjusted well. He's playing really physical, very smart. He's a great player, top-notch.

ON THE BIGGEST HURDLE IN HIS CAPTAINCY SO FAR

Biggest hurdle? Just to make sure the guys don't get complacent. Keep everybody's attitudes and mentality high because camp can wear you down. Got to keep the spirits up. That's the toughest part of our season. We're getting ready for a long haul, 12 straight games. Getting everybody focused and on the right path to success.

DEFENSIVE LINE

by **GEOFF HUTCHINSON**
Sports Reporter

It is always said that football is won down in the trenches, and the defensive line was one of the anchors from last season's Music City Bowl winning team. Fortunately for the Commodores, all the starters from that team are back for this season. Redshirt senior

categories, while Stewart has a well-earned reputation as a fearsome pass rusher.

For the beginning of the season, the team will be without the presence of redshirt senior defensive end Steven Stone, who will likely be out six weeks of the season with a broken bone in his foot. Also, junior Theron Kadri recently informed the staff he was leaving the team



OLIVER WOLFE / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Defensive tackle Greg Billinger (right) came through for a unit lacking in depth last season, posting career highs in tackles and sacks.

meet

GREG BILLINGER SENIOR, NO. 56

ON TRAINING CAMP

I feel like I am in the best shape of my career. The new no-huddle offense is helping us get in great shape for the season.

ON THE INJURY TO STEVEN STONE

He's one of the key players on the line, and we are going to miss him, but we have some guys (Brannon, Kadri, Fugger) who have been working hard in practice to make up for Steven.

ON PERSONAL GOALS FOR THE SEASON

My only goal to not take off any plays. Maintaining that same intensity from the start of the game to the end of the game is important. You can never take anything for granted, and that's why you need to play every down like it is your last.

ON THE IMPACT OF THE YOUTHFUL PLAYERS

Colt and Rob are out there looking great. They are consistently working on improving their technique, and that will help us a lot this year. Last year, we played with only 3 defensive tackles, so the more bodies we are able to rotate out there, the fresher we will be later in games this year.

ON THE DEPTH OF THE DEFENSE

We are returning 9 starters, and many players that aren't starting, played key roles last season, and it's not like we are playing people in their positions that are unprepared for the task. As long as everyone plays up to the best of their abilities, I'm sure that we'll be more than fine.

Billinger comes off of a career year that saw him set personal highs in multiple categories.

Broderick Stewart will start at defensive end, while senior Greg Billinger, and redshirt junior Adam Smotherman will be returning on the inside for the Commodores. Billinger comes off of a huge year that saw him set career highs in multiple

for personal reasons. Reserves redshirt junior Terriall Brannon and redshirt sophomore Tim Fugger are competing to fill the void. The recent developments at defensive end turned what was a deep position for Vanderbilt into a decidedly thin one. ■

THE COMMODORES' ROSTER BY POSITION

QUARTERBACKS	3 Akeem Dunham R-Fr.	GUARDS	DEFENSIVE TACKLES	LINEBACKERS	41 Javon Marhsall Fr.
9 Mackenzi Adams R-Sr.	14 Tray Herndon R-So.	55 Rob Ashabraner R-So.	56 Greg Billinger Sr.	15 Archibald Barnes R-Fr.	37 Eric Samuels Fr.
12 Jared Funk R-Jr.	36 Chris Reinert R-Sr.	71 Joey Bailey R-Jr.	74 T.J.Greenstone R-So.	30 Patrick Benoist Sr.	24 Rich Tompkins R-So.
17 Charlie Goro Fr.	23 Udom Umoh R-So.	50 Mylon Brown Fr.	54 Taylor Loftley R-Fr.	52 Nate Campbell R-Jr.	8 Trey Wilson Fr.
10 Larry Smith R-So.	4 Alex Washington R-Sr.	75 Michael Bryant R-Fr.	84 Rob Lohr R-Fr.	18 Dexter Daniels R-Fr.	
	81 Turner Wimberly R-Jr.	73 Ryan Custer R-Sr.	58 Colt Nichter R-Fr.	44 Michael Garcia R-Jr.	SAFETIES
RUNNING BACKS		72 Kyle Fischer R-So.	59 Adam Smotherman R-Jr.	47 DeAndre Jones R-Fr.	29 Joel Caldwell R-Sr.
26 Jermaine Doster R-So.	TIGHT ENDS/FULLBACKS			13 Chris Marve R-So.	33 Jay Fullam Fr.
31 Jared Hawkins R-Sr.	6 Brandon Barden R-So.	OFFENSIVE TACKLES	DEFENSIVE ENDS	46 Austin Newton R-Jr.	2 Ryan Hamilton R-Sr.
7 Gaston Miller R-Jr.	84 Chris DeGeorge R-Sr.	65 Richard Cagle R-Fr.	89 Terriall Brannon R-Jr.	35 Blake Southerland Fr.	37 Al Owens R-Fr.
27 Warren Norman Fr.	82 Justin Green R-Jr.	66 Eric Hensley R-Sr.	57 John Burrow R-Fr.	49 John Stokes Jr.	20 Micah Powell R-Fr.
28 Kennard Reeves R-Jr.	85 Mason Johnston Fr.	67 Wesley Johnson Fr.	52 Tim Fugger R-So.	32 Tristan Strong R-Fr.	38 Sean Richardson So.
21 Zac Stacy Fr.	86 Austin Monahan R-So.	68 Reilly Lauer R-Jr.	93 Josh Jelesky R-Fr.	11 Brett Trice Sr.	
24 Wesley Tate Fr.	34 Ryan Van Rensburg R-So.	62 Ryan Seymour R-Fr.	92 Walker May Fr.		SPECIALISTS
		76 Thomas Welch R-Sr.	99 Thad McHaney Fr.	CORNERBACKS	48 Ryan Fowler R-Fr.
WIDE RECEIVERS	CENTERS	78 Caleb Welchans R-Fr.	90 Broderick Stewart R-Sr.	43 Eddie Foster Fr.	94 Richard Kent R-Fr.
87 Collin Ashley Fr.	63 Chris Aaron R-Jr.	77 James Williams R-So.	96 Steven Stone R-Sr.	25 Jamie Graham R-So.	97 John Laughrey Sr.
88 Brady Brown Fr.	60 Bradley Vierling R-Sr.		98 Johnell Thomas R-Fr.	19 Casey Hayward So.	39 Brett Upson Sr.
83 John Cole R-Fr.				5 Myron Lewis Sr.	

LINEBACKERS

by **BRIAN LINHARES**
Sports Reporter

The Commodores are known for their standout linebackers and in 2009 it will be no different, as Vanderbilt returns the core of the unit in Patrick Benoist and Chris Marve.

As a senior, Benoist will lead the unit from the weakside, off a stellar 2008 that culminated in Second Team all-SEC honors. The 224-pound Texan paced the defense at weakside linebacker with 109 total tackles and 6.5 tackles for loss.

Not to be outdone, redshirt sophomore Chris Marve turned in an excellent campaign. In his first year of SEC action, Marve started all thirteen contests at middle linebacker and made an immediate impact. His 56 solo

tackles (and 105 total), 6.5 tackles for loss and 3 sacks earned him First Team Freshman all-SEC honors.

Opposite Benoist, senior Brent Trice and junior John Stokes are battling to start at strongside for the Commodores. A converted safety, Trice registered 22 tackles and 2.5 sacks last season, while Stokes, who also serves as long snapper, notched 31 total tackles and four tackles for loss in 2008.

Special teams member Nate Campbell, a redshirt junior, will add depth to the corps. The upperclassman saw action in every game in 2008, and has earned a spot in the rotation. Redshirt freshman Archibald Barnes has been a standout in practice and could also see some time. ■



SAM KIM / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Get used to this sight this season: Chris Marve (13) makes a habit of being on the ball. He led the team in solo tackles in his first year of action.

meet **CHRIS MARVE** RS SOPHOMORE, NO. 13

ON MEETING HIS OWN EXPECTATIONS

Definitely I have high expectations for myself. Not just because of the accolades I received last year but because I expect a lot of myself. I work hard all the time and try to give my best effort every chance I get.

ON THE CORPS' DEVELOPMENT OVER THE SUMMER

Working hard man. We're returning everybody, getting a lot of depth. A lot of redshirt freshmen coming in ready to play, going hard every day.

ON HOW THEY BATTLE COMPLACENCY

Easily. We want to do better. We won seven games but we can do a lot better than that. We know seven games is good but we want to be great so every time we come out here we keep that in mind.

ON THE MIND OF A LINEBACKER DURING A PLAY

Get to the line and get the call in and it's a rush to the ball. We want every tackle we can get. Rush to the ball man, whoever gets there first.

ON CO-CAPTAIN AND FELLOW LINEBACKER PATRICK BENOIST

He's a great leader. He knows the playbook in and out. He's our captain. He knows what he's doing every time. He makes few mistakes, he's consistent, everything you want to be in a player.

SECONDARY

by **DAN RYAN**
Sports Reporter

The biggest concern the Vanderbilt defensive secondary must address heading in to the 2009 season will be replacing do-it-all cornerback D.J. Moore and team captain and strong safety Reshard Langford. Looking to fill the void left by the two former Commodore defenders are sophomore cornerback Casey Hayward and sophomore strong safety Sean Richardson.

Both Richardson and Hayward saw action as true freshmen and look to make an immediate impact in expanded roles this fall. Senior cornerback and NFL prospect Myron Lewis returns for his senior season as one of the elite defensive players in the SEC, and provides the unit with

spectacular play making ability with a penchant for timely interceptions and the ability to sack opposing quarterbacks.

Redshirt senior Ryan Hamilton returns for his final season for the Commodores as a team captain and vocal leader of the defense. His steady leadership and play from the free safety position will be critical early in the season, particularly at LSU on Sept. 12.

Redshirt sophomore Jamie Graham will be deployed primarily at the nickelback position after making the switch from receiver to defensive back during spring drills. Nickelback is a crucial position in the Vanderbilt defensive scheme, and Graham's experience and athleticism will serve the defense well. ■



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Casey Hayward was one of three true freshmen to see action last season and has to fill the shoes left by All-American corner D.J. Moore.

meet **CASEY HAYWARD** SOPHOMORE, NO. 19

ON TRAINING CAMP

It's going pretty good so far. Everybody's learning everything.

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECONDARY

We're learning everything since we've got a couple of new guys coming in.

ON THE EXPERIENCE OF VETERANS MYRON LEWIS AND RYAN HAMILTON

It's nice playing with them because they know the defense like the back of their hand so if we need to know anything we just ask them. They do a good job of providing senior leadership. Ryan is more of the vocal leader, but both of them do a good job.

ON PERSONAL GOALS

Become an All-SEC cornerback.

ON OVERALL GOALS OF THE UNIT

Not really, but we have a goal to create 30 turnovers as a defense.



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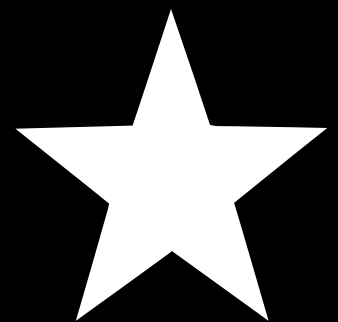
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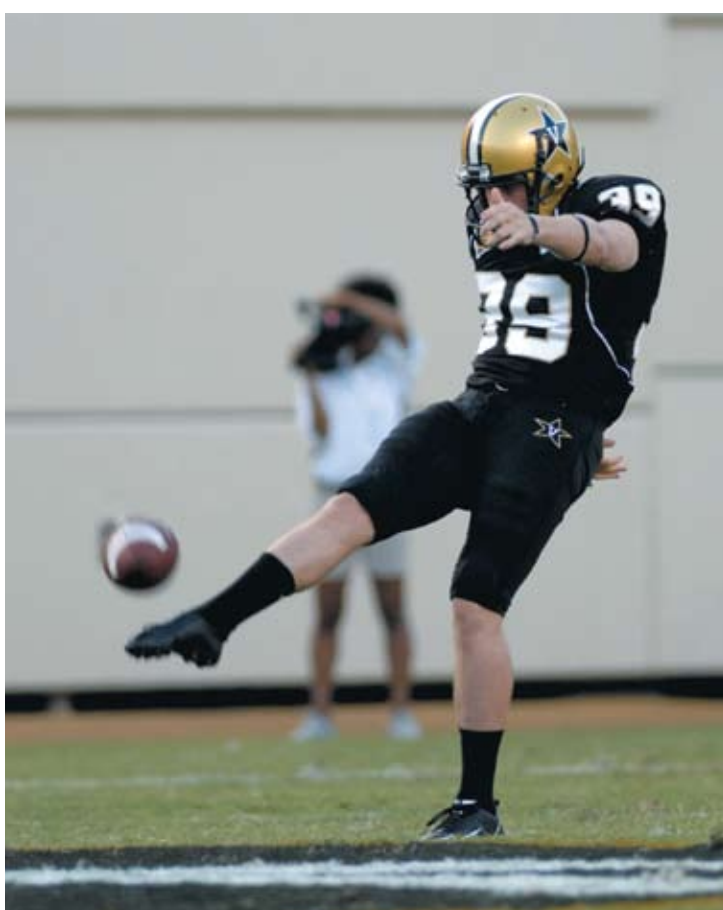
SPECIAL TEAMS

by ERIC SINGLE
Sports Reporter

Commodores ahead for good late in the fourth quarter.

Vanderbilt's 16-14 victory over Boston College in last year's Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl proved just how far a sound special teams unit can carry a team in a tight game.

This year, with Hahnfeldt lost to graduation, Redshirt freshman Ryan Fowler looks to be the leading contender to handle placekicking and kickoff duties for the Commodores, while bowl MVP Upson assumes the



FRANCIS SIMPSON / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Most Valuable Player in Vanderbilt's bowl victory, Brett Upson's effective rugby punts pinned Commodore opponents deep time and time again. His personal goal this year is to be All-Conference.

Bowl MVP Upson assumes the leadership role in the punting game for the fourth straight season.

All of Vanderbilt's sixteen points came directly from special teams play: then-freshman Sean Richardson scored the lone touchdown after diving into the end zone to recover a Brett Upson rugby punt that kicked off the knee of the Eagle return specialist, and senior kicker Bryant Hahnfeldt converted the extra point along with three field goals, the last of which put the

leadership role in the punting game for the fourth straight season, hoping to build upon his standout return yards-against numbers from last season. Redshirt senior Alex Washington and redshirt freshman John Cole should lead the group of athletes asked to step in on punt and kickoff returns and fill the void left by top return man D.J. Moore, now with the Chicago Bears. ■

meet BRETT UPSON SENIOR, NO. 39

ON HIS ANTICIPATED ROLE IN THE KICKING GAME

Hahnfeldt left me some big shoes to fill as a leader, and I just have to step up and lead the younger guys under me and show them the ropes because this is my last year, and somebody has to step up next year. This season I have to step up just as Hahnfeldt did and lead us to what we need to do to be ready for each game.

ON SPECIAL TEAMS WORK IN THE OFFSEASON

Yeah, we've put a lot more emphasis on special teams. We had a couple breakdowns last year, but we're fixing those right now, and we'll be ready to go for this season.

ON HIS PUNTING STYLE

We've gotten away from the bouncing rugby kick that we did so much last year towards more of a drop kick, and I've just been working on that all summer. Also, with kicking field goals, since Hahnfeldt's not here, Fowler and I are competing now. It's just one of those things where we're both going to have to be ready in case one of us goes down.

ON DRILLS IN PRACTICE

I practice my drops and my get-off time, and for the directional punting that we do I set out targets and really focus on honing in on those targets.

ON HELP FROM HAHNFELDT

Bryant showed me the way, and I feel like anybody that needs some help from me, I can help them out and be there for anybody.



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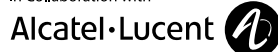
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The annual VUSR/SYBBURE poster presentation being held in the Student Life Center on Wednesday, September 2, 2009, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. 70 students, from a broad range of disciplines will present their summer research projects. **Everyone is invited! • Light Refreshments Provided**

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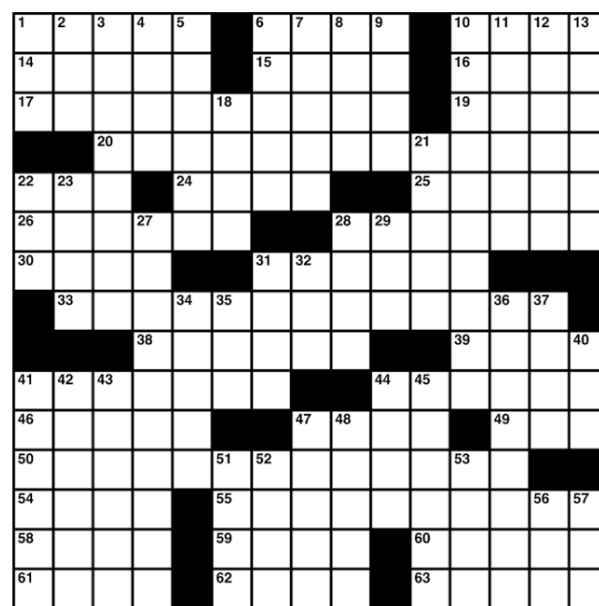
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SUDOKU: To solve, fill in the blanks so the numbers 1-9 appear just once in each horizontal row, vertical column and 3x3 box.

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

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Paul of "American Graffiti"
 - 6 Big Apple sch.
 - 10 One often looking down?
 - 14 Part of Caesar's boast
 - 15 Former manager Felipe
 - 16 Bishop of Rome
 - 17 Exterior attractiveness, to a Realtor
 - 19 Wilson of "Wedding Crashers"
 - 20 Beethoven's affliction
 - 22 Hunk
 - 24 Drei minus zwei
 - 25 Flummoxed
 - 26 Embraces, as a philosophy
 - 28 Site for saplings
 - 30 Old Italian bread
 - 31 Lined up
 - 33 What chambers of commerce do, and this puzzle's title
 - 38 Like a banquet
 - 39 Slightly
 - 41 Thorny shrubs commonly with yellow flowers
 - 44 Livestock food
 - 46 Billiards bounce
 - 47 James of "The Godfather"
 - 49 Bar code?
 - 50 Drug safety test
 - 54 General Bradley
 - 55 Replay feature
 - 58 Soap actress Sofer
 - 59 Isle where Macbeth is buried
 - 60 Rope loop
 - 61 Scott in a landmark civil rights case
 - 62 Clairvoyant
 - 63 Kind of pressure that can cause headaches
- DOWN**
- 1 Driver's document: Abbr.
 - 2 Old French coin
 - 3 Vermont music festival town
 - 4 Early Christian pulpit
 - 5 Afternoon service
 - 6 Menu fowl
 - 7 Staff symbols
 - 8 Wordsmith Webster
 - 9 Christmastime
 - 10 Golf pro shop array
 - 11 Not in any way
 - 12 Feature of some corkscrews
 - 13 Popular analgesic cream
 - 18 Pitchfork-shaped letters
 - 21 Hitter of 755 homers
 - 22 Hoedown dancer
 - 23 Lyrical
 - 27 Three-time Editorial Cartooning Pulitzer winner
 - 28 "Parsley is gharshley" poet
 - 29 Ocean State sch.
 - 31 Bird venerated by ancient Egyptians
 - 32 Frat letters
 - 34 "Spider-Man" director
 - 35 New Deal prog.
 - 36 Breeding horse
 - 37 Heroic tale
 - 40 Drops on the grass
 - 41 Agreement
 - 42 More tranquil
 - 43 French satellite-launching rocket
 - 44 Old MacDonald's place
 - 45 Whopper toppers
 - 47 Duplicate
 - 48 Fighting big-time
 - 51 Members of Gil Grissom's team briefly
 - 52 Medicinal plant
 - 53 Yours, in Tours
 - 56 The Buckeyes, initially
 - 57 Super ___: game, console



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