The Vanderbilt Hustler



What to expect in Vanderbilt sports in the new year. See page 9



Tradition continues for sorority recruitment, but fraternities see a new process.

by HANNAH TWILLMAN Editor-in-Chief

Beginning Monday morning, 520 women lined up in the cold weather to participate in Panhellenic recruitment.

Not much has changed for this year's formal recruitment process. The number of women registered is consistent with recent years' trends, said Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey, with the same number of women meeting the eligibility requirements as last year.

"(Recruitment) has just been pretty much how everybody says it's going to be," said freshman Nicole Peterson.

Halfway through the process, several women said they have enjoyed the process so far.

"It has been fun and relaxed so far," said freshman Tori Clodfelter. "I just wanted to be a part (of Greek life). ... Really once you go Greek, you are finally a part of main campus."

Freshman Kristin Repaci said she's enjoyed getting to know other people on campus through recruitment.

"It's gone well," she said. "It's been fun getting to meet so many new girls I wouldn't have gotten to meet otherwise."

"Panhellenic recruitment has gone very well so far," Torrey said. "Despite the rather cold temperatures, everyone seems to be having a good time."

Please see **RECRUITMENT**, page 3



view a photo slideshow and watch a video of the sights and sounds of the first two days of sorority recruitment.



Greek Ambassador Sarah Kittrell, a junior from Dallas, takes roll outside the Kappa Delta house during the philanthropy round of Panhellenic recruitment on Tuesday afternoon.



MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Services Margaret Bowers, left, and Kara Cooper talk about their impressions of various soroities during the philanthropy round of Panhellenic recruitment on Tuesday afternoon.



MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Services

A group of freshman women stand outside the Delta Delta Delta house on Tuesday afternoon during the philanthropy round of Panhellenic recruitment.



MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Services

Carmel, In., junior Abby Fivel throws her coat over the rail outside as she heads into another soroity during the philanthropy round of Panhellenic recruitment on Tuesday afternoon.



MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Services

Freshmen Casey Bakker, left, Brenna Casey, Kara Colicchio and Rose Cornelson talk outside the Kappa Delta house during the philanthropy round of Panhellenic recruitment on Tuesday afternoon.

Gay-friendly frat Delta Lambda Phi to colonize

by JUSTIN TARDIFF News Editor

Vanderbilt men interested in participating in Greek life will have a new option in the coming months, following the creation of a new chapter of Delta Lambda Phi, a national fraternity for gay, bisexual and progressive men.

The fraternity, which already has roughly 10 men signed up to participate in its initial rush, will start out as a colony, but anticipates becoming a full chapter by the end of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Early planning for the group took place last year under former Lambda president Klint Peebles, who began conversations with both the organization and the Office of Greek Life. But establishment of the organization was pushed forward this fall after a casual dorm room conversation between several Vanderbilt undergrads: sophomores Bryann DaSilva and Jason Elmer and junior Spencer Montalvo.

"It seemed like all of the gay life here happened to be politically active, making it hard to find people just to be friends with," said Montalvo.

DaSilva, who had transferred to Vanderbilt from NYU, was familiar with that school's chapter of Delta Lambda Phi. Elmer also had friends in chapters of the organizations at other schools. "We were talking about it," DaSilva said, "and the three of us decided to try and run with it."

Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey explained that the fraternity followed a typical path to approval, after meeting with Elmer and other interested students.

"We talked through the plan of how they would come to Interfraternity Council," she said, "and talked about how to

align two processes: what the national organization expects and what we expect."

Following a presentation at an IFC meeting in November, the group was granted approval, and following final approval from Dean of Students Mark Bandas, the national fraternity received a letter from the dean welcoming them to establish a chapter at Vanderbilt.

Delta Lambda Phi will differ from other fraternities with specific niches, such as Beta Upsilon Chi, as the new chapter will be a member of the **Intrafraternity** Council.

<mark>"We'</mark>re exactly the same as other IFC fraternities.

-Spencer Montalvo, junior member of Delta Lambda Phi

Delta Lambda Phi will differ from other fraternities with specific niches, such as Beta Upsilon Chi, as the new chapter will be a member of the Intrafraternity Council. "We're exactly the same as other IFC fraternities," Montalvo said. While, unlike many IFC fraternities, the chapter will not have a house at its inception, Montalvo said that is something that would be addressed in the coming semesters.

He added that the group aims to create an environment where its members can feel comfortable on campus, even though campus Greek organizations already have gay members.

Please see **DELTA LAMBDA PHI**, page 3

VUMC opens new DNA databank

by PETER LETARTE Staff Reporter

After years of collecting genetic information, doctors and researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center last month opened BioVU, a massive DNA databank in the Eskind

To create the databank, doctors and researchers at the Medical Center collaborated with faculty

and staff at the university to extract strands of DNA from leftover blood samples.

The high hopes for databanks of DNA such as Vanderbilt's are based on the ability to predict susceptibility to disease based on one's genetic makeup.

"Most medical practice today is based on assuming everyone is 'average,' but we know that there are important differences that an individual's own 'DNA blueprint' cause in their susceptibility to disease and response to medications," said Dr. Daniel Masys, professor and Chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics.

BioVU is expected to become an invaluable resource for researchers hoping to make progress in finding cures and treatments for a number of common genetic diseases such as diabetes, cancer, rheumatoid

arthritis and several types of heart disease.

Through the analysis of individual sets of DNA, many like Dr. Masys hope to make health care much more effective and precise. Masys said he believes the key to increased efficiency is a shift toward personalized healthcare, and databanks such as BioVU will play a big role in

Please see **DNA DATABANK**, page 3



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Dr. Dan Masys moves samples near a machine that extracts DNA from blood samples in the BioVU DNA research lab on Tuesday.

NEWS:

Biomedical Library.

Service groups gave students a break from winter break.

See page 4



OPINION:

"Law and Order" A true American show.

See page 8



OPINION:

The Verdict: Tigers do not make good pets

See page 8

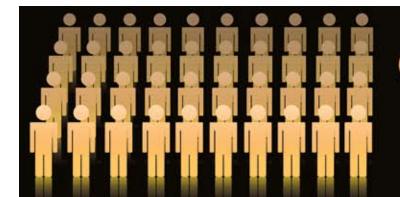


SPORTS:

Commodores continue SEC grind on the road against Alabama.

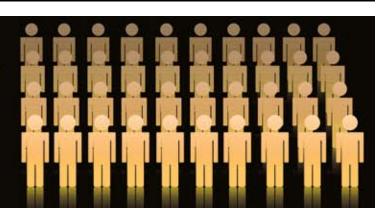
See page 11





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HIGH **42**, LOW **23 Partly Cloudy**

THURSDAY



HIGH **49**, LOW **24** Cloudy

FRIDAY



HIGH **50**, LOW **31 Mostly sunny**

SERVICE GUIDE

The Vanderbilt Hustler (ISSN 0042-2517), the student newspaper of Vanderbilt University, is published every Monday and Friday during the academic year except for during exam periods and vacations. The paper is not printed during summer break.

The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student and is available at various points on campus for free.

Additional copies are \$.50 each. The Vanderbilt Hustler is a division of Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc. Copyright © 2010 Vanderbilt Student Com-

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

AROUND THE LOOP

What did you do over winter break?

"I had my debutante ball and it was fun to share that experience with my friends and family."

— Elizabeth Thorsness, 2013

"I went to the CRU Christmas conference in North Carolina."

— Christine Stroud, 2012

"I skiied with my family in Park City and cheered on the Longhorns in Pasadena."

— Kate Goudge, 2012

CRIME LOG

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 9:30 a.m. Money was stolen from a cash box in Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital.

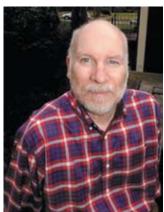
Wednesday, Jan. 6, 6:51 p.m. A child assaulted a parent during an argument in a parking lot.

Thursday, Jan. 7, 4 a.m. A person had watery eyes and slurred speech and refused to leave the Acklen Post Office.

Friday, Jan. 8, 12:35 a.m. A person sped, and the vehicle had an odor of alcohol. The person could not follow standardized field sobriety testing instructions.

Friday, Jan. 8, 9:45 p.m. Two people threatened a patient's mother at the Vanderbilt University Hospital.

PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT



John English Department of

Communication Studies 22 years at Vanderbilt

1. What classes do you teach?

In general, I teach Public Speaking, Persuasion, Organizational and Managerial Communication and a class on the visionary rhetoric of Winston Churchill.

2. Where did you go to school and what did you study? I went to California State University, Northridge in L.A. I was a communication studies major and political science minor. I got my M.A. there, and I took some classes at University of Washington in Seattle towards my Ph.D.

3. What was your first job?

I had a really successful band when I was younger. I toured. I was a recording artist. I was a musician growing up. I play harmonica, guitar and piano. I was a serious songwriter and worked in the music business for a long time before I became a professor. I came to Nashville originally to be an executive at a music company in new production. I worked in L.A. at a recording studio called Record One. It was the best recording facility in L.A.; we did everybody who was anybody. It was a great experience, and it was how I broke into doing production. It was a lot of fun.

4. If you were not a professor, what would you do?

If I weren't a professor now, I'd be a communication consultant. I have a very successful consulting practice. I go all over the U.S. training senior executives in corporations. I do executive coaching in sales training, persuasion and argument training and speech. When I'm not teaching, I'm usually on the road, training people how to speak. I do some political work. It's an extension of my teaching, but it takes it to the real world.

5. What do you like to do in your free time?

I like trout fishing and horse racing. I used to have thoroughbred horses when I was younger. I'd like to train horses.

6. What is your favorite spot in Nashville?

In Nashville, my favorite place is the Caney Fork River, which is outside of Nashville. It's a world-class trout stream. I'm a serious outdoors person. I like music spots too because I have a lot of friends in the music business. I like the Bluebird Cafe. I've played there. As a songwriter, it's a good place to go play because you never know who you'll run into there.

7. What is one thing students would be surprised to find out about?

I think the thing that I always get the biggest reaction from is when students discover that I was a serious musician when I was younger. A couple of my students last semester Googled me and pulled up all this stuff from the 1960s when I was playing. I think most students look at you and only see you in light of in the classroom, so they have no idea of who you are and what you might've done in the past. I grew up in England. I've had a lot of fun with the fact that I have dual citizenship. I just got an award from the International Churchill Society for having the best academic program on Winston Churchill in the U.S. I'm sort of talking to and negotiating with one of the universities in London because I'd really like to go teach for a summer in London.

8. What was your favorite vacation destination?

I have two of them. My wife's favorite place to go on vacation is Lake Tahoe. We go every Christmastime. I love the mountains and snow. My other place to go is the French Riviera. I love Nice in France. I don't speak French, but I had a great time. I love Paris and the French Riviera. I really like Ireland. I love Ireland. The people are the most friendly people I think I've ever met.

9. If you didn't live in Nashville, where would you want to live?

I would either live in Oregon or Washington state in the U.S. If I didn't live in this country, I'd live in Ireland.

10. What did you do over winter break?

I went to Lake Tahoe. That's my wife's favorite place to go.

CALENDAR

THE WEEK AHEAD

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13

First day of classes

First day of undergraduate classes for the spring 2010 semester.

Auditions for VUT's presentation of "The Seagull"

Cast auditions, as well as crew sign-ups, will be held for Vanderbilt University Theatre's upcoming production of "The Seagull" by Anton Chekhov from 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. More information is available at VUT's Web site, www.vanderbilt.edu/theatre.

THURSDAY, JAN. 14

Lecture: "Advanced Computing for a Clean Energy Future"

Thomas Zacharia, deputy laboratory director for science and technology at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, will deliver the School of Engineering's Hall Lecture at 4 p.m. in the Jacobs Believed in Me Auditorium in Featheringill Hall. A reception will follow the talk.

"The Tao of Cellocycling" exhibit opening

An opening reception will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Ingram Studio Art Center Gallery Space 204 for "The Tao of Cellocycling." The musical installation, created by Vanderbilt alumnus Noah Walcutt, will present a multimedia exploration of the Buddhist concept known as The Tao.

Women's Basketball

Women's basketball plays Georgia at 7 p.m.

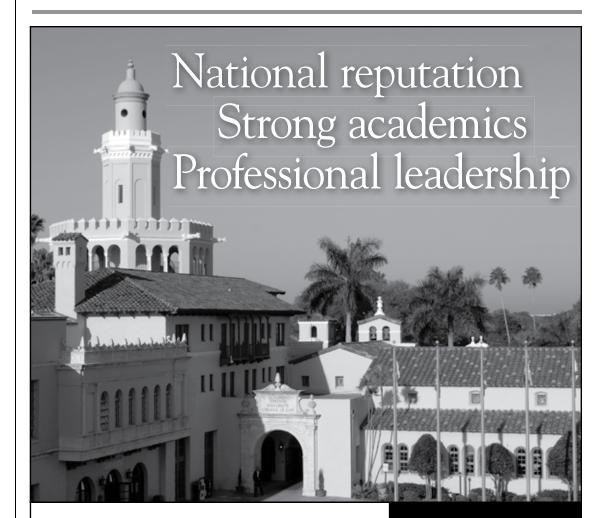
SNAPSHOT

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MARGARET FENTON / VSC Media Services

Houston junior Tiwa Soyebo takes in the total cost of her books for the semester at register nine, run by Wendy Vickers on Tuesday afternoon.



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— Sarah Hanafin, 2L



Tampa Bay, Florida

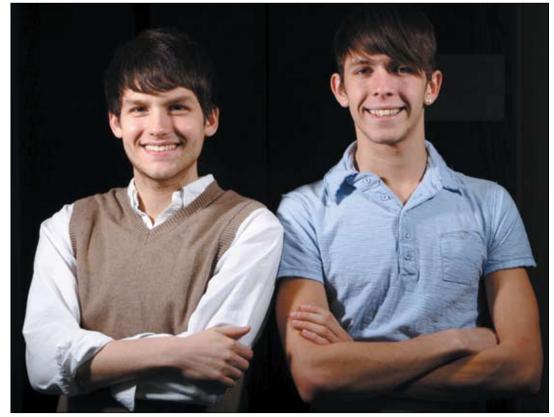
DELTA LAMBDA **PHI**: Group to offer new Greek option

From DELTA LAMBDA PHI, page 1

"Most of the time, either it is public knowledge and the member is ostracized, or it's kind of an unspoken secret and they are not allowed to be the person they want to be," Montalvo said. "We want to offer people the ability to create that sense of fraternity and friendship without having a you that you're forced to

Peebles, currently a student Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, said he saw many changes in the LGBTQI environment during his time as an undergrad.

"The LGBT environment at Vanderbilt is a very interesting one at this point as support has exponentially increased in recent years yet is entirely



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Junior Spencer Montalvo and sophomore Bryann DaSilva, along with sophomore Jason Elmer (not pictured) have been working since fall semester to start a chapter of Delta Lambda Phi, a gay-friendly fraternity, at Vanderbilt.

ensconced in an overall environment that remains precarious and far from accepting," Peebles wrote in an e-mail.

"As such, it is obvious that those students who identify as LGBT would wish to carve a niche for themselves in which they can experience their undergraduate years

in a completely supportive environment surrounded by those they can truly call

But Nora Spencer, Director of the Office of LGBTQI Life, felt that the organization would not turn into the only Greek option for gay men.

"There will still be LGBTQI students in many other Greek

organizations. Students who become involved with Delta Lambda Phi will likely be drawn to the organizations' core values and national history, just as they would be to any other organization."

"All we really think this will do is add a new dimension to Greek life on campus," Elmer

DNA DATABANK: Researchers aim for personalized health care

From **DNA DATABANK**, page 1

"BioVU will help guide us to an era of 'personalized medicine,' where rather than assuming everyone is the same, we will be able to measure and make important decisions based on how they are uniquely different from one another."

By using DNA to find "exactly the right medicine for you," as Dr. Masys puts it, amazing strides could be taken in making healthcare more efficient and cost effective.

"(T)here is still much to know about this amazing organism called a human being, but we can look forward to a future where health care becomes more effective and more tailored to each individual." ■



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Masys' research will help to create specialized health care based on a patient's unique genetics.

RECRUITMENT: 270 men to participate in first IFC formal recruitment process

From **SORORITIES**, page 1

While potential new members for Panhellenic sororities have been participating in rounds since Monday, the estimated 270 men interested in joining Interfraternity Council fraternities will attend their first tonight.

A more formal recruitment process than in the past, the men will be invited to a maximum of six houses for the first round Wednesday and then a maximum

of three Friday night before Bid Night on Saturday. After each round, the men will rank their preferred houses and the chapters will do the same for lists of who to invite back.

"It is a mutual selection process," Torrey said. "Potential new members will go to places that they want to visit and chapters will have potential new members visit who they want to see again."

Even though the process is more

formal this year, it is still an evolving one, Torrey said, especially in determining the balance between more informal events in the fall and the formal rounds in the

"We tried to do some things to promote opportunities for potential new members to meet the fraternities in multiple settings to decide where else they might want to visit and get to know people," she said. "So we'll see (how it turns out)." ■



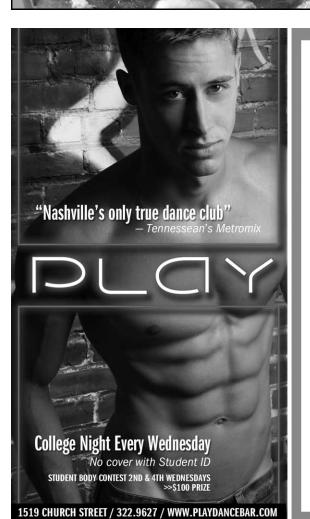
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Alternative Winter Break creates community through service

by LAURA DOLBOW

Asst News Editor

While most were at home relaxing with friends and family, 54 Vanderbilt students spent the last week of their winter break participating in service trips with Alternative Winter Break. The organization, which was founded in 2006, had its largest participation ever this year.

"I think one thing that contributed to the success of AWB this year was that it didn't run over New Year's," said cochair Anthony Landsberg, explaining that recruitment and class schedules often required the trips to overlap with the holiday. "Also, AWB doesn't take up the whole break. Students can go home, see family and do service as well."

Landsberg said he got involved with AWB after participating in Alternative Spring Break for two years. "I thought AWB would be a great way to do service. Normally I'd just stay at home and be unproductive," he said.

"I got involved my freshman year because it was something that was raved about in orientations, and I loved it," said co-chair Yvonne Carter. "I was so attracted to the aspect of being able to go to another part of the country and learn about another community then bring it back to my community. I didn't really get that opportunity in high school."

The organization has grown over the past four years and the co-chairs said they hope it will grow more in future years.

"I think people genuinely love doing service at Vanderbilt and want to take advantage of as many opportunities as they can," Landsberg said. ■

AWB SITES IN '09

New Orleans, La.

The group worked with nonprofit organization Phoenix of New Orleans to do hurricane relief work with the city's reconstruction. They gutted a house that was damaged during Hurricane Katrina in preparation for the house to be rebuilt.

Brownsville, Texas

The group worked with convicted youth to build homes that the youth would then live in as an effort to provide affordable housing. They also worked with an organization called La Esperanza, which is a home for boys, many of whom were illegal, couldn't speak English and whose parents did not live in the U.S.

Huntsville, Ala.

The group helped with various community development efforts to help break the cycle of poverty. Students worked to rebuild the community by renovating houses, tutoring children, weeding gardens and working at food banks.

Atlanta, Ga.

Students worked with Project Open Hand to learn about and assist in providing comprehensive nutrition care and medical nutrition therapy to patients with chronic diseases. They delivered meals and helped in kitchens.

Pittsboro, N.C.

Students helped the Carnivore Preservation Trust take care of threatened wildlife. They also worked to maintain and improve sanctuary facilities.

Engineers Without Borders install water pump in Peru

by JUSTIN TARDIFF
News Editor

Four Vanderbilt members of Engineers Without Borders, an organization that works to improve the quality of life around the world through engineering products, traveled to Peru over break to survey villages and install a water pump.

The five participants arrived in the isolated city of Iquitos, Peru, and after assessments of four nearby villages, chose to construct a new pump in Llanchama — the community with the poorest quality water. After conducting meetings with the village members, they conducted a full implementation, installing a generator that allowed the pump to bring water up from the well and into a tank where the villagers could get water. Villagers assisted in building a hut for the generator and digging trenches for the pump's wiring.

"Our goal is to continue to go to this area to create new projects," said junior Jessica Canfora, one of the EWB participants. ■





otos provided by JESSICA CANFORA

Members of EWB stand next to their project. With the assistance of villagers, the group worked to survey and set up a new water pump in the village of Llanchama, Peru.







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Spring semester brings returning annual traditions to campus

Dance Marathon to support craniofacial center at children's hospital



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore Lisa Branding served as Moraler for last year's Dance Marathon, which raised more than \$146,000 to benefit the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

by ERIN PRAH

VSC Media Services

Organizers of this year's Dance Marathon are focusing their support for the Children's Hospital on its Craniofacial Treatment Center, which helps children with congenital and acquired deformities of the skull, face and jaws.

The 14-hour event, now in its eighth year here, will take place in the Student Recreation Center overnight on Feb. 19, beginning at 7

The student organizers decided this year that, in order to build a closer relationship with the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital, they would identify a specific center within the hospital that is of greatest need.

Through the past seven dance marathons, more than \$500,000 has been raised for the general funding of the hospital, said Kristin tell how many students get

Torrey, director of Greek Life. Students fundraise in a variety of ways, including online donor drives, letter-writing campaigns, signing sponsors and soliciting donations during the marathon. Torrey said despite the troubled economy, the leadership is still optimistic, hoping they will be able to have their most successful Dance Marathon yet.

Torrey said it's hard to

involved because so many of them participate as dancers, "moralers," volunteers and committee members. She said at least 1,000 people would come through the doors of the Rec Center during the

Anyone interested in getting involved can sign up online at vudm.org, and all participants will need to register in the Greek Life Office in 339 Sarratt Student Center. ■

MLK series: Civil rights activists to speak about education, justice



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Attendees honored Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy at a candlelight vigil as part of last year's commemorative series.

by ERIN PRAH

VSC Media Services

Two civil rights champions will discuss "restorative justice through education" at the keynote address for Vanderbilt's commemorative series honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Monday at 6 p.m. in Benton Chapel. Bob Moses and Rita Bender, both civil rights workers in Mississippi in the '60s, will deliver the address, titled "The Deliberate Denial of Education."

Moses, an instrumental organizer for the civil rights movement, developed the Algebra Project, which uses mathematics as an organizing tool to ensure quality public school education. Bender is the widow of civil rights activist Michael Schwerner, who was one of three Congress of Racial Equality field workers killed in Philadelphia, Miss., by an alleged Ku Klux Klan leader in 1964, after he and two other workers tried to open a school

in that town. She is currently a professor of restorative justice at the University of Mississippi and works to provide representation to the poor and underrepresented in criminal and civil proceedings.

A candlelight vigil will follow the keynote address "in memory of MLK and in honor of the many activists who still fight for the ideals and values he represented," according to the series' Web site.

Other series participants include Pulitzer Prize-winning author Douglas Blackmon, veterans of the Nashville lunch counter sit-ins, and Kerry Kennedy, the daughter of Robert F. Kennedy. Vanderbilt's MLK lecture series started in 1985 with a mission of educating Vanderbilt and the Nashville community about King's "historic achievements and his enduring influence."

For more information visit, www.vanderbilt.edu/mlk. ■



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Plan ahead for spring concerts, big games, lectures and other important events. We've gathered information on upcoming events from a variety of sources to provide you with a helpful resource for the semester.

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JANUARY

JAN. 13

■ IFC fraternity recruitment round 1: This is a process of mutual selection for potential members and fraternity chapters. This formal process is new for the 2009-2010 academic year and additional details will be communicated via the Web, email and the Facebook group.

8 p.m. Men's basketball v. Alabama, Memorial Gym

JAN. 14

5:30-11 p.m. Panhellenic sorority recruitment, entertainment round: Third round of the formal recruitment process for sororities. Recruitment for sororities at Vanderbilt is a mutual selection process.

7 p.m. Women's basketball v. Georgia, Memorial Gym

JAN. 15

■ IFC fraternity recruitment round 2

JAN. 16

■ IFC Bid Day: Candidates for fraternity membership receive invitations to join various fraternities after the formal recruitment

4 p.m. Music on Film presents "Two Hands" in Turner Recital Hall, Blair School of Music

5-10 p.m. Panhellenic sorority recruitment, preference round

5 p.m. Men's basketball at South Carolina

9 a.m. Men's tennis v. Belmont

JAN. 17 Panhellenic sorority Bid Day

5 p.m. Women's basketball at Tennessee

JAN. 18

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

■ 6 p.m. MLK keynote speaker: "The Deliberate Denial of Education" and candlelight vigil

JAN. 19

■ 3:30 p.m. Vanderbilt Law School, Flynn Auditorium, MLK Lecture Series: "A Persistent Past: Reckoning with Race and History in the Age of Obama" with Pulitzer Prize winning author Douglas Blackmon

Deadline to sign up for Outdoor Rec's spring break trip "Gulf Coast Canoe-Camping Adventures'

JAN. 20

Greek Training Camp convocation for all new members

■ 12 p.m. Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center, Auditorium, MLK Lecture Series: "Veterans of the Nashville Sit-ins — The Struggle Continues"

Zeta Night of Soul

JAN. 21

4 p.m. Chancellor's Lecture Series: Geoffrey Canada, president and CEO of Harlem Children's Zone, Benton Chapel/Divinity 8 p.m. Blair Nightcap Series presents The

Charmed Circle of Brahms 8 p.m. Women's basketball at Auburn

JAN. 22

Men's tennis at North Carolina State, all day 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Casino Night, SLC

Omega Psi Phi party

Jan. 22-24 WilSkills Backpacking I trip Jan. 22-24 Greek LEAD retreat

Deadline to sign up for Outdoor Rec's spring break trip "Climbing & Camping at Red Rock Canyon, NV"

JAN. 23

All day: Men's tennis at Michigan 12:30 Men's basketball v. Auburn

1 p.m. Women's swimming: South Carolina/ **UNC-Wilmington**

■ 10 p.m. Pat McGee at 3rd & Lindsley

2 p.m. Women's basketball v. Mississippi State 12 p.m. Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical and Essay Contest Winners' Reading & Luncheon

4 p.m. Blair Faulty Recital — Christian Teal, violin, with Jennifer McGuire, piano, Turner Recital Hall

Alternative Spring Break Orientation Jan. 24-30 Black Student Alliance week: Look

for fliers and announcements

JAN. 25

■ 8 p.m. Blair Faculty Recital — Jaren Hauser, oboe; Laura Hauser, bassoon; with Melissa Rose, piano; Turner Recital Hall

JAN. 26

Delta Sigma Theta community service

6 p.m. Men's basketball at Tennessee

JAN. 28

7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S. Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Randall Kenan, fiction, Buttrick Hall 101

7 p.m. Women's basketball v. Alabama

■ 7 p.m. Benton Chapel, "Speak Truth to Power" panel, moderated by Kerry Kennedy, daughter of Robert Kennedy

7:30 p.m. "Guido's Ear," featuring Aaron Brown, Turner Hall, Blair School of Music

8 p.m. Sundance Film Festival screening at the **Belcourt Theater**

JAN. 29

All day: Women's swimming at Marshall 8 p.m. Blair Signature Series — Blair Voices

presents "Mozart Unplugged," Ingram Hall Jan. 29-31 WilSkills Backpacking II trip

Jan. 29-31 All day: Women's bowling, Kutztown, Pa., Invitational Jan. 29-31 All day: Men's tennis ITA National

Indoor Championships Jan. 29-April 25 "Heroes: Mortals and Myths in Ancient Greece," Frist Center for the Visual

JAN. 30

Greek Training Camp service day for all new members

12 p.m. Women's swimming at Kentucky/ Cincinnati

3 p.m. Men's basketball at Kentucky

JAN. 31

2 p.m. Women's basketball at Arkansas 4 p.m. Blair Faculty Recital, "An Afternoon with

J.S. Bach at the Keyboard," Turner Recital Hall

8 p.m. Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall, Blair Global Music Series — Candace Kerr Johnson, soprano; Margaret Kapasi, pianist

FEBRUARY

FEB. 1

Black History Month All day: Fall Transfer Candidates - Financial

Aid Calendar: Priority deadline to submit FAFSA and CSS PROFILE application

All day: Last day undergraduates may apply to be screened for fall student teaching 7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S.

Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Richard Katrovas, poetry, Buttrick Hall 102

■ 7 p.m. Poetry reading by Richard Katrovas Feb. 1-5 Yearbook portraits in Sarratt 112, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. It's free to sit for your portrait, and it only takes three minutes. Sitting for your yearbook portrait is the only way to

Commodore Yearbook. More information available at www.vanderbiltcommodore.com. Feb. 1-6 Alpha Phi Alpha mini week Feb. 1-27 Eye Candy at the Rymer Gallery

be included with your classmates in the

FEB. 2

Groundhog Day

7 p.m. Men's basketball v. Mississippi State

8 p.m. Vanderbilt Concert Winds presents Musical Inventions, Ingram Hall

Kappa Alpha Psi service

6 p.m. Women's basketball at Florida

All day Dining event: "Golden Ticket Ball" at The Commons

2 p.m. Men's tennis v. Northwestern Feb. 5-7 WilSkills Backpacking III trip

6-9 p.m. First Saturday Downtown Art Crawl 7 p.m. Men's basketball at Georgia

8 p.m. The Fleisher Duo, Ingram Hall All day: Women's swimming at Tulane

Alpha Phi Alpha Open community service Feb. 6-7 Women's bowling: McKendree Baker Challenge

FEB. 7

12 p.m. Men's tennis v. Purdue

7 p.m. Rhythm and Roots presents "Through

the Walls," tickets \$6

8 p.m. The Vanderbilt Orchestra presents a very special evening with Maestro Leon Fleisher conducting

NFL Super Bowl XLIV

Feb. 7-13 Alpha Kappa Alpha ARR week

4 p.m. Rhythm and Roots presents "Through the Walls," tickets \$6

8 p.m. Blair Nightcap Series presents "Music for Soprano, Horn and Piano," Turner Recital

8 p.m. Women's basketball v. Tennessee

FEB. 9

6 p.m. Men's basketball v. Tennessee

8 p.m. Blair Faculty Recital, "The Music of John Marivin," performed by Roger Weismeyer, oboe

8 p.m. John Mayer with Special Guest Michael

Franti & Spearhead at Sommet Center

Alpha Kappa Alpha Akapollo

в p.m. Tortoise w/ Disappears at Exit/In 8 p.m. Combined Choral Concert, featuring Vanderbilt Symphonic Choir, Blair Chamber Choir and Collegium Vocale, Ingram Hall

9 p.m.-1 a.m. Class of 2013 Masquerade Ball

Feb. 12-14 WilSkills Climbing I trip

FEB. 13 12:30 p.m. Men's basketball v. LSU

Valentine's Day

All day: Men's tennis at Louisville

5 p.m. Women's basketball v. Kentucky Feb. 14-20 Omega Psi Phi ARR week

FEB. 15

Presidents' Day

8 p.m. Blair Faculty Recital, "The Atlantic Ensemble": Wei Tsun Chang, violin, Seanad Chang, viola, and Kirsten Cassel, cello

Feb. 15-28 Undergraduates apply for 2009-2010 housing assignment process

FEB. 16

Mardi Gras

8 p.m. The Nashville Jazz Orchestra celebrates Fat Tuesday, Ingram Hall

FEB. 17

7 p.m. Blair Student Composers Forum, Turner Feb. 17-20 All day: Women's swimming, SEC

Championships

FEB. 18

6 p.m. Men's basketball at Ole Miss 7 p.m. Women's basketball at LSU 8 p.m. Ben Bolt, guitar, Turner Recital Hall Feb. 19-21 WilSkills Climbing II trip

Feb. 19-May 16 "Masterpieces of European Painting," Frist Center for the Visual Arts

Feb. 19-May 16 "New Urban Species," Frist Center for the Visual Arts

📕 4 p.m. Baseball v. Niagara

8 p.m. The Blair Commissions: Music for the 21st Century, world premiere of "Gates of Silence" by Susan Botti, Ingram Hall

Feb 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27 VU Theatre presents "The Seagull," by Anton Chekhov Feb. 19-20 Dance Marathon

FEB. 20

FEB. 19

VU Women's Basketball Hoosier Classic

2 p.m. Baseball v. Niagara

5 p.m. Men's basketball v. Kentucky

1 p.m. Women's basketball at Ole Miss

1 p.m. Baseball v. Niagara

2 p.m. Vanderbilt Community Chorus, Ingram Feb. 21-23 Men's golf: Mobile Bay

Intercollegiate Feb. 21-27 Phi Beta Sigma ARR week

8 p.m. West Point Wind Quintet, Turner Recital

FEB. 24 6 p.m. Women's basketball v. Florida

6 p.m. Men's basketball v. Georgia

7:30 p.m. Grupo Cultural Afro Reggae, Langford Auditorium

7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S. Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Rebecca Seiferle, poetry, Buttrick Hall 101

7 p.m. & 10 p.m. Second City, Sarratt Cinema

8 p.m. Baseball at UCLA 8 p.m. Blair Signature Series — BMI Composer

in Residence Concert, Ingram Hall Feb. 26-27 Women's Swimming, Last Chance

Feb 26-28 WilSkills Climbing III trip

1 p.m. Men's tennis vs. Furman

12:30 p.m. Men's basketball at Arkansas 8 p.m. "A Journey of Love," Julie Simson, mezzo-soprano, with Melissa Rose, piano,

Turner Recital Hall

8:30 p.m. Baseball at USC Feb. 27-28 Women's bowling Holiday Classic

12 p.m. Women's basketball v. South Carolina

Men's Tennis at Middle Tennessee State

MARCH

MARCH 1 7 p.m. Blair Signature Series — "A Chopin

12 p.m. Baseball v. Oklahoma State

Celebration," Ingram Hall March 1-2 Women's golf: Kinderlou Forest

Challenge March 1-7 Alpha Phi Alpha week

MARCH 2

4 p.m. Baseball vs. Tennessee Tech 6 p.m. Men's basketball at Florida

8 p.m. Blair Nightcap Series — "If My Complaints Could Passions Move: An Evening with John Dowland," Turner Recital Hall

MARCH 5

MARCH 4

2 p.m. Men's tennis vs. Mississippi

March 4-7 Women's basketball —

Southeastern Conference Tournament

4 p.m. Baseball vs. Kent State



MARCH 6

- 9 a.m. Undergraduate residence halls close for spring break
- 📕 1 p.m. Men's basketball vs. South Carolina
- 4 p.m. Baseball vs. Illinois State March 6-14 Spring Break
- March 6-14 Outdoor Rec Canoe-camping adventures, Gulf Coast, Fla. and Ala.
- March 6-14 Outdoor Rec Surfing, Hiking and WW Rafting, Costa Rica
- March 6-27 "Retrospective: 20 Years of Work" by Joyce Melander-Dayton, The Rymer Gallery

MARCH 7

- Oscar Night America at the Belcourt Theater
- 1 p.m. Men's tennis vs. Mississippi State 4 p.m. Baseball vs. Indiana

March 8-9 Men's golf: Samford Intercollegiate

8 p.m. Cymbals Eat Guitars w/ Bear In Heaven at The End

- MARCH 10 4 p.m. Baseball vs. UT-Martin
- MARCH 11
- 4 p.m. 208 Light Hall, Discovery Lecture Series: Kathy Giacomini, Member of IOM, Professor of Biopharmaceutical Sciences, cellular and molecular pharmaceutical chemistry at UC San Francisco
- March 11-14 SEC Men's Basketball Tournament

MARCH 12

- 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. Baseball vs. Ohio
- 7:30 p.m. Black Eyed Peas at Sommet Center
- Men's tennis at Tennessee March 12-14 Men's golf: Seminole
- Intercollegiate
- March 12-14 Women's golf: LSU Golf Classic March 12-14 Women's bowling: Music City Classic

MARCH 14

- Daylight Saving Time
- Men's tennis at Georgia
- 9 a.m. undergraduate residence halls reopen after spring break
- 2 p.m. Baseball vs. Ohio

MARCH 15

- 7:30 p.m. Muse at Sommet Center 8 p.m. Blair Signature Series — The Blair
- Woodwind Quintet, Ingram Hall

MARCH 16

7 p.m. Baseball vs. Western Kentucky

MARCH 17

- St. Patrick's Day
- March 17-21 Mosaic Weekend
- March 17- April 15 Random selections for housing assignments next year
- 4 p.m. Baseball at Western Kentucky

MARCH 18

- 4:30 p.m. Chancellor's Lecture Series: Amy-Jill (A.J.) Levin, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies, 103 7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S.
- Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Bich Minh Mguyen, memoir, Buttrick Hall 101
- Phi Beta Sigma community service

MARCH 19

- 7:35 p.m. Baseball at Alabama
- 8 p.m. Nashville Blues Festival at Nashville Municipal Auditorium
- 8 p.m. Blair Signature Series Piano Faculty Concert, Ingram Hall
- 10 p.m. The Venue presents Black Violin, Sarratt Cinema
- March 19-21 WilSkills Climbing IV trip
- March 19-21 Men's golf: Schenkel E-Z Go Invitational

MARCH 20

- National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show
- 5:05 p.m. Baseball at Alabama
- March 20-23 Women's basketball NCAA First & Second Rounds

MARCH 21

- 1 p.m. Men's tennis vs. Alabama
- 3:05 p.m. Baseball at Alabama 5 p.m. Blair Faculty Recital, Jessica Blackwell,
- violin, Turner Recital Hall
- March 21-27 Zeta Phi Beta ARR week

MARCH 23

- VU Baseball v. Lipscomb
- March 23-25 IMPACT Symposium speaker series (projected dates), see http:// studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/vpb/impact.htmlfor 2010 updates

MARCH 24

- Dining event "SS Rand" at Rand Dining Hall
- 7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S. Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Jean Valentine, poetry, Buttrick Hall 101
- 7 p.m. Baseball v. Wright State
- 8 p.m. Andrew Jennings, violin, Turner Recital Hall

MARCH 25

7:30 p.m. Great Performances presents Nrityagram Dance Ensemble, Ingram Hall

MARCH 26

- 7 p.m. Baseball v. Kentucky
- 8 p.m. Vanderbilt Orchestra and Wind Symphony, Ingram Hall
- March 26-28 WilSkills Paddling I trip
- March 26-28 IFC Fraternity formals March 26-28 Women's golf: Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational

MARCH 27

- 3 p.m. Baseball v. Kentucky
- 7:30 p.m. Eric Clapton at Sommet Center
- 8 p.m. Blair Signature Series The Blair Student Showcase, Ingram Hall
- March 27-30 Women's basketball NCAA Regional Championship

MARCH 28

- 2 p.m. Baseball v. Kentucky
- March 28-April 3 KAP ARR week

- MARCH 30
- Passover 6 p.m. Baseball vs. Wofford
- 8 p.m. Special Concert benefiting Shade Tree Family Clinic, featuring musicians from the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and the Vanderbilt Orchestra

MARCH 31

6 p.m. Baseball vs. Wofford

APRIL

APRIL 1

- Vanderbilt Dance Concert
- 7 p.m. Blair Harp Ensemble, Turner Recital Hall
- KAP community service

APRIL 2

- 3 p.m. Men's Tennis vs. Florida
- 5:30 p.m. Baseball at Florida
- April 2-4 WilSkills Paddling II trip April 2-4 IFC Fraternity formals
- April 2-4 Women's golf: Bryan National Collegiate

APRIL 3

3 p.m. Baseball at Florida

APRIL 4

- Easter 1 p.m. Baseball at Florida
- 2 p.m. Men's tennis vs. South Carolina
- 7 p.m. Vanderbilt Steel Drums Ensemble, Ingram Hall

April 4-5 Men's golf: Reunion Intercollegiate April 4-6 Women's basketball NCAA Women's Final Four

APRIL 5

- 7 p.m. Sankofa Vanderbilt's African drumming and dance ensemble, Ingram Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Vampire Weekend at Ryman Auditorium

APRIL 6

7 p.m. Baseball vs. Belmont

APRIL 7

- 7:30 p.m. Great Performances presents Trey McIntyre Project, Ingram Hall
- 8 p.m. Blair Student Composer Forum, Turner Recital Hall
- April 7-10 Women's bowling: NCAA Championship

APRIL 8-12

Greek Week

APRIL 9

- 7 p.m. Baseball v. South Carolina
- 8 p.m. Blair Signature Series The Appalachian Celebration
- Men's tennis at Arkansas
- April 9-11 WilSkills Paddling III trip
- April 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 VU Theatre presents "In a Dark, Dark House" by Neil LaBute

APRIL 10

- 7 p.m.-12 a.m. TheVenue presents Mid Spring
- Nights Dream, Memorial Gymnasium 8 p.m. Vanderbilt Concert Choir, Ingram Hall
- 3 p.m. Baseball v. South Carolina

APRIL 11

Men's tennis at LSU

APRIL 12

- 7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S. Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Suji Kim, poetry, and Jill McCorkle, fiction, Wilson
- 8 p.m. Blair Percussion Vortex, Ingram Hall

Chancellor Heard Greek Awards, SLC

APRIL 13

7 p.m. Baseball vs. Middle Tennessee State

8 p.m. Vanderbilt Orchestra, Ingram Hall

Tax Day 8 p.m. The Blair Big Band, Ingram Hall

APRIL 15

- **APRIL 16**
- 7 p.m. Baseball v. Auburn
- 8 p.m. Blair Symphonic and Concert Choirs,
- Ingram Hall
- April 16-18 IFC Fraternity formals April 16-18 Men's golf: SEC Championships
- April 16-18 Women's golf: SEC Championships April 16-18 WilSkills Paddling IV trip

APRIL 17

- 3 p.m. Baseball v. Auburn
- 4 p.m. Pancakes at the Pantry, Pancake Pantry Men's tennis at Kentucky

APRIL 18 2 p.m. Baseball v. Auburn

APRIL 20

- 7 p.m. Blair Brass Ensembles Concert, Benton Chapel
- 7 p.m. Baseball at Lipscomb
- 7 p.m. Gertrude Vanderbilt and Harold S. Vanderbilt Visiting Writers Series presents Ciaron Carson with Alice Quinn, director of Poetry Society of America, Wilson 126

APRIL 21 7 p.m. Baseball at Middle Tennessee State

7:30 p.m. Bon Jovi at Sommet Center

APRIL 22

- Earth Day
- Dining event "Carnival at The Commons" April 22-25 Men's tennis SEC Championships
- April 22-24 Rites of Spring on Alumni Lawn, check http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ros/ for artists

- APRIL 23 4-6 p.m. Art: 2010 Senior Show Exhibition Opening Reception, Space 204 gallery in the E. Bronson Ingram Studio Art Center
- 7 p.m. Baseball at Tennessee
- 8 p.m. David Sedaris at Ryman Auditorium April 23-May 14 Art: 2010 Senior Show Exhibition, Space 204 gallery in the E. Bronson Ingram Studio Art Center

APRIL 24

Country Music Marathon & 1/2 Marathon 4 p.m. Baseball at Tennessee April 24-25 37th Annual Music City Tennis

APRIL 25 2 p.m. Baseball at Tennessee

Invitational

- **APRIL 27**
- Last day of classes 7 p.m. Baseball at Austin Peay
- 📕 8 Dorfman/Wait Piano Duo, Turner Recital Hall Taste of AKA

Reading day

APRIL 29-MAY 6

APRIL 28

- Exams
- **APRIL 30** 7 p.m. Baseball v. Georgia 8 p.m. Nashville Jazz Orchestra, Turner Recital
- Don't forget to reserve your copy of the 2010 Commodore yearbook if you or your family have not yet ordered your yearbook. The deadline to order is May 15. Visit www.

vanderbiltcommodore.com for details.

MAY

MAY 1

Dining event: Unlimited Entry Brunch at Rand 3 p.m. VU Baseball v. Georgia

MAY 2 📕 2 p.m. VU Baseball v. Georgia

MAY 5 Cinco de Mayo

MAY 6

May 6-8 Women's golf: NCAA Regionals

8 p.m. Baseball at LSU May 7-9 Men's Tennis NCAA Regionals

MAY 7

MAY 8

8 p.m. Baseball at LSU

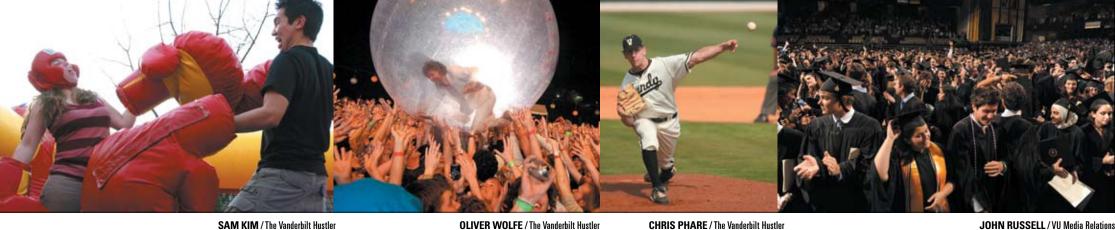
MAY 9 2 p.m. Baseball at LSU

MAY 11 7 p.m. Baseball v. Louisville

10 p.m. The Party! Party for all graduating students, families and VU Community. Visit the commencement Web site: http://www. vanderbilt.edu/commencement, look for 2010 updates or call (615) 343-4470, e-mail: commencement@vanderbilt.edu

MAY 14

Commencement



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COLUMN

Northern Ireland and The Commons



MIKE WARREN Columnist

It's great to be back, America. For those of you who don't know (which is pretty much all of you I think my parents even forgot), I was studying abroad in Ireland last semester. For those of you who don't know, Ireland is a small island nation in the North Atlantic, right next to Great Britain and the European continent and all that. The island itself is divided between

the Republic, 26 counties traditionally of Catholic stock, and Northern Ireland, the six counties of Ulster that remain a constituent country in the United Kingdom. For those of you who still don't know what I'm talking about, you're in the wrong place. The crossword's on the back page.

I spent most of my time in the Republic, particularly in the best part of the country: the west. From my college town, Galway, I was never more than a couple hours away from the majestic Cliffs of Moher, the rolling green hills and mountains of Connemara and the rustic Aran Islands. Sites of God's beauty abounded, untouched but just the slightest by modern man, all available for my exploration practically whenever I wanted.

One of my favorite trips was to the aforementioned North, to Belfast and County Antrim. What was remarkable about my trip was that I was even going at all. Up until about 12 years ago, Northern Ireland was nothing less than a war zone for Catholic Irish nationalists and Protestant unionists. See, the most radical nationalists believed it was really, really important that those six counties, which had never wanted to be independent from the U.K., join up with the government in Dublin, so they started blowing up things and buildings and people. The unionists were fine with the way things were and so they responded in kind with their own guns and bombs. This little guerrilla war was given the adorable little moniker "the Troubles" because I suppose "Bloody Pissing Match" sounded too harsh. At any rate, the Troubles ended in 1998, and now things are normal.

There are lots of benefits to living in the North now, it seems. Britain's government is decidedly

less horrible than Ireland's, so the financial situation isn't quite so bad. The economy's always been better and more industrialized in the North, so the standard of living is probably a lot better. There are even some absolutely gorgeous views that echo the most beautiful parts of the Republic. But there's just something about being in Northern Ireland that just doesn't feel Irish. It's different and British, and I'm starting to see why so many in the South were distraught over unification.

In fact, the North is a lot like The Commons. Life is a lot nicer over there for the freshmen, with their brand-new dorms and fancy (LEED-certified!) dining hall. The 10 faculty heads of house, living right there amongst the little tykes, remind me of the British government, which places cameras at every street corner to make sure no meaningless traffic violation goes unpunished. Upperclassmen despise The Commons for providing nice accommodations to freshmen while we have the Kisslammer to look forward to. But you'll never get a freshman who'd give up that nice big old room in the name of campus unity. And I can't blame him.

But what's most striking is that there's something about The Commons that seems un-Vanderbilt. Sure, they modeled the buildings to look like those on main campus, and people wear Vandy sweatshirts over there. But main campus has Benson Hall and Alumni Lawn and super old oak trees and Greek Row and Branscomb. There's Vanderbilt history and culture and memories all implanted there. It's where we work hard and play hard. Where do students go to party on a Friday night? Unless things have changed for the irreversible worse in a semester, I can tell you it isn't Hank Ingram Hall.

Here's to hoping the freshmen were able to integrate into Vanderbilt last semester despite The Commons. I'm ready to have fun this semester if you

It's great to be back, Vanderbilt.

-Mike Warren is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at michael.r.warren@ vanderbilt.edu.

COLUMN

Law, order and America



COSTANTINO Columnist

from studying and enjoying abroad, brutality would totally not fly today. we're on the brink of landmark health care reform, and terrorists want to ruin Christmas by blowing themselves up in planes, nuts first. There's lot of important and topical stuff to talk about, but the only thing on my mind is "Law and Order" as an indispensable guide to our country.

I'm a proud American (totally earnest about that), so I was eager to reintroduce myself to the land of freedom and plenty after living la dolce vita for a few months, and who better to usher me into the myth of our great land than Sam Waterston and Jerry Orbach? The show originally airs on NBC (free) and reruns are eternally available on TNT, TBS, Bravo and about 35 other channels (plenty), and each character fulfills some strange quality of Americans that I find totally endearing.

Half the time, Sam Waterston's rumple-faced Assistant District Attorney Jack McCoy — but now full DA because he got promoted while I was abroad! — is a detached ideologue and civil rights crusader, and the other half of the time, he is a ruthless revenge-seeker. Through this inexplicably bipolar character, I reacquainted myself with the finicky American body politic. The late Jerry Orbach was wisecracking Detective Lennie Briscoe, who may have had some of the most wonderfully corny one-liners during each opening scene. In an unscientific experiment during my travels abroad this semester, I learned that laughing at the line, "I guess he should have quit while he was ahead," at a decapitation scene indicates a uniquely American sense of morbid punny-ness. The really old "L&O"s reminded me that Chris Noth, of the archetypically brooding American eyes and broad American shoulders, is

It's a new decade, I just got back dead sexy ... and that his weird pre-Rodney King

Now, I've seen a lot of "Law and Order" episodes and spin-offs in my day, but I still can't figure out what on earth is executive producer Dick Wolfe's deal with women. Mariska Hargitay's detective on "SVU" is probably the biggest badass on TV today, but she's just about the only woman to remain on cast for more than about four seasons. Sour middle-aged women can land long stints as medical examiners, but they're really just there to provide the show's few strands of evidence-based legitimacy. Why the rotating cast of absurdly beautiful and abruptly departing ADAs to work with Sam Waterston? My only guesses are that either Waterston is an intolerable jerk, or a female lawyer once wronged Mr. Wolfe, and he's working out that psychological wound on national and syndicated television. On behalf of all females, I'm sorry. Now please stop being so weird about

After I'd watched enough "L&O" marathons to start seeing secluded locations in the real world as potentially great places to stash a body or being surprised when a tiff between spouses in the grocery store parking lot doesn't devolve into a murder, it was time to come back to school. Now that I'm in the midst of my sorority's recruitment process, I'm fighting the urge to apply Vincent D'Onofrio's crazy interrogation tactics in "Criminal Intent" during a round. This weird compulsion aside, I'm back in prime American form — cracking wise, seeking revenge, being a badass and toiling for truth and justice — all thanks to those constant reruns.

-Claire Costantino is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at claire.v.costantino@vanderbilt.edu.

THE VERDICT Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff! Compiled by Thomas Shattuck People across the United States are Reality getting the blues because of the movie "Avatar." Apparently, the realization that they will never live on the planet Pandora has led many to depression and, in a few cases, suicidal thoughts. Despite PETA's best efforts and an anemic economic outlook worldwide, fur sales are on the rise this year. This is in part due to greater demand in Southeast Asia and the fact it's been a frigid winter season. Intelligence Not everyone learned from Siegfried and Roy's many misfortunes. A man in Ontario died last week when his pet tiger attacked him during feeding. Just because it's a cat doesn't mean it's not a killing machine. **Being Rich** Switzerland proves once again to be a terrible place for obscenely wealthy drivers. This week a motorist was fined \$290,00 for driving at over 100 kilometers an hour through a village, but he's rich enough not to care, so it's all good. **Family** A Sicilian man asked to be arrested so he didn't have to spend New Year's Eve with his wife and kids. When the police refused his humble request, the man went next door and used a box cutter to hold up a convenience store. Don't get me wrong, I love TV, but it will Television kill you. Researchers found that each hour a day spent watching TV was linked to an 18 percent greater risk of dying from

COLUMN

New semester, new opinion editor



THOMAS SHATTUCK **Opinion Editor**

is upon us, and while reminiscing the many hangovers of the past few weeks, I can say in all honesty I'm not entirely ready to be back. It's not a metaphysical or mystical issue, I just like to sleep excessively, and I normally prefer not to work. Being back is an unpleasant reminder that there is, in fact, work to be done.

The year has changed, and another semester

cardiovascular disease and an 11 percent

greater risk of all causes of death.

Of course, short of dropping out of school, there isn't really much of an option. To commemorate the passing of anther winter solstice I want to welcome

everyone back to campus and congratulate you on making this far. The economy has been pretty miserable, and it really has started to get cold, so actually rising above the 21st century malaise to come back to campus is even harder than usual. I suppose that's why they say no pain, no gain.

That being said, there is hope for the future — electric vehicles are being released en masse for the first time since the early 20th century, nuclear has returned to the U.S., and corporate revenue is up.

There are, however, some problems. Unfortunately, the average individual has little motivation to go all electric. The cars have limited range, are extremely heavy and sport expensive price tags. Nuclear power is still as controversial as ever, and the security problems still exist, though they're getting better. And while revenue (and profits) are up for many companies, jobs remain unavailable for a large chunk of America, and the economic force required to replace many of the lost positions doesn't seem to be coming any time soon.

So remember while things might be a bit bleak now and probably will be for a while, don't fear the future — it can't get that much worse. Well, technically it can get a hell of a lot worse, but it's unlikely. It's time to brace yourself for another semester, another frigid winter and another bout of existential despair. It's that time of year. Good luck.

—Thomas Shattuck is a junior in the School of Engineering. He can be reached at thomas.w.shattuck@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@insidevandy.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

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

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Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2. Bring corrections to the Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at hustler. news@insidevandy.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at (615) 322-2424.

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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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Sports

Top 10 Commodore storylines of the spring

by DAVID RUTZ Sports Specialist

Can Commodores lacrosse get out of the first round?

consecutive NCAA Tournaments, but that's as far as the Commodores have gotten each time. Vanderbilt lost five players to graduation in 2009, but the good news is that the

nucleus of the scoring attack returns, with Sarah Downing leading the way. Another tournament bid looks likely, but the Commodores have their eyes on a deep run rather than just a short visit in 2010.



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Is this the year for Commodore baseball to shake off its NCAA struggles?

At this point, qualifying for the NCAA field is expected under coach Tim Corbin. A youthful team last year barely made it after a strong run in the Southeastern Conference tournament, and

they came one win short of finally advancing to a Super Regional.

That's the primary goal for Vanderbilt. As usual, they will have to navigate a tough SEC slate to get there. However, with sluggers like Aaron Westlake, Curt Casali and Andrew Giobbi, and young pitching phenom Sonny Gray, will this season be that Vanderbilt finally shakes off its postseason struggles?



Is the women's tennis team as good as advertised?

The Commodores look like



ABDULLAH RADZAI / The Vanderbilt Hustler

a force again. Not surprisingly, the team — led by Jackie Wu, Catherine Newman and Chelsea

Preeg — is ranked 22nd in the nation. They seek their 12th trip to the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 in the past 13 seasons.

Anything other than a deep tournament run in May and June will be a disappointment under Geoff Macdonald.



Will Vanderbilt bowling reign supreme?

question has been the each Can the Commodores recapture that magic and win another national title? Vanderbilt's No. 1 ranking is self-explanatory: John Williamson has the most talented team in the country, but in each of its last two trips to the national finals, they have faltered.

Will A.J.

National Player of the Year Josie Earnest, the team will try to maintain its consistent play from the first half of the season on into the spring.



CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

play?

Oglivy step up

in conference

A.J. Ogilvy has the ability to take over games. And as he goes, the Commodores tend to, as well. Vanderbilt's rousing victory over Florida was in large part due to Ogilvy's ability to assert himself in the post.

He has shown flashes of this kind of dominance over and over, but there have also been times where he has disappeared. John Jenkins.

But when he takes over in the paint, everything opens up for the team's outside shooting threats like Jermaine Beal and

Will the swim program take the next step?

Bringing a program back from the dead is not easy. Just ask the Vanderbilt swim team.

Since December 2006, surely they have seen

under Jeremy Organ has grown in size and talent, and slowly but

the swim program results in meets. Now, Organ's goal is for the team to capture an SEC



How will football recruiting be impacted?

Unfortunately, ramifications of Vanderbilt's difficult football don't stop at simply losing 10 games. Recruiting has already taken a hit, with the loss of tight end Davis Dudchock to fellow academic powerhouse

Stanford after he backed out of a verbal commitment to the Commodores. Will the Commodores be able to remain competitive in the SEC after their worst season since 2002? That remains to be seen.





CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Can Vanderbilt women's basketball fix what's ailing them?

It's safe to say Marina

Alex has never heard of the

sophomore slump. After a

standout freshman campaign

that culminated in a trip to

nationals and a summer that

included a berth in the U.S.

Women's Open, Alex led the

Commodores in the fall with

three top-3 finishes at major

Christina Wirth and Jennifer Risper to graduation. Senior Merideth Marsh even openly questioned whether this young

Vanderbilt women's basketball team was coachable enough to has won three SEC titles since take things to the next level after 2004, but expectations were a recent rough patch. Now, losers significantly lowered for this of three of their last four games, year's team after the loss of the Commodores must get back to winning ways before they can even think of another run in the SEC Tournament.

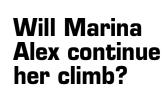


CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Does Ryan Lipman have what it takes to be a dominant No. 1 singles player?

Freshman phenom Ryan Lipman showed his potential during the fall, compiling a 10-3 record against heavy competition. He's the unquestioned No. 1 singles player for the Commodores heading into the rigor of conference

For a team that was achingly close to many victories last season, having a consistent winner at the top position will go a long way to deciding matches. Lipman's headiness and versatility will be essential if Vanderbilt is to get back to the NCAA Tournament.



tournaments.

Vanderbilt coach Greg Allen has commented Alex is as impressive now as Lorena Ochoa, the current No. 1 player in the world, was at her age. Allen coached Ochoa when she played at Arizona, so he knows what he's talking about.





STEVE GREEN / VU Media Relations

Top 5 sports moments of the 2000s by DAVID RUTZ Sports Specialist

1. Women's basketball third SEC championship in six years

This is one achievement that can't be understated. In a powerhouse conference women's basketball, which includes legendary Pat Summitt and the Tennessee Volunteers, Melanie Balcomb and the Commodores have won three Southeastern Conference tournament championships since 2004.

They cut down the nets for the third time in March of 2009 and stamped their 10th straight bid for the NCAA Tournament, playing stand-out defense against powerhouses Georgia, LSU and Auburn. The Tigers went 25-4 last season, and half their losses were thanks to the Commodores. Star seniors Christina Wirth and Jen Risper keyed Vanderbilt on both sides of the ball.

A second straight Sweet 16 run, and one that came just short of an Elite 8 berth, has asserted Vanderbilt as one of the nation's top programs. Balcomb's ingenious offensive schemes and hardnosed defense have put her Vanderbilt teams in consistent position for success.



2. No. 1 knock-offs (UF and UT)

It doesn't snow often in Nashville. But for whatever reason, the weather cooperated with the White Outs at Memorial Gym in February 2007 and 2008 when No. 1 teams came to town.

The red-hot Florida Gators saw their 17-game winning streak snapped before an electric crowd at Memorial Gym in 2007, while the Vols of 2008 were handed their loss by a hungry Vanderbilt team smarting from a 20-point defeat they'd been handed a month earlier in Knoxville.



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

3. Women's bowling national title, April 14, 2007

For over a century of competition in athletics, Vanderbilt come close to being the best. The Commodores had won conference titles, even finished second in the nation. But they'd never held the treasured title of national champions in any of their sports.

The 2007 Vanderbilt women's bowling team changed that under first-year forever coach John Williamson. Led by freshman phenom Josie Earnest, the Commodores surged past the eight-team field and broke away from Maryland Eastern Shore in the final game of the best-of-seven series for the title.

After squandering a 2-0 lead against UMES to allow a 3-3 tie, Vanderbilt's players seized the moment under the most pressing of circumstances. Two clutch strikes by Earnest in the anchor position in the 10th frame sealed the deal, and the trophy was theirs.

Vanderbilt was finally the



JOHN RUSSELL / VU Media Relations

4. Music City **Bowl Win**

Commodore football capped its best season in decades with its first bowl win in exactly 53 years, defeating No. 24 Boston College 16-14 in the Music City Bowl on Dec. 31, 2008. Bryant Hahnfeldt, a Nashville native, kicked a game-winning 45-yard field goal in the fourth quarter, and Myron Lewis's late-game pick secured the groundbreaking win.



JOHN RUSSELL / VU Media Relations

Sprint

5. Women's tennis 11 straight Sweet 16s (May 10, 2008)

For sheer consistent excellence, no team has done it better at Vanderbilt than the women's tennis team. Under coach Geoff Macdonald, the longest-tenured coach at the university, the Commodores reached their 11th consecutive

round of 16 in the NCAA Tournament in May 2008 with wins over Indiana State and

During MacDonald's tenure, the Commodores have finished ranked in the top 10 five times over the last eight years.



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

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Men travel to Tide

by DAVID NAMM Sports Editor

Tonight, the Vanderbilt men head to Tuscaloosa - home of NCAA football champion Alabama — to face the Crimson Tide in their Southeatern Conference road opener.

Coming off a weekend in which Vanderbilt (12-3, 1-0) was able to chomp the Florida Gators 95-87 in their SEC opener, the team hopes to keep up their momentum as conference play continues at Alabama, where the Crimson Tide (11-4, 1-0) is riding high after a dominant 66-49 win over LSU. Such a test is an embraced challenge for the Commodores, who put together a six-game winning streak over winter break that included their marquee victory over rival UF.

"It raises the confidence level of everyone," coach Kevin Stallings said after the Florida win. "When your marquee guys start to play big, it gets everyone going. Our big guys were getting loose, and I think (we) were playing with confidence offensively."

One of those marquee guys stepping up is junior center A.J. Ogilvy, who put together one of his finest performances as a Commodore against the Gators. Ogilvy led the team with 24 points and chipped in with eight rebounds, a good sign for the 6-foot-10-inch big man who had previously been hampered this season by injuries and consequent inconsistency.

"I went out there with a more aggressive mentality," Ogilvy said. "My foot is feeling great, and I think we're a lot more successful, and they were able to get me the ball and putting it inside worked

Establishing themselves in the paint has been a major key to



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt's John Jenkins carries the ball past DePaul's Will Walker during a men's basketball game Dec. 5, 2009. Vanderbilt won 67-54.

Vanderbilt's recent hot stretch, with Ogilvy and company giving sharpshooting guard John Jenkins more room to work on the perimeter. The freshman, who has averaged 15 points per game during the current winning streak, has made the most of his recent chances.

The impact of his rapid development is not lost on his teammates.

"I'm not surprised with John anymore," said senior guard Jermaine Beal. "He's proven himself to this team and to our fans."

In order for the Commodores to continue to prove themselves in the SEC, however, they first will have to deal with Alabama's ferocious one-two scoring punch. Sophomore forward JaMychal Green and senior guard Mikhail Torrance combine to average just over 30 points per contest, with Green dominating on the block and Torrance lighting it up from outside. Vanderbilt is all too familiar with this dynamic duo; after all, Torrance poured in 20 points for the Crimson Tide in Alabama's victory over the Commodores in last season's SEC tournament.

"Right now we're a team that is trying to figure ourselves out," said first-year Alabama head coach Anthony Grant in an interview with Rolltide.com at the start of SEC play. "I think with every game we learn a little bit more about what it takes to be successful."

Tipoff for the game is scheduled for 8 p.m. CDT tonight, with the radio broadcast on 104.5 The Zone in Nashville. ■

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Commodores aim to Town for road opener rebound against UGA

by DAVID NAMM Sports Editor

With rival and eighth-ranked Georgia (16-0, 3-0) looming as their next opponent on the conference slate, the Vanderbilt women's basketball team (12-4, 1-2) is looking to find rhythm and consistency, especially at the offensive end of the floor. In their three Southeastern Conference games to date, the Commodores have turned the ball over 57 times, including 26 costly miscues in their 63-53 loss to Kentucky on Sunday.

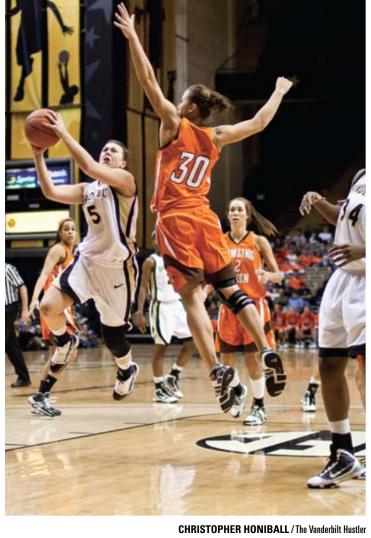
"We had 16 turnovers at half, and with 16 turnovers to have a lead is not usually where you are at that point," said coach Melanie Balcomb on the 26-25 halftime advantage Vanderbilt built over the Wildcats. "Then they made a run and picked it up again and picked up their intensity.

"We weren't able to pick it

The loss came in spite of a 10-point advantage the Commodores had put together over the team ranked 11th in the SEC to start the season. According to players, it was a direct result of shifting into cruise control far too early.

"When you get up on a team, you feel like you have to hold it," said junior guard Jence Rhoads. "We were feeling good (and) then, all of a sudden, they went on a run, and we weren't able to stop it."

If Vanderbilt is going to stop the high-octane Bulldog attack, they will have to shut down a very balanced team on both ends of the floor. Six Georgia players average at least seven points per game (led by Ashley Hout's 12.9 points per game), while four of



Lauren Lueders (5) takes a lavup past Tara Breske (30). Despite rallying back from an initial 18-point defiicit, Vanderbilt women's basketball lost 66-60 to Bowling Green.

their players average more than five rebounds a game (led by Angel Robinson's 8.5 boards per contest).

Additionally, Commodores will certainly have to take much better care of the ball, as the Bulldogs sport a plus-86 turnover margin on the season; they force about six more turnovers a game than they commit themselves. This will very possibly be the key hurdle for a young Vanderbilt squad to overcome throughout the season, especially as they enter the crux of SEC play.

"We just have to get tougher and be more aggressive," Balcomb said. "I have three freshmen on the floor a great deal and right now it's 'Welcome to the Southeastern Conference.' I still think they're in a shock in the locker room that we played (three) games, and this is the level of physical play.

"They're going to have to wake



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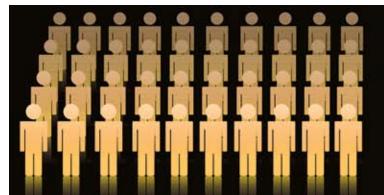
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