

The Vanderbilt Hustler

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2010 • 122ND YEAR, NO. 17 • THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

www.INSIDEVANDY.COM



Women's basketball looks to extend recent tourney success.

See page 8

One and done

VANDY GAMEDAY: 4 VANDERBILT 65 13 MURRAY STATE 66



DON JEDLOVEC / VU Media Relations

In his final game as a Commodore, Jermaine Beal (0) made two free throws with 12.7 seconds in the game to give Vanderbilt a 65-64 lead before they came up short at the buzzer.

by DAVID NAMM
Sports Editor

As Murray State senior Danero Thomas sank the biggest shot of his life — a game-winner at the buzzer in the NCAA Tournament — he dually sank a Commodore squad that had

been treading water for quite some time.

Thomas's heroics led the Racers (31-4, 17-1 Ohio Valley Conference) to arguably their biggest win in school history, as they prevailed over favored, fourth-seeded Vanderbilt (24-9, 12-4 Southeastern Conference) with a final

Please see **TOURNAMENT**, page 8

Vanderbilt loses senior Dorothy Legros in car accident



by KATHERINE MILLER
InsidVandy Editor

Dorothy Legros, a senior in the College of Arts and Science, died during spring break while visiting her sister near Atlanta.

Legros, 22, died March 8 from injuries suffered in an accident in Hampton, Ga. Of Haitian descent, she was from Miami, Fla.

Legros was a public policy studies major and a member of the Mock Trial Organization, Jeremiah Generation, Life Project, African Student Union and Election Alliance. She had been accepted by a number of graduate schools, and planned to attend law school in the fall.

Legros died at the scene. A passenger in her vehicle was treated at a local hospital, as was the driver of the pickup truck.

Funeral events will take place this weekend in North Miami, with a viewing at 6 p.m. on March 19 at Lithgow-Bennet-Philbrick Funeral Home (15001 W. Dixie Highway). The funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on March 20 at Alabanza Evangelical Baptist Church (11500 NW 12th Avenue) and entombment at 12:30 p.m. on March 20 in Southern Memorial Park (15000 W. Dixie Highway).

A tribute table for Legros is inside the main entrance of Benton Chapel. Students and community members can write thoughts, memories and reflections about Legros, along with condolences to her family. The messages will be delivered to the family during a campus memorial service being planned for next week. ■

Monday's edition of *The Hustler* will feature an in-depth tribute to Dorothy Legros. *The Hustler* will provide memorial details as soon as they are available.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

• **Grad Fair**
From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the annual Grad Fair in Sarratt Promenade will provide opportunities for seniors to prepare for everything that comes next. Free cupcakes, opportunities to talk with Career Center representatives, Young Alumni Trustee voting and yearbook portraits will all be available.

Class of 2010

• FLiX Screenings

Today at 4:40 p.m. at the Belcourt Theatre in Hillsboro Village, professor of political science Bruce Oppenheimer will introduce a showing of the 2009 film "The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers," an Oscar nominee for best documentary. Admission for students and faculty is free, but online registration is required.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

• NPHC Step Show

The annual NPHC Step Show will be held at 7 p.m. in Langford Auditorium and will feature appearances by the Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta and Sigma Gamma Rho fraternities and sororities. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 at the box office in Sarratt.



• Watoto Children's Choir

The Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda will perform at the Commons Center dining hall at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free. The singers and dancers of Watoto, a choir made up of parentless children, travel internationally to raise money to help orphaned children in Uganda and to promote AIDS awareness.

IN THIS ISSUE

OPINION:

Claire Costantino explains why the end of spring break is really a good thing.
See page 6

OPINION:

ASB gives a different and unexpected perspective.
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WEATHER

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TODAY



HIGH 70, LOW 45
Sunny

7,174 students' personal information stored on professor's stolen computer

Vanderbilt purchases \$1 million identity theft insurance plan for those affected in security breach.

by HANNAH TWILLMAN
Editor-in-Chief

A Vanderbilt professor's computer containing the names and social security numbers of 7,174 current and former students was stolen from a locked campus office sometime during the weekend of Feb. 6, according to Vanderbilt public affairs officials Beth Fortune and Liz Latt.

Letters were sent on March 10 and 11 to the individuals whose personal information was on the personal computer, alerting them to the situation and that they were being offered, free of charge, 12 months of identity protection, credit monitoring, credit alerts and a \$1 million theft insurance policy by Debix Identity Protection Network, per a contract made by the university.

Associate Director for Vanderbilt News Service Melanie Moran said in an e-mail that it took a little more than one month

to alert the students affected because university officials wanted to be as accurate as possible in trying to determine the information contained on the computer.

"Every file had to be reviewed by a trained computer forensic technician to determine exactly who was affected," she wrote.

“Every file had to be reviewed by a trained computer forensic technician to determine exactly who was affected.”

—Melanie Moran
Associate Director for Vanderbilt News Service

At the time the letters were sent, university officials believed only students who had been at Vanderbilt between 1999 and 2003 were affected. Since the letters were sent out, however, they determined that the personal information of 1,347 current students was also on the computer.

Moran said the initial thought that only students from 1999-2003 were affected was in light of conversations with the professor and the initial work by the certified computer forensic technician.

"Because we wanted to communicate as quickly as possible, that was what we knew at the time," she wrote. "Soon after that we learned that students after 2003 were affected, and we updated our communication methods and information."

Vanderbilt Student Government President-Elect Lori Murphy said she was pleased with the university's purchase of the \$1 million identity protection plan but was concerned about the length of time between the theft and when letters were sent to students.

"I am concerned about the length of time that passed before this breach came to light. I plan to meet with additional university officials to determine what measures we are taking to protect against these types of threats in the future," Murphy wrote in a statement. "Moving forward our team will continue to advocate student security and safety as our paramount

concern in all of our conversations with the administration."

According to Public Affairs, the desktop belonged to a professor who kept a database of his grade book, including social security numbers for some students who took at least one class or served as a graduate assistant. Provost Richard McCarty sent a letter on March 16 to all academic deans advising them to purge information like this from their files and to not collect it in the future.

The use of social security numbers in the registration process has begun to be phased out in recent years. Once YES, the replacement for OASIS, is fully implemented in fall 2010, social security numbers will not be part of the new system, according to Fortune and Latt.

Individuals who are affected can visit the identity protection Web site Vanderbilt has created and call Development and Alumni Relations at 1-800-288-0037. Those who are affected have until June 15 to sign up for the Debix services. ■

Erin Prah contributed reporting to this article.

insideVANDY

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Page Two

CRIME LOG

compiled by JUSTIN TARDIFF

March 14, 2010 at 3:30 a.m.

A person in Stambaugh Hall reached out and grabbed the breast of a woman walking by him.

March 15, 2010, between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Money was stolen from a wallet inside the Student Recreation Center at 2700 Children's Way.

March 15, 2010, between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Clothing was stolen from a laundry room inside Lupton Hall.

March 16, 2010, between midnight at 6 p.m.

Graffiti was reported on the wall of an elevator in the Terrace Place Garage at 2016 Terrace Place.

Around the Loop

compiled by ADRIANA SALINAS

HOW ARE YOU REACTING TO THE BASKETBALL TEAM'S FIRST-ROUND LOSS?



"It was a huge disappointment, but I'll get over it. Now I have to focus on Kansas University."

—**Laura Salvatore, Class of 2013**



"In great despair. When I saw the last shot before the buzzer, I felt like a dagger stabbed my heart."

—**Justin Arunthamakun, Class of 2011**



"I'm involved in March Madness, and my entire family has a competition every year with a \$500 pot. I'm pretty mad because I lost money, but we'll come back!"

—**Amy Lentz, Class of 2012**



"I'm just status updating like every minute about it. I'm really disappointed, it was an awesome game with bad calls."

—**Heather Stone, first-year grad student**



"I didn't know Vandy lost. I don't really follow sports."

—**Wolf Clifton, Class of 2013**



"I'm quite upset; however, I'll continue watching the games because I'm in a bracket. I'll follow other SEC teams now."

—**David Cannon, Class of 2010**

SERVICE GUIDE

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The Vanderbilt Hustler allocates one issue of the newspaper to each student, available at various points on campus for free. Additional copies are \$.50 each.

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The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance. See our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

Who is: BARBARA MCCLURE



TEACHES: Classes that integrate psychology, theology and culture in the Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion. Some examples are "Selves in Social Context," "Theories of Human Development," "Pastoral Theology" and "Personal and Organizational Transformation."

ATTENDED: Houghton College (B.A. in pre-med and philosophy), Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div.), Emory University (Ph.D. in Person, Community and Religious Practices)

IF YOU WEREN'T A PROFESSOR, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Expand what I get to do occasionally into full time work: be a counselor, life coach and leader-and-organizational development consultant.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

Waiting tables on the graveyard shift (10 p.m.-6:30 a.m.) at a diner. I put myself through college waiting tables.

IF YOU DIDN'T LIVE IN NASHVILLE, WHERE WOULD YOU WANT TO LIVE?

Somewhere in the Pacific Northwest. Or maybe a farm in northern Kenya.

(Prof. McClure will host a workshop titled "Understanding Leadership: Bringing Out the Best in Ourselves and Others," tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Divinity School Reading Room. Admission is free for students.)

compiled by CONRAD GOERINGER

SNAPSHOT

Founder's Day



CHRISTOPHER HONIBALL / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore Austin Caroe takes a piece of cake at the celebration for Vanderbilt's Founder's Day Wednesday afternoon, the 137th anniversary of the day Cornelius Vanderbilt gave \$500,000 to Bishop Holland McTyeire.



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PM	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	
	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w
	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w			6:15 w
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Students to elect newest, youngest board member

by LAUREN KOENIG
Staff Reporter

Students from the Classes of 2009-2011 have the opportunity to select one of three graduating members of the Class of 2010 to serve as the Young Alumni Trustee on the Vanderbilt Board of Trust. This year's nominees are Miron Klimkowski, Lauren Ross and Wyatt Smith.

The YAT's recent on-campus experience sets them apart from the veteran members of the board.

"These Young Alumni Trustees have the unique opportunity to be at the center of the university's governance and to provide perspectives relating to young alumni and current students," said Christina Barnes, the student alumni coordinator.

Klimkowski described the position as an important link between students and the Board of Trust.

"In a lot of ways, I see the position as a liaison," said Klimkowski. "This liaison bridges the gap between the perspectives of the board and the perspectives of students and recent alums. I would be able to represent the voices of current students and recent alumni, thereby enhancing the board's understanding of their interests."

Online voting began on March 15 and will end Friday at midnight. As of Thursday, 635 votes had been cast, which is typical of voter turnout in past years, Barnes said.

"In voting for the YAT, it's important to choose someone

who can be a poised, passionate voice for current VU students and young alumni, and who has well-rounded campus involvement," Barnes said.

The nominees each have the necessary qualifications to be selected, but they have different goals they would like to accomplish as a member of the board.

Smith, for instance, outlined the need to "represent student interests on board decisions to set tuition, approve capital-intensive spending projects and outline targets for university enrollment."

"I would work diligently to ensure that Vanderbilt continues to offer students the best balance of academics, service and social life in the country," he said.

YOUNG ALUMNI TRUSTEE CANDIDATES



Miron Klimkowski



Lauren Ross



Wyatt Smith

To vote, go to <https://studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/elections>. Polls close Friday at midnight.

Ross said she would focus on improving "international opportunities for students, the resources devoted to providing undergraduate research opportunities, interaction with alumni and connectivity with graduate schools."

All agree, however, that they are grateful to have been recommended for a unique position that ultimately has the interests of students at heart.

"It is one of the biggest honors I have received

at Vanderbilt, especially because it came through the nomination of my peers and the selection of my peers and Vanderbilt faculty members," Ross said.

The results of the election will be announced on March 22. ■

More groups step up for annual NPHC show

by ALLIE MORRIS
Asst News Editor

Tomorrow's annual National Pan-Hellenic Council step show will see dramatic changes, with record participation by member fraternities and sororities. This year, seven of the eight NPHC organizations at Vanderbilt will take part in the event, with the winning team securing bragging rights and acknowledgment across the campus and city.

Last year, only one NPHC sorority and three fraternities participated in the show, which Alpha Phi Alpha won with a Batman and Joker-inspired plot line.

"(Step groups) started dropping out last year," said NPHC President Emani Davis. "(This year) we began encouraging participation early on in the year."

Three of the four NPHC

fraternities and all four NPHC sororities will perform, in addition to appearances by VIBE and the Chosen step team. Each organization will get 13 minutes to perform and, according to Davis, hours of practice are essential for quality performances.

"There are usually two-a-days in the weeks before the step show ... with practice at night and at 5 a.m. in the morning," she said.

The first History of Step workshop, which took place Tuesday night, featured a documentary on the history of stepping and presentations from a variety of NPHC organizations on each of their respective histories and a showing of their traditional step.

"This year we decided to do an education event that would focus on educating both Panhellenic and Interfraternity

Council members, in addition to non-Greeks who love watching the step show and who want to learn more about it," Davis said.

Stepping received national attention last month at the national Sprite Step Off. The controversy began when an all-white team from the University of Arkansas won the competition. After five days of public outcry, Sprite announced a "scoring discrepancy" and offered a second first prize to the Alpha Kappa Alpha steppers from Indiana University. ■

NPHC STEP SHOW 2010

WHERE: Langford Auditorium

WHEN: Saturday, March 18, 7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m.

Tickets cost \$15, available at the Sarratt Box Office



ERIC GLASSER / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Christian Nunez, Nate Marshall and Chris Marve, brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., presented their fraternity's traditional step at Tuesday's History of Step workshop. Members from the organizations participating in Saturday's NPHC step show demonstrated their routines to help show-goers see the tradition in a new light.

VANDERBILT TOUR GUIDE APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Access the application at:
<http://studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/ambassadors/>

Paper applications are available in the lobby of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the historic Old Gym

**Applications due
Wednesday March 31st by 3 pm
in the lobby of the Old Gym**

Questions?
Email Mary-Madison Eagle at mary.m.eagle@vanderbilt.edu or
Paige Harmony at paige.d.harmony@vanderbilt.edu



Office of Housing Assignments

Important Information

**New on-line
4/2 Person apartment ballot,
March 23-25**

Submit your **on-line ballot** for 4/2 person apartment on **March 23-25**, at www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd.

**Deadline to submit on-line ballot is
Thursday, March 25, at 6:00 PM.**

Things to know about your on-line ballot

- 1. Must have a designated contact person for each ballot.**
- 2. Must have VUNetID's and birthdates for each person on ballot.**
- 3. All correspondence for the this process will be through your Vanderbilt e-mail account.**

**Deadline to submit on-line ballot is
Thursday, March 25 at 6:00 PM.**

2010 Grad Fair

TODAY, March 19, 10am-2pm
In Sarratt Promenade

Win a chance for a 32" LCD HD flat-screen TV!

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The 2010 Young Alumni Trustee Slate

<p>Miron Klimkowksi Lauren Ross Wyatt Smith</p>
--

Voting will be held online THIS WEEK ONLY!

Voting ends this Friday March 19th at MIDNIGHT!

Check out the facebook event "2010 Young Alumni Trustee Election":
and VOTE through the link: <https://studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/elections>

contact Christina Barnes from the Alumni Association
for more info:
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Opinion

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COLUMN

Here comes the sun



CLAIR COSTANTINO
Columnist

Don't be sad that your brain is fuzzy from watching Bravo show marathons for a week. Don't worry that you may have gotten skin cancer from passing out on the beach. Don't feel ASBummed that you can't spend every waking moment with your new ASBesties now that you've left the touchy-feely warmth of the ASBubble. The post-spring break time is the best at Vanderbilt! Now is the time when you will make your best grades, do your most impressive raging and most likely fall in love, if only for one evening.

Were your midterm exams a rude awakening? I had a few moments where I felt like a dumb kid who had been admitted to Vandy as part of some sick joke, but now I've turned over a new academic leaf. I've got assignments and meetings written down in my planner, my "to do" lists include things like "research Nicaraguan politics" instead of "shower," and I've caught myself up on all my reading — even the extra stuff on the "recommended" list. I'm not bragging, I'm offering myself as an inspiration for you. If a degenerate like me (a girl who once considered eating lunch and putting in my contacts as admirable achievements for a day) can reawaken long-lost study skills, so can you!

Unless you were one of the virtuous few who went on ASB, you probably went to some warm climate

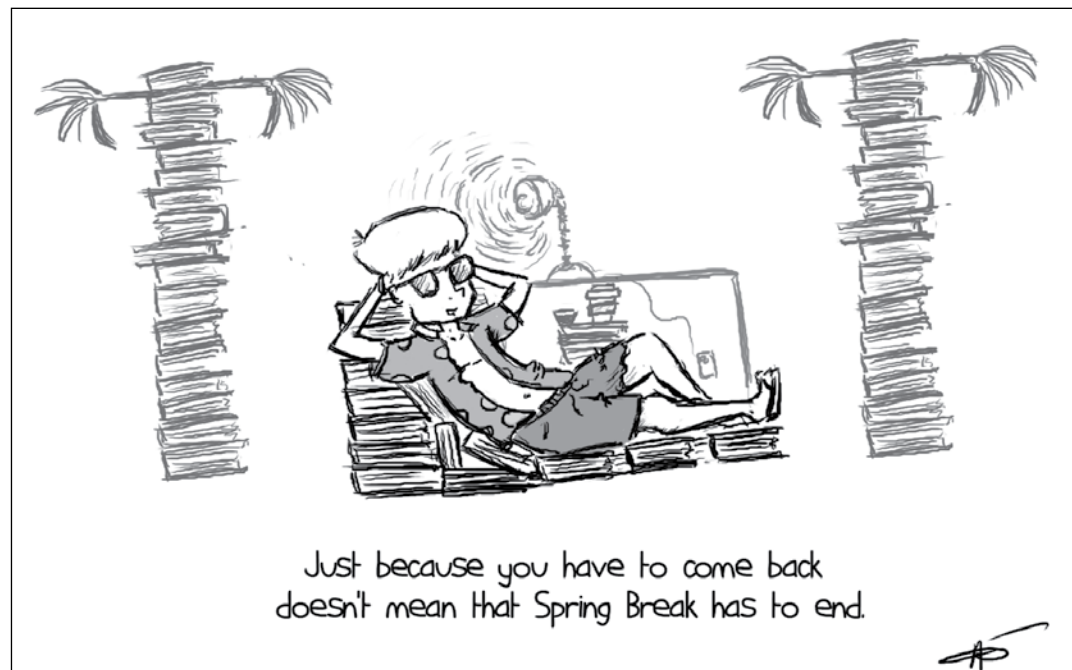
and partied, or went home and got so bored you drank yourself into a stupor. Don't feel bad about this, because you weren't wasting your spring break. You were in training for the March Madness of partying. We've got a lot of major events coming up in the remaining weeks of school: just finished St. Patrick's day, and crawfish boils, frat formals and visits from prospies are still to come. Spring break prepared you for these events, and they will prepare you for Rites of Spring, the ultimate matchup between your liver and alcohol. ASB participants have temporarily fallen behind in their training, but I believe in your abilities to apply the same zeal you once dedicated to service to catching up with the rest of us.

It's a well-known fact that the "getting-laid rate" on campus skyrockets in the spring. The nice weather, the pressure of finding dates for formals and the increase in party occasions cause lots of people to partner up for a while. Or if this sort of manic coupling isn't your style, you'll spend much of the coming weeks watching other people partake.

Life can only get better going forward from today. Campus is festive, love is blooming, and you're working hard at school to salvage or maintain your grades. Put some aloe on your sunburn and wear your sexy jeans because the rest of the year is going to be great.

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

CARTOON



GUY KOPSOMBUT / The Vanderbilt Hustler

COLUMN

To play or not to play



ALLENA BERRY
Columnist

It's March. And, with the exception of St. Patty's Day (I hope you all are recovering nicely, by the way), the one event associated with this month is NCAA Basketball Tournament. This sporting spectacle, much like its pigskin brethren, the Super Bowl, is as much an opportunity for enthusiasts to demonstrate their depth of basketball knowledge as it is a chance for the generally apathetic to get excited about the game.

However, current Secretary of Education Arne Duncan is making a splash about the tournament in a way that has nothing to do with his bracket picks. Duncan shared his desire to have teams with a lower than 40 percent graduation rate for their basketball programs banned from postseason play. According to information from USA Today, that would mean that a dozen or so teams currently in the tournament would be ineligible, including Kentucky, the team that holds a top-seed. This same article gave a list of the schools that failed to make the 40-percent cut, which included (with graduation percentages in parentheses): Arkansas-Pine Bluff (29 percent), Baylor (36 percent), California (20 percent), Clemson (37 percent), Georgia Tech (38 percent), Kentucky (31 percent), Louisville (38 percent), Maryland (8 percent), Missouri (36 percent), New Mexico State (36 percent), Tennessee (30 percent) and Washington (29 percent). The Commodores

fare well in this regard. Although I could not get specific graduation statistics about our team, Vandy's Multiyear APR (Academic Progress Rate) is currently 985 (well above the NCAA Division I average of 951 for male athletes, which projects a graduation rate of 60 percent, according to sports blogger Charles Goldberg).

Although such a ban is not likely, Duncan does raise an interesting point: Why can't the honor of playing in a tournament that garners so much publicity a prestige as the NCAA College Basketball Tournament be awarded to those who have earned the honor on and off the court? Is it too much to expect that America's college sports programs be dedicated to academic, as well as athletic, development? Duncan doesn't think so. As a basketball player himself at Harvard, the current cabinet member has a point about the role of education in the college sports arena.

It has been a debate that has gone back and forth between education enthusiasts and well-meaning athletic directors: What role do academics play as a factor in college-level sports? The fact that a dozen teams in this year's tournament can't manage to graduate at least two out of five players in their program indicates that education is not nearly as important as it should be.

—Allena Berry is a sophomore in Peabody College. She can be reached at allena.g.berry@vanderbilt.edu.

THE RANT



What is on your mind? The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on any issue you want. To submit to The Rant, e-mail opinion@insidevandy.com or go to the opinion page on InsideVandy.com.

Compiled by Thomas Shattuck

The new mural in Rand—why are the vegetables killing each other? Let me eat my lunch in peace.

Dear kid in math class: Why do you have three phones?? Are you really as important as you think you are?

Dear Chi-O with the overly decorated SUV in Terrace Place: Rush ended two months ago.

Vandy, stop criticizing athletes; have you ever played a sport? Go home to your rich mommies and daddies and complain.

I'm sick of people portraying Vanderbilt as this bastion of white male conservatism. Vanderbilt is far more liberal than America as a whole.

It's not anti-intellectualism, it's anti-nerdism: Get your heads out of books and take a class in Peabody, you eggheads.

Why the hell is the Blair librarian always whistling?! I mean, I understand that it is a MUSIC library, but it is also a music LIBRARY ...

COLUMN

In good health



FRANNIE BOYLE
Columnist

"Keep Holy the Sabbath Day" is a commandment that most Vanderbilt students have trouble following. To most, Sunday is a day to start the work we've been avoiding all weekend. Well, members of the House of Representatives will also fail at keeping the Third Commandment this week. Sunday afternoon has been chosen as the time for the health care bill "showdown," and it is sure to create turmoil no matter what the result.

This health care legislation mess has been a big thorn in America's side for quite a while now, but this past week, the Democrat's race to get enough votes for the \$940 billion health care bill has been one of the most disgusting things I have ever seen (I would say the most disgusting if I hadn't read the Versus editorial this week claiming that the Immaculate Conception is "the best excuse ever" to party and "deserves recognition via debauchery.") It looks like Pelosi and Obama's tactics are working. Republicans can't do much now except hold on to the "no" votes and pray.

There are still a few positive sides to the whole situation. For one, no matter if they win or lose the vote on this health care bill, the Democrats are toast in the next election. The "deem and pass" method Pelosi is suggesting, a mechanism that would allow the Democrats to avoid directly voting on the Senate bill by "deeming" it to have been passed after changes

have been made, might cause constitutional controversies, and it will certainly hurt the Dems in the end. Stephanie Sandlin, a Democrat from South Dakota, said this method would be "poison" for the party in such a partisan atmosphere and put the credibility of Congress in danger. Another positive is that the states could still protect America from Congress, though this one might be a stretch. Idaho signed a measure Wednesday that would require their attorney general to sue the federal government if their residents are forced to buy health insurance. Virginia's attorney general has made similar claims, and it is possible that 37 other states will be on board as well.

Perhaps the most positive and inspiring part to the whole health care mess is the firm stance of Michigan's Rep. Bart Stupak. The Democratic representative is a strong supporter of universal health care, and he is fully aware that this bill is what will bring America closer to universal health coverage than it has ever been before. Stupak is pro-life though, and he is the leader of pro-life House Democrats who are planning to vote "no" in opposition of the Senate's abortion funding language. He and his family are experiencing a "living hell" with abusive phone calls, e-mails and even random accusations of ethics violations. Still, he is not letting partisan politics get to him, sticking to his values and what his constituents want.

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

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

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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.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Your voice doesn't stop here. The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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COLUMN

A tragic but real American story

Poverty persists in modern America. One ASB member takes a look at the plight of one community.



JESSE JONES
Columnist

This spring break, 11 other Vandy students and I trekked to Neah Bay, Wash., home of the Makah Indian Reservation at the northwesternmost tip of the continental U.S. On an average day in Neah Bay, you can expect at least three rain storms: one in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, interspersed with periods of sunlight filtering through pale gray clouds. I had expected as much from the climate of northwest Washington; it was the people of Neah Bay who surprised me. Neah Bay natives do not live in teepees or longhouses, nor do they speak their own language; they live in trailers and small homes and speak perfectly good English.

Neah Bay has serious social problems. The poverty rate is 24.7 percent, and unemployment is a staggering 70 percent. Fishing appeared to be the primary economic activity, but it wasn't fishing season when we visited, so the fleet of fishing vessels camped out forlornly in the docks. Those youth who don't go into fishing have few options in Neah Bay; they typically either move out to work at a local casino, become chronically unemployed or attend college, never to return.

To expect our group of 12 college students to solve all of Neah Bay's problems in a week would have been hubris. Nevertheless, we expected work with tribal elders, the local drug dependency program and the pre-kindergarten Head Start program. So we were disappointed when our service turned into a combination of "cultural preservation" inside the Makah Cultural Research Center (photocopying court cases and updating the gift shop's records) and yard work on the grounds of the MCRC and the "Corpus Lot." The MCRC, a museum where we punched in every day, was relatively well-maintained, and located on the main road into town, serving as Neah Bay's "outer face" to the occasional tourist. The Corpus Lot, however, was buried on a back road, belonged to a family of compulsive hoarders and was rife

with rusty refrigerators, broken power-tools, spare tires and even a heap of fishing net in which we discovered a cat, killed by curiosity.

Working at the Corpus Lot provided me with a new view of American poverty. Our country has a lot of wealth. It is possible to be "impoverished" in our country and still have all the basic necessities of life; poverty is not homelessness. Poverty in America should not be viewed solely as a material problem; in some cases, it is the result of mental problems. If the Corpuses' problem was a lack of personal responsibility, then the government money on which they likely subsist, and even the physical labor of college groups like ASB, would only aid and abet this "learned helplessness." Unlike a family in an episode of "Hoarders," the Corpuses received no psychological counseling. Though we are not professional psychologists, we are responsible college students who can serve as role models to the next generation, to inspire the youth to believe that the problems of Neah Bay don't have to be theirs.

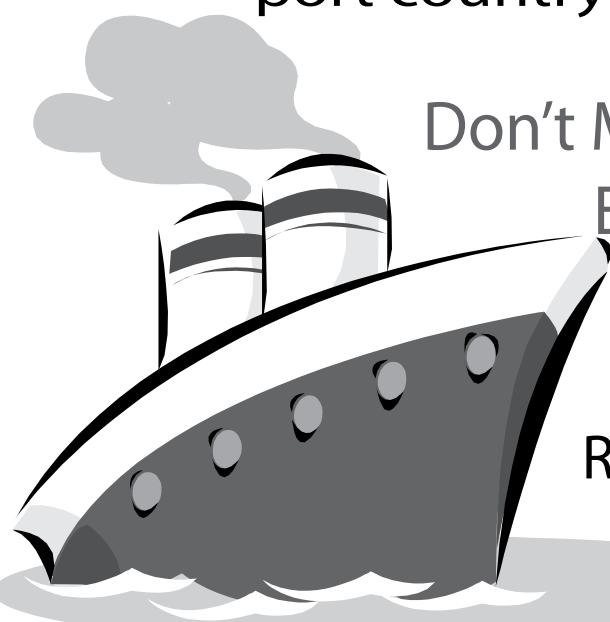
In July, Neah Bay will be hosting Tribal Journeys, a canoe festival celebrating the cultures of Native American tribes on the Pacific Coast, expected to bring 15,000 tourists, so our help with the menial tasks was important. But the people of Neah Bay need much more than a weeklong festival, or 12 pairs of hands for a week; they need to believe in themselves.

Although Neah Bay's problems are significant, I do not mean to disparage its people or finish with the impression that I did not enjoy my stay. Many of the locals were extremely welcoming to us, enriching us with cultural activities like story telling, shell necklace and cedar bark bracelet making, inviting us to a sweat lodge and telling us the way to "Secret Beach." The Olympic Peninsula's natural beauty — cracking cedar trees, windswept beaches, towering cliffs, bald eagles — blessed us on our hikes. Neah Bay's juxtaposition of the beautiful and the ugly, the Native and the American — along with the life maps of my Vanderbilt friends — taught me much about what it means to be an American in the 21st century. It was a week my new friends and I will not soon forget.

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

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Sports

COLUMN

NCAA history repeats itself: Another unlucky 13

by DAVID RUTZ

Senior Sports Reporter

Not again, we all thought. Not another unlucky 13.

But when Danero Thomas' jumper as time expired gave 13th-seeded Murray State a 66-65 victory over the 4th-seeded Vanderbilt Commodores in the blink of an eye, we all got that blank look and slumped our shoulders.

Once again, it was over, and way too early.

For the second straight tournament trip, the Commodores came in with the high seed and lofty RPI against a quicker but smaller opponent. For the second straight trip, they came into the tournament stumbling, having lost two of three. And for the second straight time, they were a trendy upset pick.

And again Vanderbilt lived down to the hype.

The Commodores might not have been clobbered like they were against Siena two years ago, but the result was still the same. Rather than the drawn-out misery of that 83-62 beating, this one came like a punch in the stomach.

What's even worse is how a victory would have made that loss to the Saints a distant memory, a blip on Vanderbilt's radar during its recent run of excellence.

Now it's the precursor to another major March disappointment for Kevin

Stallings and his club.

How that 2008 debacle and the media hype against Vandy wasn't enough motivation to play with energy and emotion for all 40 minutes of the game is beyond me.

Vanderbilt looked lackluster for much of the first half, while Murray State played with fire. The Commodores' bread-and-butter, free-throw shooting, did them in, as they knocked down just 17-29 (a paltry 59 percent) from the line.

Jeff Taylor and A.J. Ogilvy's end-of-season funks continued as well, as the two were saddled with foul trouble throughout the game and played only a combined 41 minutes. Vanderbilt gave up 14 offensive boards and allowed the Racers to take 10 more shots than they did.

That last one was just enough to keep the Racers dancing and send the Commodores back to Nashville.

And despite all that, our boys were still in position to win after John Jenkins' jumper put Vanderbilt up four and capped a rally from as many as eight points down.

The Racers didn't blink, and a furious final four minutes set up Murray State's heroics. Jermaine Beal, who played his final game in a Vanderbilt uniform, hit two clutch free throws with 12.7 seconds left before Thomas' knife through the heart of Commodores everywhere.

And they all wondered: Where did it go wrong?

A team that won 17 of 20 starting in December and was good both away and at Memorial Gym fell apart down the stretch, losing as many games in their last four contests (three) as they had the previous two months.

Does it erase their other accomplishments? A second-place Southeastern Conference finish, sweeps of Florida and Tennessee and a national ranking were outstanding achievements for a team that didn't even make the NIT a year ago.

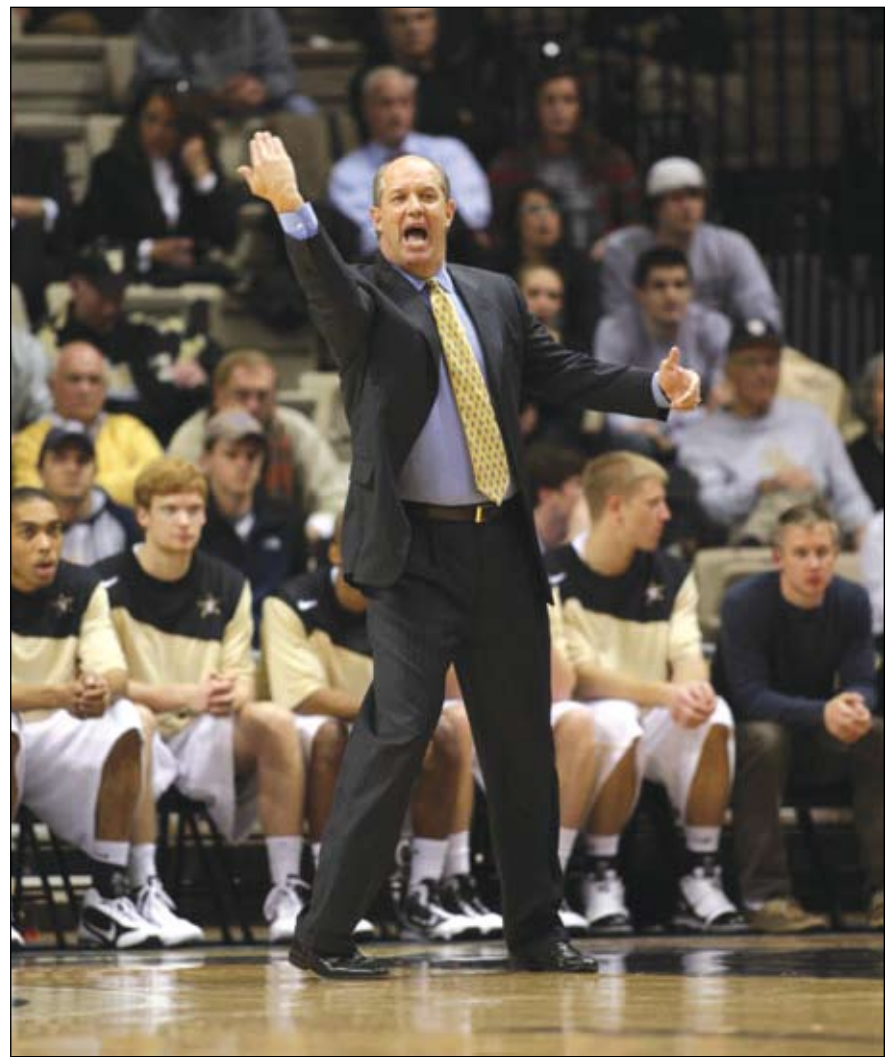
Ultimately, however, what will define the 2009-10 Vanderbilt basketball team? Unrealized potential.

This team was built for a deep run. It had the personnel, the senior leadership, the inside-outside game. A great regular season is a wonderful thing, but only for one reason: to get a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

And when crunch time came, they didn't deliver. I feel for them; this game was an absolute heartbreaker.

But after being a Cinderella team in 2004 and 2007, until they once again have success in that maddening tournament, the Commodores will only be remembered for their first-round failures.

Vanderbilt came into this tournament trying to rewrite its history, but instead it wrote another numbing chapter. ■



ZAC HARDY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Coach Kevin Stallings instructed his players from the sideline all season, but the Commodores' biggest problems manifested themselves in a season-ending loss.

Seniors look to make their mark at Pro Day

by ERIC SINGLE

Asst Sports Editor

For some, it will be a chance to build off solid performances just a few weeks ago at the NFL Combine. For others, it will be a final shot at turning some important heads. But for all of the departing Commodores, Vanderbilt's Pro Day offers one final opportunity to make an impression on NFL scouts and personnel before the 2010 NFL Draft kicks off on April 22.

Commodores expected to participate include cornerback Myron Lewis, offensive tackle Thomas Welch, quarterback Mackenzi Adams, linebackers Brent Trice and Patrick Benoist, center Bradley Vierling, defensive ends Broderick Stewart and Steven Stone, defensive tackle Greg Billinger, safety Ryan Hamilton, offensive lineman Eric Hensley and tight end Justin Green.

Lewis and Welch constituted the Vanderbilt presence at the NFL Scouting Combine, which was held from February 27 to March 2 in Indianapolis, Ind.

Lewis impressed scouts at the Combine with a 40-yard dash time of 4.52, a faster time than that of highly touted cornerback Joe Haden from Florida. His 10-foot-6-inch broad jump was enough to get himself listed as one of NFL.com's Top Performers in that drill. He is expected to be a middle-round selection and

could be converted into a free safety by the team that drafts him.

Thomas Welch was named a Top Performer for three drills in Indianapolis: the bench press, vertical jump and long jump. Several draft analysis websites list the 6-foot-6-inch, 307-pound redshirt senior who played quarterback in high school as among the top 25 offensive linemen in the draft and project him going in one of the later rounds.

Welch and Lewis, having already worked out for scouts, may only run a limited number of drills on Sunday. But several players who played a significant role in the Commodores' 2009 season will be there.

Adams, who started the last three games of the season at quarterback after Larry Smith injured his hamstring against Georgia Tech, is expected to participate. He will be joined by two of the top five leading tacklers for the Commodores from last season in Trice and Benoist.

All three of Vanderbilt's 2009 team captains will work out: Benoist, Vierling and Hamilton.

The Pro Day workout includes measurements of players' official heights and weights, as well as a series of drills: the standing long jump, vertical jump, 225-pound bench press, 40-yard dash, 20- and 60-yard shuttle runs, L-drills and position drills.

Sunday's workouts and activities are expected to begin around 9 a.m. CDT. ■



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt cornerback Myron Lewis (5) is one of 11 seniors who will showcase their skills and potential at the Commodores' Pro Day this Sunday in Nashville. Lewis is projected as a mid-to-late round pick.

Vanderbilt women take on DePaul in NCAA opener

by MEGHAN ROSE

Asst Sports Editor

This year, the middle of March feels a little different for the No. 6 seed Commodores. Although Vanderbilt (22-10) is making its 11th consecutive trip to the big dance, it's a brand new tournament experience for the Commodores.

For one thing, the players and their fans won't have to travel very far for opening-round action. It's only a short five-hour drive to see Vanderbilt face No. 13 seed DePaul on Sunday in Cincinnati.

"The last two years we were in New Mexico; this year, our whole ticket list is filled," said junior guard Jence Rhoads. "We're really excited to have support and have fans there."

With two Ohio natives on the team, this weekend's game will serve as a homecoming for freshman Gabby Smith and senior Ashlee Bridge.

"I'm really excited to go home because it (allows) everyone who had an impact on why I'm here to have an opportunity to come and see me play," Smith said. "My old coaches, people I used to play with and even little girls I coach at home are all excited to come."

After graduating standouts Tina Wirth and Jen Risper at the end of last season, the Commodores have turned their focus toward rebuilding from the start of this season. After making certain readjustments, the team is prepared and confident — just in time for when it matters.

"We were a young team at the beginning, and a lot of us were in different roles and trying figure out what we're doing," Rhoads said. "It took us a while, but right now I think we're getting a lot better, and we're playing well now."

Vanderbilt's leading scorer, senior Merideth Marsh, has stepped up in a huge way for the young Commodores this season. Marsh and Rhoads have led Vanderbilt in the backcourt, with junior Hannah Tuomi and freshman Tiffany Clarke controlling the paint.

"For Jence and Merideth, especially, they were going to have the ball in their hands a lot, so they really had to get out of their comfort zone and grow, and take on more ownership with the team," said Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb. "They've definitely done that."

Indeed they have. Marsh is averaging 14.9 points per game on the season for the Commodores, with Rhoads adding an additional 13.4 points each contest. In addition, their leadership has been a unifying force for the underclassmen on the squad.

With last year's devastating season-ending 78-74 loss to Maryland in the Sweet 16 still lingering on the minds of many, the Commodores are using the game as motivation and a teaching tool for this year's tournament.

"It was a very tough loss for us," said Rhoads. "For everyone that played last year, it will be on our minds, and it will be our job to educate the freshmen

on how to win in the tournament, how to play in the tournament and how to be ready for anything."

However, the Commodores aren't letting the woes from the final game of last season overshadow the progress they've made together this year. For Vanderbilt, its tournament opener against the Blue Demons marks a new, exciting beginning to postseason play. For the seniors, it's a final chance to make a statement in their college careers, and for the freshmen, it's a time to make first impressions.

"It's a new experience — I'm going from watching it on TV to actually being in it," Clarke said. "Personally, I want to do my best, and show everyone who we truly are."

This year, the Commodores are heading to the NCAA tournament with a new dynamic, ready to kick off March Madness. With DePaul first on the Commodores' list, Vanderbilt will look to unleash a lethal combination of energy and experience in the national limelight this weekend.

"Everyone loves the excitement of being a top-64 team," Balcomb said. "Being in a tournament and trying to go as far as you can is a great challenge, but it's exciting to see someone who is unfamiliar on your schedule." ■



LIWEI JIANG / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Merideth Marsh (23) leads the Commodores against DePaul in their NCAA first-round matchup.

TOURNAMENT: Commodores again bounced in first round

From **TOURNAMENT**, page 1

score of 66-65. Veteran guards Isaac Miles (17 points, six rebounds) and B.J. Jenkins (14 points, five assists, four rebounds) helped Murray State stay in the game amidst a furious Vanderbilt comeback, allowing Thomas to become a hero in this one.

"We congratulate Murray State," said Vanderbilt head coach Kevin Stallings. "They played a very good game, and I thought going down the stretch both teams made a lot of winning plays.

"They made one more than we did."

The Commodores did themselves no favors throughout the majority of the first half, relinquishing an early six-point lead with sloppy ball-handling, ill-advised shot attempts and shoddy defense paralyzing a normally steady Vanderbilt attack. Murray State took their first lead at 24-21 on a B.J. Jenkins 3-pointer with nine minutes left in the opening period, and the Racers sprinted into halftime holding a four-point advantage.

"I think the things that plagued our team all season long showed up today, unfortunately," Stallings said. "Our guys fought hard, they competed hard, and ... it just wasn't enough today."

Indeed, Vanderbilt battled back when facing an imposing deficit, taking an eight-point hole with 17 minutes to play and tying the game at 52 with 7:35 left on two free throws by sophomore guard Brad Tinsley. Freshman guard John Jenkins gave Vanderbilt their first lead in 22 minutes of game time, sinking a three with 4:45 remaining that tilted the score in the Commodores' favor 58-56. The nationally renowned sharpshooter nailed another jumper from the top of the key on their next trip down, making the score 60-56 as Vanderbilt appeared to take the wind out of the Racers' sails.

However, two consecutive threes for Murray State by Isaiah Canaan and B.J. Jenkins gave the Racers a 62-60 lead with under two minutes to play. Even so, senior Jermaine Beal would not go down without a fight in his last game in a Vanderbilt uniform, sinking two free throws with 12 seconds remaining to give the Commodores a 65-64 lead.

That's when Thomas took over. Shooting over Commodore forwards Andre Walker and Lance Goulbourne, he sent Murray State to the second round of the NCAA Tournament's West Region and cemented his place in college basketball history.

"You know, the kid just made a good shot ... and I wish we could have been there to contest it a little bit better," Stallings said. "But really, the game could have been over had we gotten that loose ball (on the previous possession). Our inability to come up with that rebound (is) now a glaring thing.

"We needed one more stop, and we didn't get it." ■

That's What She Said

MELANIE BALCOMB



ZAC HARDY / Vanderbilt Hustler



LIVWEI JIANG / The Vanderbilt Hustler

MERIDETH MARSH

1. What's your general strategy for the game?

Well, just preparation right now. We didn't know very much about DePaul, who we are going play. So what we did was get films, and tomorrow we will be preparing for that.

Well, you know, we just had a week of preparation, hard practices. We have just got to take it one day at a time and look at the team we're playing, watch girls, stuff like that. But really it all boils down to coach Balcomb and just trying to get better each practice.

2. How are you mentally preparing?

I think you can't really mentally prepare until now, until you know your opponent. And I was just tired of waiting — we've been waiting for like two weeks. So it's nice now to know who we're going to play and so then we can prepare for them and get to work.

I don't know. I'm just ready. We've been done since last Saturday, and now we have a whole week to prepare. It was nice to have spring break off; it gave us time to rest and relax and just get our legs back under us. I'm just going to get in the gym, just try to get some shots up. I'm just excited. I'm ready to play.

3. How are you going lean on your past experiences to play this game?

I think it's nice that we've been to NAAs eight straight years here and we've had success. And I think when you have players that go into it knowing how to win in NAAs and have been there, that's a good feeling — just having that experience on your team.

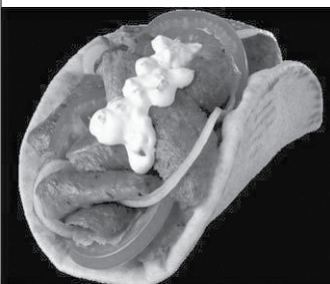
I mean, being a senior, it's just like, you know what it feels like to go to a place that's completely unfamiliar to you and know how to play and know how to perform well. So I mean, that's just a little of what, I guess, I can just go off of. It's game-to-game. It's almost like we're back in preseason now because we're going to be playing teams that we're completely unfamiliar with. So I'm just excited about it.

4. Do you have any secret superstitions or special rituals you do before a game?

I think I'm a jewelry person. I like accessories. So, like whatever's working with my accessories, we win with those — I like to keep wearing those rings or those necklaces or those earrings.

No, I'm probably like the least superstitious on our team. I listen to music a lot. Oh — every game I have to chew gum during the game. I chew the same type of gum — Bubblicious watermelon. I have to chew it for every game.

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**Georgia
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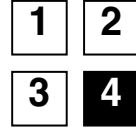
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- 24 Lord's ointment?
- 29 Isn't wrong?
- 30 Flood deterrents
- 31 Words spoken with a yawn, perhaps
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- 34 Mutt with a conscience?
- 35 Annoying negotiator
- 38 Sitting Bull telling raunchy jokes?
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- 46 Rabbittlike rodents
- 47 Gulf War reporter
- 49 Peddle
- 50 Taxi with no empty seats?
- 53 Disappointed post-game comment
- 55 Back muscle, for short
- 56 Nest builder
- 57 Seventh-largest st.
- 58 Topping for schnitzel?
- 63 Legal ending
- 64 Bugs once sought by cops
- 65 Havens
- 66 Old map inits.
- 67 Steamed
- 68 Take forcibly

DOWN

- 1 Stand up for
- 2 Combat outfit
- 3 Candy "whose success is out of this world"
- 4 Downing St. bigwigs
- 5 Pose
- 6 Botanist's study
- 7 Hearing-related
- 8 Wiper
- 9 Migratory African critter
- 10 Fit to serve
- 11 Firebird maker
- 12 Guest letter?
- 13 Siren, for one
- 18 Predicament
- 23 Pride follower, so they say
- 25 It's not true
- 26 Breaks up
- 27 Baroque stringed instrument
- 28 Reason d'
- 32 "No Exit" dramatist
- 34 Half of MMCCXX
- 36 "What I look forward to" continued immaturity followed by death"; Dave Barry
- 37 Hung. neighbor
- 38 Coulees
- 39 Eternal, and a hint to this puzzle's phonetic theme
- 40 Convinced
- 41 Brewski
- 43 Furthermore
- 44 Unsatisfying response to "Why?"
- 45 Positions
- 47 Aqua Velva competitor
- 48 Exam given intrademically, for short
- 51 Like the nerve near an arm bone
- 52 Rear
- 54 "South Park" rating
- 59 H+, for one
- 60 Work unit
- 61 Plant
- 62 Rhine feeder

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3/19/10

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at www.INSIDEVANDY.COM

Check out all the names of the people who already sat for yearbook portraits. They'll be in the yearbook.

WILL YOU?

TODAY. Last chance for portraits

Sarrat Pomegranade

10 am - 6 pm

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