

VSG platform progress report: Dining, health and wellness

KATIE KROG
STAFF REPORTER

Student Body President Adam Meyer and Vice President Maryclaire Manard ran for office with an extensive platform, as do most VSG presidential candidates. With the

second semester now underway, The Hustler sat down with Adam Meyer to talk about his administration's accomplishments thus far. In this series of "VSG Platform Progress Reports," The Hustler examines how well the current VSG administration has accomplished

the goals stated in their platforms.

PLATFORM GOALS:
• "Mobile Munchies" Food Truck on Weekends and Lunch Hour
Not expected to happen this academic year

Both Adam Meyer and Zye Hooks included a food truck in their presidential platforms last year, the idea being that VSG would buy a food truck for use during lunch and weekend events.

see VSG page 2

CHECK OUT OUR **HOUSING GUIDE TOMORROW** FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CAMPUS HOUSING NEXT SEMESTER!



ZTA: Pretty in pink



Zeta Tau Alpha, founded in 1898, will colonize a chapter at Vanderbilt this semester. They will have an open house Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. in the Student Life Center, Ballroom A. Zeta Tau Alpha will hold recruitment events until Bid Day on Thursday, Feb. 2.

KEVIN BARNETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Academic blogging on the rise

LAUREN KOENIG
STAFF REPORTER

Term papers and response essays may soon be replaced by syllabi-mandated blog posts and comments, according to a recent article in The New York Times.

Professors in universities across the country have been calling for a radical reworking of the traditional term paper and formal essay structure. In the past few years, blog writing has become a requirement in some literature, business and even engineering courses.

Vanderbilt students may also be aware of the rising trend in blogging as more and more faculty over the years have incorporated blogs or discussion boards for the purpose of posting student responses to reading assignments.

see BLOGS page 2

'Black Monday' raises concern over drinking, partying

EMILY TORRES
STAFF REPORTER

A number of sorority-affiliated women — both new and active members — were hospitalized Monday, Jan. 16 due to alcohol poisoning. Various arrests, on charges of underage drinking and public intoxication, also took place both on- and off-campus. Crime logs confirm these reports.

"One of the biggest challenges was related to a party promoted on Demonbreun. We had a number of issues stemming from that event," said Kristin Shorter, director of Greek Life.

On Jan. 16, at 8 p.m., Bid Day restrictions related to the consumption of alcohol officially ended for sororities. The National Panhellenic Conference standard restricts the use of alcohol in recruitment and Bid Day activities until 24 hours after Bid Day. Despite the standard, girls are strongly discouraged from celebrating new members with alcohol on what

is often dubbed "Black Monday," the day following the 24-hour non-drinking policy.

The night after the events, Vanderbilt Panhellenic held a meeting with chapter presidents and new member educators to discuss consequences, safety concerns and follow-up action. Internally, chapters are responsible for taking their own measures to deal with the issue.

"There have not been any outcomes delivered on the events of Monday because we are still in the investigative stage. Chapters have been working on internal investigations and accountability measures. The university will meet individually with any woman involved per the standard student conduct process," Shorter said.

"The university is investigating the events that occurred this past Monday night. Vanderbilt Panhellenic is working with the university and will be addressing the issues on a community wide basis," said Allie Trant,

president of Panhellenic Council.

The following Wednesday, all new Greek community members went through a "Making Greek Great" presentation given by Dr. Lori Hart, which discussed ways to make Greek experiences safe, educational and fun. Follow-up discussions to the presentation began last week and continued into this week.

"The Panhellenic presidents did speak to the new members after the meeting to present a unified front on the expectations of new members, how their individual decisions affect their organizations and our community as a whole, and how we can best move forward," Shorter said.

New Greek community members are also undergoing annual alcohol and social responsibility training. This program began this week and will continue into February. The program educates sorority women and fraternity men about alco-

hol use and abuse. A program revamp from previous years makes the event more interactive for participants.

"The behavior was not representative of our entire community, the expectations that we place on ourselves, and all of the chapters. I'm disappointed it occurred, but we are going to learn from this experience and consider what changes we make in the future," Shorter said.

"In the future, we are looking to further educate our community on alcohol awareness and encourage members of Vanderbilt Panhellenic, as well as the Vanderbilt community at large, to be accountable for one another and engage in responsible celebration," Trant said.

No sororities are currently on probation, but individual chapters have been held responsible to internally address the incidents. Panhellenic is striving to pursue measures to uphold the safety, standards and values of Greek organizations on campus. ★



JON MUNOZ / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Women await their bids in the recreation center Sunday, Jan. 15. Several students were hospitalized for alcohol poisoning the next night.

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CORRECTION

Correction: In the article titled "Safety on campus," published Monday, the first sentence should have read, "After the alleged aggravated robbery and burglary..."

BLOGS: Public feedback encourages discourse, higher quality among students

from **BLOGS** page 1

"Students tend to write better when they know someone might actually read what they're doing, other than their professor who has to read it," said Derek Bruff, a senior lecturer in mathematics and director of the Vanderbilt Center for Teaching.

Bruff currently teaches a statistics course and uses a course blog as a medium for posting assignments, quizzes and questions to help guide students through the textbook reading. Students are able to post questions of their own.

"It gives students the opportunity to write and think about the course topics on a more regular basis in something that's not a high stakes graded essay," Bruff said. "It's more about participation and less about valuation. You also sometimes see a bit more creativity with multimedia than you normally would in a more formal medium and I think that's valuable too."

Depending on the course, professors make the blogs private (so that only the professor can view them) or visible to the other students or the entire web.

English professor Humberto Garcia also uses blogging in his courses and he is very much aware of the issue of privacy. While his first-year seminar blog on the study of Islam was available only to the other members of the class, another blog for a course that catered to older students was made visible to the public.

"I want students thinking about how they represent themselves online," Bruff said. "It's a way to help them have a positive and academic digital footprint

online. When employers Google them, they won't just find their Facebook profile, they might find something that will even help them get hired."

Bruff cited an instance in which one student was contacted by a researcher he had cited in his footnotes and offered some insightful comments. Another student was excited to find that his paper was the third hit on the Google search engine page for his topic.

"I knew that kind of thing could happen when students make their work public," Bruff said.

According to The New York Times article, while many professors cite that blog writing provides students with a sense of relevancy and instant feedback, others believe that formal papers are necessary to develop students' critical thinking and argumentation.

Nevertheless, formal papers are on the decline. The National Survey of Student Engagement found that in 2011, 82 percent of first-year college students and more than half of seniors weren't asked to do a single paper of 20 pages or more.

Blogging and social media may turn out to be the more successful alternative in the age of social media.

"Academia has always benefited from informal conversation between interested parties," wrote Sarah Russell, a staff writer for the Daily Beacon and history major at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. "It seems only fitting that it should embrace the vehicle of technology to further these conversations." ★

VSG: Farmer's markets more accessible in March

from **VSG** page 1

Despite the popularity of the idea, Meyer said that buying a food truck is not a possibility for VSG because they cost about \$150,000 to buy.

"There's a lot of dining money going into investing right now," Meyer said.

Although VSG has not been able to purchase a food truck, Meyer said that VSG has worked with dining this year to bring the first food trucks to campus for student events.

• **Expansion of Hours in Rand/Sarratt Dining Munchie Mart Complete**

According to Meyer, the expansion of dining hours has been a huge success.

The Pub is now open on Sundays, and the Varsity Market in Sarratt has extended its hours this year.

According to Camp Howard, director of Vanderbilt Dining, the extended hours at Last Drop Coffee Shop last semester were not successful.

"We experimented with extending Last Drop hours for the fall semester as we had several students request longer hours," Howard wrote in an email. "However, customer counts at Last Drop from 9-11 p.m. were minimal so we reverted back to the original hours."

Howard also said that students are enjoying the Pub being open on Sundays, "especially during football season."

• **Bring Farmers' Markets to Vanderbilt**

In progress (Expected by Meyer to be fulfilled this academic year)

According to Meyer, the Vanderbilt Medical Center currently operates a farmers' market, and

VSG is planning to begin partnering with this program in March in order to make the program more accessible to students.

• **Expansion of Merchant Link Online Ordering Complete**

Students can now use meal money to order food online from seven Taste of Nashville restaurants through Merchant Link.

To read the entire report, visit www.insidevandy.com.

KEY

Green = Complete
Yellow = In progress (Expected by Meyer to be fulfilled this academic year)
Red = Not expected to happen this academic year

VSG revisits candidate requirements

KION SAWNEY
STAFF REPORTER

On the heels of last week's overhaul of the election process, the strategic planning committee re-submitted their proposal to alter the signature requirement needed to become a candidate for the office of president. As characterized by Highland Quad Area Representative Keith Neely, a member of the SPC, the goal was to "open the gates (to more students) but provide a speed bump."

After a debate over the merits and intentions of the resolution, it ultimately passed, adjusting the signatures needed to become a candidate for president from the 700 originally proposed to 500 signatures.

The SPC stated that the intent of revisiting the resolution was to bring the required number of signatures to become more in line with other comparable institutions and more representative of the student

body. Prior to the resolution's approval the required number of 200 signatures was 3 percent of the student population.

Attorney General Lucas Scholl argued that raising the number of signatures would better reflect the student body and bring it closer to the requirements of other VSG elected positions. The required number of signatures for the Blair senator position is 50 signatures from a school of 200 students.

Objections to the resolution were raised by Alumni Area Representative Kenny Tan. Rep. Tan argued that the intentions of the resolution were self-serving and politically motivated. In his prepared speech to address the joint session, he requested to know "who is pushing this and who the hell do you think you are."

After the resolution failing last week and being resubmitted with no change in his view, he saw its introduction as an action to restrict

the abilities of the student population in selecting its leader. Following the resolutions passage, Rep. Tan stated his displeasure with his fellow VSG officers in rushing the debate over the resolution.

Tan stated that he would have preferred that the required number of signatures be lowered to allow for more participation of students in the primary process and let the electorate decide who they believed was a qualified candidate.

The meeting also featured presentations by the Associate Vice Chancellor of Alumni Relations James Stofan and Zeta Tau Alpha, the newly chartered sorority on campus. The chancellor spoke about alumni relations and how a strong alumni community can build a greater school and eventually improve our ranking as an institution. Representatives of Zetas outlined the selection timeline and requested the help of VSG in forming the chapter. ★



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StudentMedia
AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

OPINION

Roe v. Wade: 39 years later

LETTER

Making Roe a reality: Women's right to choose requires trained providers

To the Editor,

As a pro-choice activist, a member of Medical Students for Choice and a future physician, I proudly commemorate the 39th Anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 landmark decision, Roe v. Wade, on Jan. 22. This decision guaranteed women the right to choose the pregnancy outcome that is best for them. Unfortunately, this right to choose is still not a reality for many women in the United States.

The majority of Americans support a woman's legal right to choose. However, most Americans are unaware that one of the greatest obstacles to legal abortion involves simply finding a doctor qualified to provide the service. Even though abortion is one of the most common surgical procedures in the U.S., doctors emerging from medical school and residency programs are not trained to meet their patients' needs. Less than 27 percent of OB-GYN residency programs require first-trimester abortion training, and 74 percent of all family practice residents receive no training in first trimester abortion. In addition, 87 percent of counties in the United States do not have a single abortion provider and 50 percent of all abortion providers in the U.S. are over the age of 50.

Providing abortions is part of providing good health care, and learning about comprehensive reproductive health care ensures I can be the best doctor for my patients. We ask the public and the medical community to support students and residents who are working to make the promise of Roe a reality for American women.

After all, without providers, there is no choice.

Jennifer Seo
Fourth Year, School of Medicine

COLUMN

The greatest human rights tragedy of our generation



STEPHEN SIAO
COLUMNIST

This past Sunday marked a day of infamy equally, or perhaps more, abominable than Dec. 7, 1941, or Sept. 11, 2001. Thirty-nine years ago, on Jan. 22, 1973, in a heinous decision, the United States Supreme Court legalized abortion.

Since then, more than 50 million lives have been aborted.

Some advocates of abortion argue that abortions are necessary because some lives are better off un-lived. If a baby were born to unloving parents, these advocates say, he or she would not be loved, might even be abuse, and would be subjected to the lowest standard of living. Proponents of abortion also argue that babies who may have certain diseases or disabilities ought to be aborted because if they were to live, they would have no chance of doing this or that.

Might I remind you — Hitler also used that argument. The Nazis murdered millions of people they viewed as lesser people, unfit for society. Almost all reasonable people are unanimous in their thinking that the Holocaust was wrong. Yet, our society is okay with murdering innocent lives before they even have a chance to breathe on their own?

As an aside, why is it that if a mother wants to abort a child, and the father wants to keep it, he has no legal ability to see his child born? If the child is in fact fully the mother's, then why is it that if the mother decides to have a child, the father can be required to pay child support? A mother most certainly has a right to her body, but she ought not have the right to end her child's life.

In 1985, a missionary family to the Philippines was told by doctors that the only way the mother would survive was to have an abortion. She had amoebic dysentery and been given high doses of strong drugs before realizing she was pregnant. The doctors not only told her she was not going to survive if she gave birth, but also that her child was unlikely to survive, and if he did, would have very serious health problems. The parents refused and instead relied on their Maker. That almost-aborted child is now the 24-year old quarterback of the Denver Broncos, Tim Tebow.

Last Sunday, at an event commemorating those lost to American abortions, Bobbie Patray, president of the Tennessee Eagle Forum, offered a closing prayer. One line struck me and has occupied my thoughts since. To paraphrase, "Each of these lives have a unique DNA, and none of them will ever be again." Having paid attention in high school science classes, I have always known this, but never thought of it quite that way.

This is a chilling truth: Each unique life aborted will never have the chance to live on this earth. The 54-some million babies who have been aborted since Roe v. Wade are gone. If we do not do all we can to fight against this gross injustice, more than 100 million lives will have been aborted by the time most of us draw our final breath. As we remember those who have been lost, let us give thanks that our parents saw us as more than "just a fetus" and chose not to abort us. Let's commit wholly to continuing the fight for those who cannot fight for themselves. —Stephen Siao is a junior in the College of Arts and Science and president of the College Republicans. He can be reached at stephen.h.siao@vanderbilt.edu.

My strange weekend

JESSE JONES
COLUMNIST

Okay, so it's taken me awhile, but I finally feel qualified to write an inane column about "campus life," wherein I will narcissistically recount the goings-on of my own life in a self-conscious attempt to make myself sound interesting. So, without further ado.

When it rains, it pours. That's basically what I learned this weekend, and no, I'm not talking about this insane weather we've been having.

First, I discovered the magic of Frugal MacDougal's. That's not the delicious fried chicken place behind the Belcourt Theater, mind you, but the discount liquor store located at the end of Division Street. You need a car and a license that says you're over 21 to take advantage of Frugal MacDougal's, but you're good to go if you have both, and some money of course. At Frugal MacDougal's I bought myself a bottle of Oban Scotch whisky for \$70.

Yeah, that's not cheap, but for me it's worth it, since the delicious scotch brings back memories of visiting Oban Bay on the West Coast of Scotland. I didn't get a chance to price all of their liquor, but I do know from experience that the Scotch whisky they sell at Frugal MacDougal's is incredibly cheap.

I know I'm late to this, but I finally sat down and listened to the Red Hot Chili Pepper's latest album "I'm With You." I wasn't a huge fan of "Stadium Arcadium," the group's 2006 double album that sounded more like a collection of overly repetitive and self-indulgent guitar riffs and wannabe radio singles, only some of which approached the classic feel of the riffs on "Californication" and "By The Way." "I'm With You" initially put me off because its feel was so organic and stripped down — what is up with all that train-wreck noise at the beginning of "Monarchy of Roses?"

After a few repeat listens, however, I realized I was falling in love. Josh Klinghoffer's ethereal guitar atmospherics take the songs into truly un-

expected places. The record as a whole, freewheeling and unassuming, feels like an accurate portrayal of the state of my life right now, which is probably part of the reason why I'm really digging it.

Oh, the other thing. Some girl caught my eye, and I asked her on a date, and — this is why the story is noteworthy — she said yes! This happens to me every January — at least every January since last year.

If she decides I'm worth talking to for longer than one or two hours and last spring's record of success carries over past this Valentine's Day, then she and I will enjoy a pleasant, non-serious relationship which will bloom and blossom until one of us is kicked off campus by this wonderful thing we call "graduation." (Full disclosure: We haven't yet gone on our date. Vandy girls, there's still time to interfere!)

While all of this was going on, I also got the chance to see the classic '80s horror film "Re-Animator" as well as VOB's production of "Reefer Madness," and somehow they didn't even end up being the most bizarre things I witnessed. If you want to know about those, then you'll have to come up and ask me about the secrets I had to leave out of this column.

But out of all of these things, the highlight of my strange weekend had to be a long conversation I had with Vanderbilt's original celebrity "occupier" and community activist Hiram Pati. Our discussion about the shared interests and values of liberals and libertarians kept both of us awake long after the party had ended, until the sky started to brighten and the sun had come up.

Next weekend: Vanderbilt Chess Club takes on Tulane Chess Club in an epic cage fight, and my Spanish hall coordinator throws himself and everybody else a birthday party.

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

My frustration with (and minor approval of) the new bookstore

HANNAH RUTCOSKY
COLUMNIST

Last semester, Vanderbilt transitioned to the new bookstore at 2525 West End Avenue, impacting students' textbook purchasing experiences. While many are enjoying the well-lit, spacious location, others have major complaints:

PRO: It's bigger. CON: It's bigger.

The new bookstore boasts a luxurious 7,000 square feet over the old bookstore, which allows space for some of the store's best attributes. However, the bookstore's size is not always to a student's advantage. Textbooks and school supplies are located upstairs, in the far back of the store. If you are expecting to get to the textbooks, purchase one and leave in under six minutes, that dream is as empty as the giant hole next door to Campus Copy.

PRO: There's another Starbucks even closer to campus! CON: It's far from just about everything.

The positioning of the old bookstore made allowances for forgetful students. There is no such convenience with the new location. Nevertheless, the new Starbucks is a great place to study. Around 800 feet closer to campus than the "real" Starbucks down the block, it is an even easier solution to the monotony of burnt Bongo Java (no offense to Bongo Java; I am eternally grateful for the term "Coffee Condom"), and to the student body's desperation after the removal of the SLC Starbucks last year. Alas, the new Starbucks is much less advantageous to our first-year students, who must now trek 25 minutes or wait for the shuttle.

PRO: It has more books! CON: Not the ones you need.

Great, there are now tons of shelves with lots of extraneous books. But, I've had a hard time finding a student or professor who has not had some issue with textbooks. I'm doubtful that there will be many complaints from the community if the "self-help" table is a little disorganized, but if the bookstore does not get their textbook-ability in order, I'm sure there will be a student uproar. (Occupy West End, anyone?)

CON: Stairs. PRO: Escalator

Nobody likes more stairs. Don't worry guys, signs posted around the store promise an electronic assistant in the near future.

PRO: It helps the local community. CON: It hurts local businesses.

Part of the intention of moving the bookstore was to increase accessibility for the community, and fill the need for a bookstore. I'm not

sure if it's been successful in this regard. But, the bookstore is also forcing out the other businesses on West End. FYE is the first to go. I have no doubt that they were already in trouble, but I am sure that a Barnes and Noble across the street that carries its most popular products has been detrimental. Watch out Office Max.

PRO: maybe they'll use the new space in Saratt for something awesome. CON: Not likely

Most students would agree that no matter what, the vacated space should include additional seating for students during lunch. Maybe the students' voices will finally be heard, but this has not been the case for similar situations in the past. It seems to me that Vanderbilt has used every "new space" intended for student well-being for office space or conference rooms. The upper floors of the Commons are

quickly filling up with offices, and the STUDENT LIFE Center sees little student life.

Vanderbilt Barnes & Noble Campus Store, revise yourself. My suggestions: Figure out the textbook system before next August, and explain the improvements to the student body. To the university, please do something cool with the Campus Store space. I'm serious about this one — if there are any more offices added to this campus, Occupy Vandy might finally gain some traction. The number one problem I see is a lack of communication between the administration and students. Perhaps the administration's social media campaign has helped their perception of student opinion.

—Hannah Rutcosky is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at hannah.r.rutcosky@vanderbilt.edu.

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Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students may be considered for a guest column at the

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COLUMN

VTV's Points of VU: The Iowa Caucuses

RACHEL ABESHOUSE
COLUMNIST

Every four years, the national media turns its attention to Iowa. All of the hype is centered not on the massive amount of cornfields or friendly Midwestern folk, but on people of a different kind: politicians running for their party's presidential nomination.

The Iowa caucus is the first event of the nominating season and is often seen as a "go big or go home" event, whether it deserves to be or not.

As we're in the midst of a heated primary season, Vanderbilt Television's "Points of VU" discussed the Iowa caucus. Here's the recap:

What is the Iowa caucus, and how does it work?

The Iowa caucuses are the first electoral events in the race to earn the presidential nomination. Caucuses operate in a very different way than primaries, their more common electoral counterparts.

Caucuses are held in each of the state's 1,774 precincts, in which Iowans hold campaign discussions and propose resolutions to help shape the party's platform.

Individuals' votes contribute to the votes of each precinct to elect delegates to the corresponding county conventions. The county conventions select delegates to the state convention, where the delegates for the presidential nominating committees are chosen.

This process is more complicated than the first primary, held in New Hampshire, which results directly in the

awarding of national delegates to each candidate. As a result, since Iowa's state conventions don't take place until the end of the primary/caucus season, Iowa is actually one of the last states to choose its delegates on a national level.

Both the Republican and Democratic parties hold a caucus in Iowa. After listening to the campaigning for each candidate by caucus participants, Republicans make use of secret ballot voting, which is tabulated by the Republican Party of Iowa.

The GOP uses a winner-take-all system, in which the winner of the caucus gains all of the delegates from the state to represent him/her at the national convention.

Democrats, on the other hand, divide their delegate seats in each precinct among the candidates in proportion to caucus-goers' votes. Participants indicate their support for a candidate by standing in a designated section of the room.

This allows for a learning opportunity for undecided voters. A candidate must have at least 15 percent of attendees' support in order to receive any delegates. If a candidate does not reach this amount, that candidate's supporters may choose to support another candidate — a distinctive aspect of a caucus.

An Overhyped Event?

As a result of the caucus's time-consuming nature, the political value of the Iowa caucuses has varied over time. A homogenous (in race, commitments and lifestyle) and small (only

about 120,000 people voted in the GOP caucus) population is an unrepresentative sample, which makes for a skewed dataset that most scientists would deem insignificant.

On the other hand, the Iowa caucuses have been the first major electoral event of the nominating process for the presidential bid since 1972, which is the major cause for its media hype and consequential importance.

Perhaps what's important is simply that the caucus is commonly known as a momentum-generating start for the winner. However, in elections lacking an incumbent, the Iowa winner has only won the nomination about half of the time.

It seems to be safe to say that Iowa does have an effect on determining who drops out of the race due to its large media following, and it does tend to set the tone for subsequent primaries, but it does not completely influence the others.

In simpler terms, Iowa has served as an early indication of who does well and who does not do well in the nominations race.

The Results Breakdown

According to Iowa Republican Party Chairman Matt Strawn, this year's caucus was the closest fought in history. When the votes were first tallied, Mitt Romney came out as the winner, just eight votes over Rick Santorum. About two weeks later, the Party re-canvassed and found that Rick Santorum actually came out ahead by 34 votes.

Though the results will stand, the Iowa GOP will

TUNE IN

Tune in to "Points of VU" on Channel 6 (on campus) or stream it live online Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

not deem it a victory because eight precincts' votes are missing. Santorum came out with 29,839 votes to Romney's 29,805, both nabbing 25 percent. Ron Paul was in third with 21 percent, followed by Gingrich at 13 percent. Michele Bachmann, coming in last, dropped out of the race.

While the Santorum camp is viewing Iowa as a big victory, it's hard to say how much he really gained. Romney was given all of the original media attention, so Santorum missed out on any fundraising he would have done had he been announced the winner on Jan. 4.

Since the Iowa caucus, Mitt Romney won in New Hampshire (with 39.3 percent of the vote), and Newt Gingrich won in South Carolina (with 40.4 percent of the vote), all of which has contributed to the increasingly bitter campaigning going into the Florida primary on Jan. 31. A candidate needs 1,144 of 2,286 delegates in order to win the nomination. Right now Romney is in the lead with 33 delegates, Gingrich isn't far behind with 25, Santorum has 14 and Paul has 4.

—Rachel Abeshouse is a junior in the College of Arts and Science and Producer of VTV's show "Points of VU." She can be reached at rachel.l.abeshouse@vanderbilt.edu.

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LIFE

For those in pursuit of trivia

BENJAMIN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

For those of you who are trivia fans, here's a fun fact: Nashville offers several cheap, Commodore Card-friendly options for trivia nights at locations near Vanderbilt. A few of these locations, like the restaurant Cabana (located on Belcourt Avenue roughly behind the Commons), have great food and are perfect options for Vanderbilt students under 21.

As many as 28 teams often participate in these events, with the top three teams winning Cabana gift certificates. Team sizes can range anywhere from three to 20 members.

Several groups of Vanderbilt students compete with a large and varied crowd from across Nashville at Cabana on Sunday evenings. Team names like "Summer School Valedictorians" and "The Last Team's Name Sucked" reflect the amusing, laid-back atmosphere.

"We're not in it for the money, we're in it for the glory," said senior James DeSantis, who plays regularly on a team of Vanderbilt students and alumni. DeSantis's team has ranked in the top three at nine of their last 10 competitions.

DeSantis's teammate, junior Trevor Anderson, described their success as the result of keeping up with current events. Another useful strategy, Anderson explained, is to memorize first and last works and events.

"Nobody's going to ask 'What's Shakespeare's tenth play?'" said Anderson.

The questions occasionally have to do with academic subjects like geography, history and science, but most deal with pop culture — the final question on Sunday



A group of Vanderbilt students participate in Cabana's trivia night last Sunday evening.

night asked for the name of the advertising company in Mad Men (the answer was Sterling Cooper). Sports questions are also particularly popular. Any use of outside notes or cell phones is strictly prohibited — cheaters' names are announced to the room and their teams penalized or disqualified.

Other locations that offer regular trivia nights include bars like the Flying Saucer, which holds competitions every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., and Sam's Place Sports Bar & Grille, which has competitions on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The company Trivia Time! provides the questions for trivia competitions all over Nashville, but the players and the environment vary depending on the time and location. The games at Cabana on Sunday nights tend to draw younger players because of its friendliness to the under-21 crowd, whereas a weeknight competition at a more bar-focused spot like Sam's Place (where the Commodore Card is also accepted) might have a somewhat older crowd.

The quality — and cheapness —

of Cabana's food also separates it from other locations. While some entrées can cost as much as \$20, several particularly great deals are available on trivia nights.

"My favorite part is actually the two-for-one pizza or the two-for-one beer," said senior Woody Austin. "I think the trivia is fun but I don't really like the question selection." ★

WHEN AND WHERE

MONDAY

Sam's Sport Bar — 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Corner Pub Midtown — 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Sam's Sports bar — 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Jed's Sports Bar — 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Cabana Restaurant — 7 p.m.

AROUND THE LOOP

The Life staff interviews a random sampling of students on campus' current hot topics.

WHAT IS YOUR STANCE ON VANDERBILT'S NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY?

BRITTANY MATHEWS
STAFF REPORTER

With the town hall meeting on the university's nondiscrimination policy and it's effect on religious life coming up, The Hustler asked Vanderbilt students for their opinions on the policy and the issues surrounding it.

"I do think it's appropriate that the chancellor demand the clause be eliminated, because the university is funding the groups. And as long as they still have the same purpose, it's ok. As long as they're still operating as a Christian group."

-Dacia Green

"The leader shouldn't define the group."

-Melena Mendive

"I think that regulation is fair, because I don't think that you're going to want to be a leader of a Christian club if you're not Christian."

-Lillian Hsu

"If everyone has a fair chance towards getting into this school, everyone should have a fair chance at becoming a leader in a respective organization."

-Victoria Mitchell

Weekend preview

ANGELICA LASALA
STAFF REPORTER

LTA SPONSORED SALSA NIGHT

Friday, Jan. 27

5-6 p.m.

Mr. Heb's Room

Carmichael Towers East

The members of VIDA are providing free salsa lessons to bring LTA week to a close. Bust a move without leaving campus and end your week in style.

BLAIR STUDENT SHOWCASE

Friday, Jan. 27

8 p.m.

Ingram Hall

The Blair School of Music's students will be performing a variety of works ranging from solo pieces to chamber ensemble acts. Hear your peers grace your ears on this classy night of classical music.

MULTICULTURAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL SEMI-FORMAL

Saturday, Jan. 28

9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Aerial (buses will run continuously from Branscomb Quadrangle)

This event may be the last of its kind, if the Mayans were right. Multicultural Leadership Council's annual Semi-Formal, themed "Party Like It's the End of the World," promises hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, dancing and pre-apocalyptic revelry. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 through Ticketmaster at the Sarra Box Office, or at the door. ★

Oscars give comedies a reason to smile



PHOTO PROVIDED

TREVOR ANDERSON
STAFF REPORTER

At last, Hollywood has revealed its picks for the top award in the film industry: the Oscar. The nominations, which were revealed Tuesday morning, included a number of surprising selections. After favoring more serious works such as "The King's Speech" and "The Hurt Locker" in past years, the two films receiving the most nominations featured comedic and romantic themes.

The Martin Scorsese-helmed "Hugo" led all nominees with 11 recognitions, followed by the silent film (and critic-favorite) "The Artist," which garnered 10 nominations. Yet another comedic film, Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris," picked up six nominations, including Best Picture and Best Director.

However, one comedy that many expected to receive a Best Picture nomination was left empty-handed. While the box-office smash hit "Bridesmaids" did receive two nominations (one for Best Writing — Original Screenplay and a Best Supporting Ac-



PHOTO PROVIDED

tion nomination for Melissa McCarthy), it failed to receive a Best Picture nomination, even when less critically-acclaimed films such as "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close" managed to earn a spot.

Adding to the Oscar surprise this year is the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' decision to nominate nine films in the Best Picture race. Academy rules dictate that up to 10 films may be selected. The choice to not utilize the final spot has angered many fans that believe that Academy voters unexplainably overlooked certain films, such as critical favorites "Drive" or "Melancholia."

In the acting categories, there were likewise a number of stunning nominations. The Best Actor category saw veteran Gary Oldman receiving a long-overdue nomination. Oldman's work in "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier Spy" shut out other awards season favorites, including Leonardo DiCaprio in "J. Edgar" and Michael Fassbender in "Shame."

Though "The Artist" may have placed second to "Hugo" in terms of total nomina-

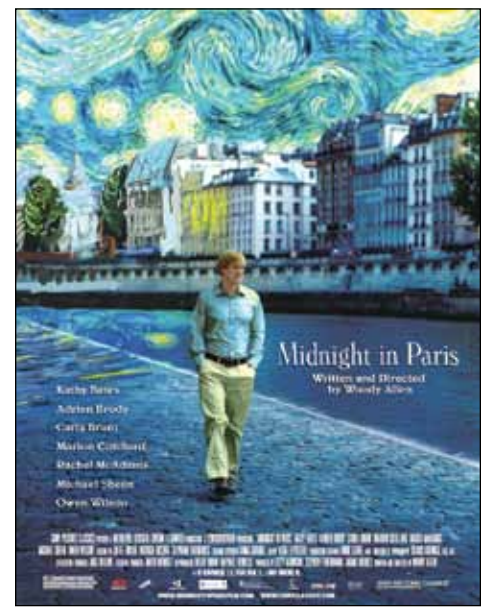


PHOTO PROVIDED

tions, its 10 recognitions clearly show that the Academy considers it the film to beat this season (Remember, as a silent film, "The Artist" is ineligible in sound categories). However, there is still ample time for the momentum to change in the Oscar race. As in previous years, the Guild Awards in the next few weeks will be the best way to predict Oscar success. Last year, although critics and the Golden Globes crowned "The Social Network" as 2010's top film, the guild awards chose instead to reward "The King's Speech." This last-minute push gave "The King's Speech" enough momentum to take the Best Picture Oscar. If "The Artist" can sweep the guild awards, it should also win the top prize on Oscar night. (Fun fact: If "The Artist" wins, it will be the first comedy to win Best Picture since "Shakespeare in Love" in 1998). Now that the nominations are out, it is time for the real race to begin.

The 84th annual Academy Awards will air on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012 on ABC. For a full list of nominees, visit www.oscar.go.com. ★

SPORTS

@IVSports

Vandy uses fast start to bury Vols



CHRIS HONIBALL / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Taylor turns in commanding shooting, rebounding performance to spearhead Vanderbilt's 65-47 victory over Tennessee

MEGHAN ROSE
SPORTS EDITOR

Just a few days after a heartbreaking second half letdown against Mississippi State — one that resulted in a 78-77 overtime loss for the Commodores — Vanderbilt wasn't taking any chances in a heated matchup against in-state rival Tennessee.

"We took a step backward on Saturday night," said head coach Kevin Stallings. "Those steps backwards cost you everything."

But for Vanderbilt, Saturday night's woes were out of sight and out of mind as the Commodores turned in an overwhelming offensive and defensive effort to upend

the Vols, 65-47 in Memorial Gym on Tuesday night.

"I think we came out and established ourselves from the beginning with the right amount of intensity and toughness on defense," said senior forward Jeff Taylor. "As we've seen the last couple of years, the last team standing is the one that plays the best defense, so that's what we want to do."

Taylor led the Commodores with 23 points and nine rebounds, while junior John Jenkins added 16 points. Vanderbilt led by as many as 27 in the second half.

Vols silenced early as Commodores build first half lead

Tennessee fans had to wait nearly four minutes for the Vols to score their first points of the game on Tuesday night.

By the 16-minute mark, the Commo-

dores held an 11-2 lead over Tennessee, with seven of Vanderbilt's points coming from Taylor. The Vols would cut the Commodore lead to 13-8 before a seven-minute scoreless stretch during which Vanderbilt extended its advantage to 16.

"We had a lot of energy, a lot of passion," Jenkins said. "That first start got us the win almost because we came out so hard, it was easy for us to just keep going with it."

The Commodores took a 41-20 lead into the locker room at half time, while the Vols were left to ponder a dismal 29.2 shooting percentage from the field. Tennessee was 0-for-6 from behind the 3-point arc in the first half.

However, the Commodores were certain that the Tennessee scoring drought likely wouldn't last in the second half.

"Our focus was on the second half," Stallings said. "We wanted to play as well as we did in the first half, especially defensively, and I think we did."

Tennessee's Jeronne Maymon cut the Commodore lead to 16 on a pair of free throws with 15:24 left in the game, but that would be the closest the Vols would get. Maymon led Tennessee with 15 points and eight rebounds on the night.

Commodores get first victory over Vols since 2010

In the closing minutes of Tuesday's game, the Vanderbilt student section chanted, "This is our state," as the Commodores topped the Vols for the first time since sweeping them in the 2009-2010 season.

"It's a rivalry game, there's no getting around it," Taylor said. "Those guys don't like us, and we don't like them."

With the win, Stallings improved to 12-14 in his career against Tennessee.

"Each year you come in here and you learn a little bit about the tradition, so you kind of stick with it," said red-shirt senior Festus Ezeli. "I'm a part of Vanderbilt, so that's part of me as well."

Ezeli finished the game with five points and nine rebounds.

Pressure, emotions run high in rivalry game

Tuesday's game against Tennessee was physical from the start, and the two teams were called for a combined 38 personal fouls. Three players, including Vanderbilt's Ezeli, were whistled for technical fouls.

Tennessee's Yemi Makanjuola was ejected with 1:25 left in the contest for contact with Jenkins.

"There wasn't any hard feelings, I know how the game goes when emotions get hot," Jenkins said.

The Commodores forced 25 turnovers by Tennessee in the game, including 10 in the first 10 minutes of play.

"We were active defensively and created a lot of turnovers," Stallings said.

With the victory over Tennessee, the Commodores have won eight of their last nine games. On Saturday, the Commodores host MTSU with tipoff scheduled for 1 p.m. CT.

"I've learned to not take anything for granted," Stallings said. "They played hard and they played well. They were down with what happened in the second half on Saturday, and they're going to rebound in almost any situation." ★

NEXT GAME:



VANDERBILT VS. MTSU

Saturday, Jan. 28 — 1 p.m. CT

Memorial Gym
Nashville, Tenn.

LISTEN: 97.1 FM

IN HER SHOES



JASMINE LISTER
#11, SOPHOMORE GUARD

ference. Lister talked with *The Hustler* about family, team dynamics and personal growth.

I started playing basketball when I was seven at my church league and have not stopped since. I always found basketball to be very fun and that is why I love it so much. I love competing. My passion to win and playing for something higher than myself is what drove me.

The significance of #11 is my twin, who plays at Boise State. We both have matching numbers and we both like double numbers.

My twin and I splitting up is only an opportunity for us to become more independent from each other, but she is still my best friend. We love playing together, but going to the same school, we would have to compete to play the same position. I feel we both have become better players because of the separation.

I have gotten better with my mental toughness since last year. Also, setting up my teammates up for success by reading the defense and slowing down. I still have a lot of room for growth.

Coach gives me a lot of freedom but is structured at the same time. I like to push the ball and attack and that is one of Coach Balcomb's techniques.

We are like a family and cannot get enough of each other off of the court. We each have our own roles on the team. I have to say that the team joker would have to be Jordan Coleman, the mom is Gabby Smith and the diva is most definitely Tiffany Clarke. ★



JUSTIN MENESTRINA / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

ISIS FREEMAN
SPORTS WRITER

On Thursday, the Commodores host the No. 17 Georgia Bulldogs with tipoff set for 8 p.m. CT. Sophomore Jasmine Lister has played a vital role for Vanderbilt this season, averaging 12.2 points per game and a team-high 5.2 assists per game — good for third in the Southeastern Con-

Vandy baseball holds first spring practice on Friday



MURPHY BYRNE / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

MEGHAN ROSE
SPORTS EDITOR

This Friday afternoon on Hawkins Field, the Commodores will host their first spring practice of the season. Vanderbilt holds the No. 10 preseason ranking from Baseball America, returning six starters from last year's squad that made the program's first trip to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb.

The Commodores are one of five Southeastern Conference teams ranked among the nation's top 10. Last fall, Vanderbilt added the nation's top recruiting class, according to Baseball America.

Vanderbilt opens its 2012 season against Stanford in a three-game series beginning on Feb. 12 in Palo Alto, Calif. ★

COMMODORE BUZZ:

Despite dropping two spots in the latest polls, the women's tennis team remains in the top 20, holding the No. 17 spot in the ITA Rankings released on Wednesday. The Commodores are 5-1, with their first loss of the season to No. 12 Northwestern last weekend. ★

BACK PAGE

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1/23 Solutions

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1/26/12

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Utah's state gem
- 6 Stable newborn
- 10 Emblem
- 14 "Don't try to be ___"
- 15 ___ jure
- 16 Slicer's warning
- 17 See 38-Across
- 20 Passed down, as folk mus.
- 21 Shop gripper
- 22 Four Holy Roman emperors
- 23 '40s-'50s pitcher Maglie
- 24 Tangle of hair
- 25 P.D. alert
- 26 See 38-Across
- 33 Silver and gold
- 35 Absorb, as a loss
- 36 Via, à la Burns
- 37 "___ you clever!"
- 38 Clue for 17-, 26-, 43- and 57-Across
- 39 Intersect
- 40 Unlike Wellesley College
- 41 Board partner
- 42 Downloadable media player
- 43 See 38-Across
- 46 Clunker
- 47 Cruet fluid
- 48 Corn serving
- 51 That and that
- 54 Proverbial equine escape site
- 56 Sharp part
- 57 See 38-Across
- 60 Plotting
- 61 Head start?
- 62 Neutral shade
- 63 Dry run
- 64 No sweat
- 65 Being pulled

DOWN

- 1 Knave of Hearts' loot
- 2 Fictional plantation owner
- 3 Guitar played with hands and feet
- 4 Dry
- 5 San Diego attraction
- 6 Having limits
- 7 Makes a choice
- 8 U.S. Open stadium
- 9 Rickey broke his stolen base record in 1991
- 10 "Assuming that's accurate," biblically
- 11 Winter garb
- 12 Guesstimate words
- 13 Takes home
- 18 Rogers's partner
- 19 Last year's frosh
- 24 Hot sandwich
- 25 Sequence of scenes
- 27 It's not posed
- 28 Aptly named author
- 29 Holiday tuber
- 30 Dismissive bit of rhetoric
- 31 Highland tongue
- 32 Legendary seamstress
- 33 Eponymous physicist Ernst ___
- 34 Switch add-on
- 38 "I'm talking to you!"
- 39 PC key below Shift
- 41 Wicked
- 42 Turner memoir
- 44 Member's payment
- 45 Where kroner are spent
- 49 Disco era term
- 50 Sign up for more
- 51 Letter-shaped fastener
- 52 Optimism
- 53 Granola grain
- 54 ___ Bing!: "The Sopranos" nightclub
- 55 Some votes
- 56 First lady's garden site?
- 58 Golfer Michelle
- 59 Hitter's stat

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1/23/12 Solutions

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 Monday, Jan. 30 • Between 10 am and 4 pm • Panhellenic House
 Tuesday, Jan. 31 • Between 10 am and 4 pm • Panhellenic House

EXPERIENCE ZETA OPEN HOUSE
 Monday, Jan. 30 • 7 pm • Student Life Center, Ballroom A

THINK PINK THINK ZETA
 Tuesday, Jan. 31 • 7 pm • Student Life Center, Board of Trust Room

ZETA TAU ALPHA PREFERENCE PARTY
 Wednesday, Feb. 1 • 7 pm • By invitation only

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 January 31st from 6pm-7:30pm
 In the VTV Studios in Sarratt!