

Day of reckoning



A year of debate over nondiscrimination and religious freedom will culminate on Tuesday.

KYLE BLAINE
SENIOR REPORTER

Tensions are heightening between the university and religious organizations over the enforcement of the nondiscrimination policy, as groups opposing the policy increase public attacks on Vanderbilt's administration ahead of Tuesday's town hall.

A group calling themselves Restore Religious Freedom at Vanderbilt has launched a full-scale attack campaign against Vanderbilt's administration, with a radio ad taking the university to task for what it deems as a policy specifically targeting religious

student organizations.

The ad, which is on multiple radio stations in Nashville, accuses the university's "top brass" of "bullying" established religious groups into "accepting members who do not fit with their beliefs." The group also accuses the university of "wasting" alumni donations "espousing political correctness."

Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Beth Fortune told The Hustler the university is aware of the ad campaign, adding that the university's policies allow all students to be eligible for membership and leadership in registered student organizations.

"We have great trust in our students' ability to choose their own leaders and are not trying to dictate otherwise," Fortune said.

The group behind the ad is backed by Americans United for Freedom, a pending 501(c)(4) social

TINA TIAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER
Members of the Nashville community attend a service in Benton Chapel Sunday.

welfare organization that aligns itself with Tea Party organizations to support conservative causes.

Another national organization, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, addressed an open letter to Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos, expressing their disappointment in Vanderbilt for "abandoning America's pluralistic tradition by banning religious and political student groups from making leadership decisions based on their religious or political beliefs."

The letter, sent on Jan. 27, poses several hypothetical questions to university officials exploring the ramifications of the application of the nondiscrimination policy.

see **TOWN HALL** page 3

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

LATE AUGUST 2010

Member of Beta Upsilon Chi allegedly was asked to leave because he was gay.

NOV. 5, 2010

The Hustler publishes an article about a former member of Beta Upsilon Chi, a Christian fraternity on campus, alleging that fraternity leaders encouraged him to leave the group after he came out as gay in the summer of 2010.

LATE NOVEMBER

Formal complaint is filed to Dean Mark Bandas that a student was

asked to leave Beta Upsilon Chi because he was gay.

DEC. 8, 2010

The university removes a clause from its nondiscrimination policy protecting freedom of religious association for external organizations that associate with the university.

SEPT. 27, 2011

The most updated press release states that four of 36 religious organizations are found to be in violation of the university's nondis-

crimination policy. No decision is made regarding the religious groups on provisional status.

JAN. 20, 2012

In a campus-wide email, Chancellor Zeppos outlined the university's stance on discrimination and religious freedom and call for a town hall meeting. The meeting is later scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 31.

TOMORROW, JAN. 31, 2012

University will hold a town hall in Furman 114 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.



JON MUNOZ / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

The student-led company re{cycle} will be bringing \$10/day bike rentals to campus beginning in March.

Vanderbilt Ventures awards re{cycle}, brings bike rental to campus

CAMILLE PARKER
STAFF REPORTER

Biking as a means of transportation on campus and around Nashville will now be more accessible to students through a new on-campus bicycle rental business.

Starting in mid-March, re{cycle} will offer all undergraduates daily bicycle rental for \$10 a day, payable on the Commodore Card.

Re{cycle}, a student-led company, was recently announced the winner of the Vanderbilt Ventures Competition.

The program, founded in 2010, is designed for students who wish to start their own businesses on campus. As the winning team, re{cycle} will receive start up money, compensation, support and resources from the Dean of Students office.

"The idea came from seeing a need for affordable and accessible transportation, especially for students who come to Vanderbilt from far away," said Juliette Cilia, co-founder and co-CEO of the business, "Our daily rentals give students the opportunity to occasionally ride a bike without any commitment."

Next fall, semester-long bicycle rentals will also be made available to Vanderbilt students, giving students the ease of bicycle transportation without the hassle of overnight storage and maintenance.

"Our semester rentals give students the opportunity to have their own bike on cam-

pus without having to worry about maintenance or where to store it during breaks," said Cilia.

"The hope is that students won't just stay within Vanderbilt but use bicycles as a means of transportation to explore what Nashville has to offer," said VSG Speaker of the Senate Zye Hooks in a press release.

Although Vanderbilt Ventures was founded in 2010, this is the first successful round in which a winner has been named.

"Vanderbilt Ventures is a great opportunity for students to experience running a real business," said Vanderbilt Ventures Chair Quincy Ross in a press release, "it is an excellent opportunity to gain experience and help improve student experience."

Over time the founders of re{cycle} hope to expand the accessibility of rentals to faculty and graduate students, as well as establishing a second outpost in the Medical Center, all with the support and advice of the Vanderbilt Ventures program.

"Ventures was an integral part in starting re{cycle}. We are extremely thankful for not only the capital we received by winning the Vanderbilt Ventures competition but the insight and support they have given us thus far," said Cilia, "Members of the Ventures team have been very helpful in pointing us in the right direction in terms of whom on campus we need to speak to." ★

Password sharing law topic of discussion at Law School

BEN RIES
STAFF REPORTER

Do you share a password for Netflix, Hulu or Spotify with any friends or relatives?

If so, you may be guilty of a misdemeanor or felony due to a new Tennessee law that criminalizes password sharing for online subscription services.

The law rewrites a restriction on stealing cable to also include

unauthorized password sharing of subscription services, with over \$500 of illegal use constituting a felony. Stealing \$500 or less of entertainment would be a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a fine of \$2,500.

The law will be the subject of a panel discussion at the Vanderbilt Law School on Feb. 1.

The event will feature a panel discussion of three high-profile figures: Mitch Glazier, senior ex-

ecutive vice president of the Recording Industry Association of America, Michael King, director of digital legal affairs at Barnes & Noble, and William Ramsey, an attorney at Neal & Harwell PLC who practices entertainment law.

It will be put on by the Hyatt Student Activities fund, which, according to its website, was founded "to support student-initiated programs that enrich the intellectual content of student ac-

tivities at Vanderbilt University Law School," and the Intellectual Property Program at Vanderbilt University.

"These are really big issues that are going to dominate the future of the entertainment industry," says Dashiell Renaud, the group's President and a 2L student at the law school. "Anyone who watches movies or listens to music online should definitely be here to get a

see **PASSWORDS** page 2

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CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

MANNAFIT

• **Mannafit is Tuesday from 5-8 p.m. in the Student Life Center Ballroom.** • **Tickets are \$10 at the Sarratt Box Office and at the door.**

This year's Mannafit will feature a silent auction with over 35 items. Food at the event will be provided by Kalamatas, Whole Foods, Qdoba, Pei Wei, Provence Cafe, Ru San's and Sunset Grill. Performing groups will include The Swingin' 'Dores, the Dodecaphonics, The Birchtree Band, Momentum Dance Group and VIDA. All proceeds from the event will benefit Manna Project International.

TUSKEGEE AIRMAN EUGENE RICHARDSON TO SPEAK ON CAMPUS

• **Talk begins 7 p.m. Monday in Sarratt Cinema.**
• **The event is free and open to the public.**

The African American pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen are celebrated pioneers whose stories are currently being dramatized in George Lucas' film "Red Tails." One of them, Eugene Richardson, will share his story Monday.

Before 1940, African Americans were barred from flying for the U.S. military, but pressure exerted by civil rights leaders and the black press resulted in the Army choosing Tuskegee Institute, a black college founded in Alabama in 1881 by Booker T. Washington, to train African American pilots.

Richardson's interest in flight began in 1930, when as a young boy his father and a friend took him along to see the Colored Air Circus, a group of black aviators performing an air show in Mansfield, Ohio. At 17 he decided to join the Army Air Corps in order to become a pilot. A few months later — at the age of 18 — he completed basic training and went on to Tuskegee Army Airfield for 40 weeks of pilot training. ★

JOHN LACHS LEADS OFF SPRING THINKING OUT OF THE (LUNCH) BOX TALKS

• **Talk begins at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Nashville Public Library auditorium.**
• **Box lunches available for the first 200 guests, with a voluntary donation of \$5 requested to help defray costs.**
• **No reservations necessary.**

Vanderbilt University Centennial Professor of Philosophy John Lachs will discuss "The Cost of Comfort" Wednesday when Thinking Out of the (Lunch) Box starts its new series at the Nashville Public Library.

Each library talk, which begins with lunch at 11:30 a.m., is hosted by David Wood, V. Alton Jones professor of philosophy at Vanderbilt and founder of the series.

Lachs will explore why many people today still feel unhappy even though they are living longer with better health than any previous generation. "The explanation must lie in the way institutional life shatters the natural unity of human acts, so that planning, action and enjoyment of the results fall to different groups of individuals," Lachs said. "The result is a growth of passivity and resistance to taking responsibility for our actions. We will look at whether there are ways to reduce the cost of our comfort." ★

FORMER AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT SPEAKS AT VANDERBILT

• **Talk begins 4:10 p.m. Wednesday in Buttrick 101.**
• **The speech is free and open to the public.**

Margaret Scobey, former U.S. ambassador to Egypt, will speak Wednesday on "Egypt and the Arab Spring."

Scobey, a career foreign service officer, served as the ambassador to Egypt from 2008 to 2011. Prior to that, she was ambassador to Syria.

The Arab Spring is a series of demonstrations and protests in the Arab world beginning in 2010 that has included revolutions in Egypt and Tunisia, the fall of the Libyan government and civil uprisings in Bahrain, Syria and Yemen.

Scobey, a native of Memphis and graduate of the University of Tennessee, is currently the deputy commandant and international affairs adviser at the National Defense University in Washington. ★

VUPD CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY **GEOFFREY KING**

JAN. 21, 6:30 P.M.

A person was threatened by an unknown subject at Memorial Gym.

JAN. 24, 1:41 P.M.

A mother and son were arguing at the Village at Vanderbilt.

JAN. 26, 2:14 A.M.

A trespasser was arrested at the Wyatt Center due to an outstanding warrant. The culprit was taken into custody.

PASSWORDS: Tennessee bill novel approach to protecting intellectual property online

from **PASSWORDS** page 1
described both bills as "now better understanding of what their rights are and to take the opportunity to pose questions to those who have influenced this legislation and those who oppose it."

The Tennessee law preceded heated debates and protests over the Stop Online Piracy Act and the Protect IP Act over whether these acts overreach in their efforts to combat online theft and piracy. Although CNN has

hooking up the cable box and sidestepping the measures that they have in place to prevent you from doing that is novel," Renaud said. Nevertheless, these subscription services might be unlikely to use the laws out of fear of creating a chilling effect that would scare away potential subscribers.

According to Renaud, the Tennessee law breaks new ground.

"Treating sharing a password the same way as you would treat the crime of

one who posts their password in the hall of their dorm such that all 50 people are then using it," says Renaud.

The discussion is open to the public and will take place in the Flynn Auditorium from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 1. Law School professor Daniel Gervais, FedEx research professor of law and co-director of the Intellectual Property Program at Vanderbilt University, will moderate the event. ★

Year of the dragon



JON MUNOZ / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

VanDiva performs Dance with Breeze during the Chinese New Year in the Student Life Center Saturday.

Zeta Tau Alpha gearing up for initiation into Greek life

EMILY TORRES
STAFF REPORTER

Zeta Tau Alpha, a national Panhellenic sorority, will complete its introduction into Greek life Thursday after a semester of planning and executing publicity and recruitment events.

Zeta Tau Alpha will host open house information sessions today and Tuesday where undergraduate women will undergo 20-minute interviews with national representatives. A preference party will be held for selected girls on Feb. 1. A bid day celebration will be held for the new founding members the following day.

"It is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be a founding member of the Vanderbilt chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha. It provides a great opportunity

for students of all classes to get involved, make a mark on your campus, set traditions for many years to come, be a leader from the very beginning, find friendships that will last a lifetime, and be a part of a strong national organization. We couldn't be more excited to start our new chapter and be involved in this outstanding Greek community," said Liz Austin, traveling leadership consultant for Zeta Tau Alpha.

"Our chapters have been welcoming so far. The Zeta Tau Alpha consultants have visited many chapters to talk about their extension. Facebook and Twitter show support for what's going on. We want to include them into our community in every way. Once we have women, they will be included as all of our other chapters. I'm thrilled

about the addition," said Kristin Shorter, director of Greek Life. Zeta Tau Alpha traveling consultants arrived on campus in the fall and became involved in the Greek community. Official recruitment began after normal spring rush as per national Panhellenic rules. Consultants provided interested students with information at Rand and the Commons Center beginning Jan. 17.

The chapter will be composed of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors. Chapter size will be comparable to other sororities currently established on campus. Panhellenic decides the number of girls that are chosen for the founding class.

Traveling consultants will be stationed with the established chapter to oversee the

development and success of the Vanderbilt's chapter. Zeta Tau Alpha will occupy Pi Beta Phi's previous house after a renovation over the summer.

Zeta Tau Alpha is the third largest national sorority and supports awareness and education of breast cancer. The sorority has notable relationships with both the NFL and Yoplait in joint support of the philanthropy.

The Greek community as a whole has been welcoming and eager for the addition of Zeta Tau Alpha.

"Every chapter has its own character and I know that the character built by the new Zeta Tau Alpha chapter will provide an opportunity for more Vanderbilt women, across all classes, to find a Panhellenic home," said Allie Trant, president of Panhellenic. ★

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Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2.

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Lawmakers promote camping ban on public property

TRAVIS LOLLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Lawmakers concerned about the Occupy Nashville encampment next to the state Capitol are promoting a bill that would criminalize camping on public property across the state.

House Judiciary Chairman Eric Watson, who has a clear view of the 60-or-so tents from his office window, is sponsoring the legislation. He mentioned several reasons for wanting the encampment gone, including a couple last year having sex near his windows.

“A fight broke out yesterday,” he said in a Wednesday interview, “and there was a guy streaking today, running out here naked.”

But he said the main reason for the bill was to ensure equal access to the plaza for other groups, including schools that put on musical programs there.

“They’ve been reluctant to come up here. We’ve even had weddings put off,” Watson said.

The bill, which would make it a misdemeanor to “maintain living quarters on publicly owned property that is not designated or permitted for residential use,” comes several months after Gov. Bill Haslam’s administration lost a legal battle over a curfew that was used to temporarily dislodge the encampment.

Attorney David Briley, who successfully represented Occupy Nashville protesters in that action, said the new bill is “problematic when it comes to the First Amendment.”

Briley also said it is so broad that it is likely to have unintended consequences.

“For example, state legislators who sleep in their offices — would they be committing a crime?” he asked.

Briley said he is willing to work with the state to promulgate rules for the plaza that don’t trample protest-



LESLIE RODRIGUEZ / FOR THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Protestors in the Occupy Nashville movement in Legislative Plaza Oct. 6, 2011. Protestors remain camped in the plaza, something lawmakers seek to change with a new bill.

ers’ rights, but he thinks it should be done following the administrative procedures established for such rule-making. Haslam’s administration currently is developing rules through that process, which requires public input.

Asked last week about the bill, Haslam said he would want it to be vetted by the state Attorney General’s office.

“But we’re basically, as the administration, following this rulemaking procedure, which is what the judge said was lacking before,” he said.

Watson and Senate sponsor Dolores Gresham said the state attorney general’s office is reviewing the bill and they do not expect legal challenges to the final version.

Protester Elli Whiteway, a student of Christian Ethics at Belmont University, said she expects another court battle if the bill passes.

“What upsets me is, are they trying to criminalize homelessness? Or Occupy? Or both?” she said. “It’s so broad.”

She also noted that one clause of the bill makes it a misdemeanor for an assembly of people to “pose a health

hazard or threat” to others using the space. Whiteway said the language is vague enough that it would give officials an excuse to arrest groups they don’t like.

Both sponsors of the bill said they support the right to protest, but feel Occupy Nashville is infringing on the rights of others.

“They’ve made it impossible for anybody else to protest,” Gresham said.

The Nashville protesters are part of the Occupy Wall Street movement, which began in lower Manhattan to decry corporate influence in government and wealth inequality. It has spread to cities large and small across the country and around the world.

As far as a long-term plan for the Nashville encampment, Whiteway said, “The purpose of the encampment is to be visible to our legislators, and we plan to stay here until they properly address our grievances.” ★

TOWN HALL: Despite opposition, university consistent in support of nondiscrimination

from MEETING page 1

FIRE, a nonprofit group founded in 1999 and focused on civil liberties in academia in the United States, wrote to the university in September about its concern with the nondiscrimination policy, but says it received no response.

Animosity towards the university from opposition groups only grew last week, when Vanderbilt Divinity School Dean James Hudnut-Beumler denied a request from the Christian Legal Society to be allotted five to 10 minutes at the town hall to present the position of several religious groups on campus. In response to CLS, Hudnut-Beumler, the moderator of the town hall, said he welcomed any member of the community to ask questions from the floor.

Justin Gunter, a second-year law student and president of CLS at Vanderbilt, said he appreciates the university’s effort to foster discussion on the issues, but he doesn’t think that idea is obtainable without both sides given an equal opportunity to present their case.

“I fear that it will be difficult to achieve the Chancellor’s goal of ‘supporting diversity of thought and opinion’ when only one position — that of the university administration — is represented,” Gunter said in a statement to The Hustler. “A sincere town hall meeting would allow both sides to clearly present their position — showing that both positions have merit — and trust the university community to make a decision.”

The university began receiving negative national attention regarding its enforcement of

the nondiscrimination in September 2011, when Fox News Channel ran a story exploring the controversy.

In October 2011, 23 members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus wrote to Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos, urging him to allow religious groups to freely choose their leaders. Among the signatures were Rep. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., and Rep. Diane Black, R-Tenn.

In November 2011, George Will, a syndicated conservative columnist for The Washington Post, criticized Vanderbilt’s enforcement of the nondiscrimination policy in a column titled “Conformity for diversity’s sake.”

Despite the criticism, the university has remained consistent in its message. Chancellor Zeppos articulated that message in a Jan. 20 address sent to the Vanderbilt community through email.

“As an institution of higher education, Vanderbilt values above all intellectual freedom that supports open inquiry, equal opportunity, compassion and excellence in all endeavors,” Zeppos wrote. “We are committed to making our campus a welcoming environment for all, and we are dedicated to encouraging and supporting diversity of thought and opinion among our students, faculty and staff.”

University officials will hold a town hall meeting tomorrow night to address the ongoing tension between the school’s nondiscrimination policy and religious freedom. The meeting will take place from 6:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. in Furman Hall Room 114. It is open to Vanderbilt students, faculty and staff. ★

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OPINION

Religion and Vanderbilt

Multiple perspectives on the nondiscrimination policy

EDITORIAL

Vanderbilt in the right

Nondiscrimination policy ensures equality for all

Tomorrow, nearly a year of conflict surrounding Vanderbilt's nondiscrimination policy's perceived incongruence with religious freedom comes to a head when university officials hold a town hall meeting to address student, faculty and staff concerns about the policy.

We support the university's decision to enforce its preexisting nondiscrimination policy and hope that the Vanderbilt community can accept the policy for what it is: protection for all against discrimination by university-sanctioned groups.

Chancellor Zeppos made it patently clear in his Jan. 20 email to the student body that the university, "requires all Vanderbilt registered student organizations to observe our nondiscrimination policy. That means membership in registered student organizations is open to everyone and that everyone, if desired, has the opportunity to seek leadership positions."

The nondiscrimination policy's rule that any student may apply for leadership in any religious group has been the source of significant criticism, including national attention from conservative figures such as Washington Post columnist George Will, who wrote that Vanderbilt's policy amounts to "compulsory conformity."

We understand and sympathize with these concerns. Religious groups need religious leaders in order to preserve their missions' integrity. An election process to choose leaders, however, should be sufficient for groups to collectively decide who is most qualified to serve in leadership positions.

The university's implementation of the nondiscrimination policy is not, as some assert, discriminatory against religious groups. To the contrary, the policy has become necessary to stop religious groups from discriminating. Hostile takeovers of religious organizations, if hypothetically possible, are unlikely. Religious discrimination against other minority groups, however, is a real problem, fresh in Vanderbilt's collective memory.

Vanderbilt student groups operate with the protection of Vanderbilt's name and the assistance of its money. In exchange, these groups must follow university rules. Every group on campus is required to abide by the nondiscrimination policy, the simple purpose of which is to ensure that students are not chosen for, or removed from, organizations on the basis of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

The policy failed in the fall of 2010. Beta Upsilon Chi, a Christian fraternity, expelled a student from its brotherhood because he was gay. This is unacceptable.

It is not for religious organizations at Vanderbilt to say that because one accepts their sexual orientation they cannot share the group's common faith. If qualified, any student should be able to lead organizations united around a common faith and mission, regardless of sexual orientation or any other class protected under the nondiscrimination policy.

The fight for LGBTQI equality is a defining struggle for our generation. History will ultimately decide how the players in this struggle are to be perceived. We believe the university, by enforcing their nondiscrimination policy, will be on the right side of history.

We do not believe diversity on campus consists of several internally homogenous groups. At Vanderbilt, diversity means continually engaging with those who look, act and think differently than oneself. Different ways of life do not undermine the integrity of student organizations; rather, they enhance it.

Tomorrow, Vanderbilt takes a step in the right direction in a noble, if unpopular, move toward equality for all who walk our halls.

—Editorials are written by and represent the views of The Hustler Editorial Board.

GUEST COLUMN

Why I'm wearing white

BRANT BONETTI
GUEST COLUMNIST

Beginning last spring, Vanderbilt began implementing a new non-discrimination policy that undermines the integrity of many student religious organizations. As a student leader in one of these organizations, I had a front-row seat to the drama that unfolded behind closed doors as many in the religious community attempted to dialogue with the administration. Like so many others, I was dedicated to pleading the case of religious life — but only in private.

Then I received the chancellor's email last week and something inside of me snapped. I realized that the rest of the Vanderbilt community deserves a more accurate picture of what had been transpiring privately for so many months. So this is a public plea. A public and passionate plea for myself and any other student who wants the opportunity to make choices for religious organizations based on their religious beliefs.

It's that simple.

Yet, throughout this process the university has consistently obscured the facts in an effort to gain acceptance for a policy that is widely unpopular amongst those it will affect. I'm going to try to clear up a few of those facts, and then I'll go on to explain what I believe.

From the beginning, Vanderbilt has denied crafting a new, more expansive non-discrimination policy. Instead, administrators have tried to convince us this is actually a case of a few organizations being asked to conform to a longstanding practice.

According to this story, various offices are finally "catching up" with a policy that has been in place across the university all along. But no matter how the facts are framed, the reality is that the student organization handbook was altered last December, when a section specifically protecting religious association was removed, as highlighted by The Hustler in September 2011. Then, in April, a number of organizations were placed on provisional status as constitutions that had been easily approved in previous years were evaluated under this new standard. Call it a policy change or call it "catching up." Either way, something changed. And that change will have real consequences for student organizations.

So far, the refrain echoed by a variety of university officials is that for all intents and purposes, business will continue as usual. But in a meeting with the Interfaith Council last Tuesday, Dean of Students Mark Bandas went so far as to admit that religious organizations could come under investigation if there was suspicion that members used religious criteria in voting for their leaders.

Let's say that you're a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and that you're running for president of the organization. You win the election, but the student that you beat feels that he lost because members of the organization

cast their votes based on his religious beliefs. According to Bandas, Vanderbilt would have grounds to investigate your organization for discrimination if the other student lodged a formal complaint. That hardly seems like business as usual to me.

Many students and administrators have also asked why students who don't agree with an organization's beliefs would try to lead that organization. Do I actually believe that an atheist student would want to lead Navigators? No, I don't believe that "hostile takeovers" are a real threat. But that doesn't make this new policy viable. One main reason being that it exposes religious organizations to other threats.

What if a student leader goes away for the summer and has a change of beliefs? And if she doesn't believe in the shared values of the organization, how can she lead people in putting those beliefs into practice? Under the new policy, asking her to step down qualifies as discrimination, yet keeping her in that leadership position undermines the integrity of the organization. This is only one example of the kind of catch-22 this policy creates for religious organizations.

There has also been a lack of transparency about which groups this policy will affect. While it is still unclear who will be kicked off campus in April, members of several groups have expressed their opposition to the implementation of the policy, including members of: Vandy Catholic, the Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Navigators, CRU, Beta Upsilon Chi, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Asian-American Christian Fellowship, Bridges International and the Lutheran Student Fellowship, as well as graduate organizations like the Christian Legal Society, the Medical Christian Fellowship and the Graduate Christian Fellowship.

The current narrative also fails to represent the concern of hundreds, if not thousands, of parents and alumni from across the country who have called, written and recently purchased radio ads expressing their discontent with Vanderbilt's new policy. This is not a case of a few rogue groups flaunting a well-established and accepted policy; this is a story of Vanderbilt enforcing a new, aggressive policy that has been met with widespread resistance from across the Vanderbilt community.

At various times the administration has also argued that they must enforce this new reading of the non-discrimination policy to protect Vanderbilt's federal funding. This claim holds absolutely no weight. In a letter sent to the chancellor and the board of trust in December, six prominent law school professors, including the director of Stanford's Constitutional Law Center, expressed their "collective opinion that no court decision, administrative regulation or federal or state statute requires Vanderbilt to prohibit religious student groups from requiring their leaders to share the groups' religious beliefs."

On numerous occasions the university has also advanced the argument that this new interpretation of the non-discrimination policy is necessary to protect students against discrimination based on their sexual orientation. Yet, even if you believe Vanderbilt's previous policy allowed for discrimination against LGBTQI students, this sweeping new restriction on religious association is overly broad. Protecting LGBTQI students does not require the kind of policy that prohibits members of religious organizations using religious beliefs to choose their leaders.

But let's look past the administration's position. Here's what I believe.

I believe that groups that challenge beliefs and promote dialogue are critical components of Vanderbilt University. I also believe that groups that exist to support members in expressing their commonly held convictions are essential for a healthy campus community. Some groups aspire to meet both purposes, some focus on one over the other — and I believe that an institution like Vanderbilt should promote and encourage both kinds of communal expression.

Vanderbilt's new non-discrimination policy undermines those groups with common interests, especially communities that meet to express commonly held religious beliefs. By preventing students and organizations from choosing leaders based on principles of faith, administrators are charting a new course that inhibits student efforts to create communities that can adequately meet their needs. This new policy also prevents students from maintaining the purpose and integrity of their communities over time. As Supreme Court Justice Alito wrote in a recent 9-0 ruling for the high court regarding religious association, "a religious body's right to self-governance must include the ability to select, and to be selective about, those who will serve as the very 'embodiment of its message.'" That same right is necessary for religious groups at Vanderbilt to accurately represent and adequately serve students.

Over my four years here, members of various religious organizations have supported, strengthened and stretched me as person. Organizations like BYX, the BCM and Navigators have truly changed my life, and I know that religious organizations of all types have contributed in important ways to the lives of hundreds of other students at Vanderbilt. So tomorrow I'll be wearing white to express my love for Vanderbilt, my conviction that religious students should be allowed to make decisions in religious organizations based on their religious beliefs, and my hope that this new policy will be changed in order to protect religious life for future Vanderbilt students. If you share the same feelings, I'd love to have you join me.

— Brant Bonetti is a senior in Peabody College. He can be reached at brant.t.bonetti@vanderbilt.edu.

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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 Sunday or Wednesday.

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 may be considered for a guest column at the

editor's discretion.

All submissions become the property of The Hustler and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which The Hustler is a division.

COLUMN

'Here we go again'

**BEN WYATT**
COLUMNIST

It is an undeniable fact of college life that the end of a semester is a caesura of all the goings-on of campus life, not only due to the obvious cessation of campus activities, but also because of psychological distance that the holidays and the new calendar year put between the fall and spring semesters.

As such, I expected the controversy regarding religious life and Vanderbilt's nondiscrimination policy to fade away after the Board of Trust meeting last December. The Board released no public statement on the issue to stir controversy, and the impending winter break meant that our thoughts would be progressively less concerned with issues of freedom of association and more concerned with whether it classified as "napping" if you had only been up for an hour or two beforehand. Somewhat surprisingly, talk of Vanderbilt's nondiscrimination policy hasn't slowed; the administration is hosting a town-hall meeting on the issue tomorrow, and I expect that once the issue is brought back to the university's consciousness again, it will not be easily forgotten.

On that score, I think our administration deserves a fair amount of credit. As much as they discussed the issue last semester (and believe me, anyone who wanted to hear the policy explained had ample opportunity to do so), it would have been understandable for them to simply let the debate die down as student attention shifted to other matters. Instead, they have

opted for what is surely a more difficult route for the sake of continuing the dialogue. Dean Bandas and Associate Dean Helland deserve special commendation in this regard. I had the opportunity to meet with them last week with a group of religious leaders to discuss the nondiscrimination policy, and I was impressed by their willingness to answer difficult questions, their frank admission that the policy could lead to problems within religious groups and their stated commitment to working through any problems that should arise with the groups involved.

While the university has the commendable goal of promoting religious dialogue and pluralism in an academic setting, it is the right of each religious group, not the administration, to decide how it will handle those issues in a spiritual setting.

As someone whose experience in religious life has been constitutive of his Vanderbilt experience, all of this reassures me, though it has yet to fully persuade me. As I have written in a past column, I am not a fan of the policy. I do not think that religious requirements for leadership in a religious organization are as antithetical with the university's commitment to inclusion and nondiscrimination as is

sometimes claimed. I also think that, while the university has the commendable goal of promoting religious dialogue and pluralism in an academic setting, it is the right of each religious group, not the administration, to decide how it will handle those issues in a spiritual setting.

On the other hand, I do not think this policy is quite as ruinous as some of my friends involved in religious life seem to believe. Religious groups may still have leadership requirements; those requirements just can't be tied to religious belief, sexual orientation or any other protected category. More to the point, even if anyone can compete for a leadership position, he or she still has to, you know, win, and the students retain the power to vote for whomever they choose. I firmly believe that the future of religious life is fundamentally bright, with or without this policy.

In any case, one thing is relatively clear as we head into the next (by this point, I have learned not to say last) stage of the nondiscrimination saga: The university policy will stand as it is. A private university has the legal right to set whatever nondiscrimination standards they like, and the current state of dialogue suggests the university is solidly committed to the new policy. The only question is which religious groups will re-register as student organizations come April 16. Only time will tell, but I suspect that tomorrow's town-hall meeting will give us all intimations, good or ill, of what to expect.

—Ben Wyatt is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at benjamin.k.wyatt@vanderbilt.edu.

LETTER

Letter: We have weed-out courses for a reason

To the Editor:

In Akshikumar Mistry's Monday column, he laments that highly difficult introductory courses "weed out" capable students and discourage them from earning science degree. Mistry suggests that such weed out courses are therefore inappropriate.

As a student who is en route to medical school and in the midst of such courses, I could not disagree more. Medical school and residency, as well as other STEM graduate programs, require a level of dedication and an amount of work that most people are simply not capable of or familiar with on any level.

And frankly, unless one is able to handle difficult college courses, I would not expect him or her to be capable of the 30-hour shifts that medical residents routinely endure. One's undergraduate career serves as a test of will and character more than anything else, and it is a test that is entirely necessary.

In other words, if a student doesn't want a science degree badly enough to make it through college, he or she isn't cut out for a career in that field.

Besides, what is our alternative? I cannot take seriously the suggestion that we should simply lower our expectations. If it's me on the operating table, I want my surgeon to have gone through the most strenuous training that society could devise — we're talking about professions that constantly involve life-and-death decisions, and this is not something to be taken lightly.

I hate Organic Chemistry with a fiery passion, but I want guarantees that my doctors were good enough to get through it.

Scott Cardone
Junior, College of Arts and Science

Office of Housing Assignments

Important Information

ATTN: All Vanderbilt Students

CHANGES for 2012...

- All 3-person Morgan/Lewis apartments will now become 4-person apartments.
- A small number of Carmichael Tower suites will be open to mixed-sex groups.
- One floor in Lupton House will offer an equal number of double rooms for men & women.
- One floor in Carmichael Tower 2 will offer an equal number of single & double rooms for men & women.

See the "Guide to the Housing Process" for more details.



DEAN OF STUDENTS
Office of Housing and Residential Education
4113 Branscomb Quadrangle
Phone (615) 322-2591
Website: www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd

LIFE

AROUND THE LOOP

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

KRISTEN WEBB
LIFE EDITOR

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE BIRD DISPERSAL PROJECT ON CAMPUS?

For the past week, sound cannons and pyrotechnics have been exploding near Kissam and the law school in order to disperse large colonies of crows roosting in the trees.

"I hadn't been affected by it until today, when a bird almost pooped on me. The sounds are annoying, but it seems pretty necessary."

Tyler Bishop, freshman

"The first time I noticed was after dinner the other day, and there were birds in every branch of every tree. It's creepy, so I'm glad they're doing something about it."

Elizabeth Gunckle, freshman

"I think they might have chosen to do it this way just because it's more fun. More power to them. At first I just thought it was some frats trying to make a ruckus."

Judson Lancina, senior

"I didn't know what was happening. I thought someone was getting shot. But the birds are super scary too."

Ainash Childebayeva, junior

"All I know is that for years Vanderbilt has been taking care of the campus atmosphere, and to complain about the noise and still expect a beautiful campus doesn't seem right."

- Kareem Elsamadicy, junior

A BRIEF GUIDE TO THE Republican Primaries Candidates

KELLY HALOM
STAFF REPORTER

Trapped inside the Vandy Bubble, it is often difficult to keep up with current political happenings outside of campus. During this election season, most students want to be informed but simply don't have the time. Jacques Landrieu, president of Vanderbilt College Democrats, and Kenny Tan, chapter president of the Young Americans for Liberty and senior columnist for the Vanderbilt Torch, gave their opinions on the current Republican primary candidates. This brief synopsis should help you feel informed and seem engaged when talking to all of your friends majoring in political science.

MITT ROMNEY



JOE BURBANK/MCT CAMPUS

BACKGROUND:

Once a giant in the business world, Romney became governor of Massachusetts in 2002. However, Romney did not run for reelection and decided to run for the Republican nomination in 2008, ultimately losing to John McCain.

KNOWN FOR:

Being a Mormon; "out of touch" wealth; statewide health care reform in Massachusetts; flip-flopping from a moderate-liberal stance as governor to a conservative stance in both of his runs for the presidency.

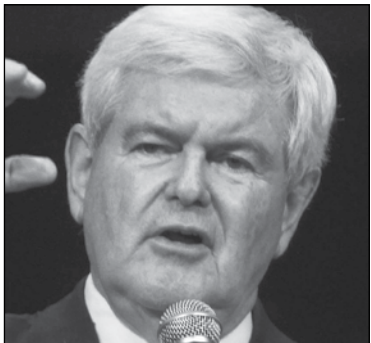
TAN:

"... some good economic ideas but has also flip-flopped on several issues which makes me question whether I can trust him."

LANDRIEU:

"While his highly touted career in finance might give him some credibility on economic issues, for many Democrats it beckons another administration beholden to Wall Street."

NEWT GINGRICH



JOE BURBANK/MCT CAMPUS

BACKGROUND:

Georgia congressman-turned-Speaker-of-the-House.

KNOWN FOR:

Creating the Contract With America that rallied Republican voters in the 1994 election, giving Republicans control of the House for the first time in 40 years; various challenges to his leadership as speaker, ultimately ending in his resignation from the House in 1998; currently on his third wife.

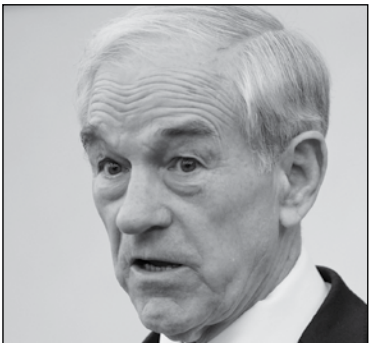
TAN:

"A good debater, but given his long history within the political elite, I do not trust he would make any significant cuts to the deficit."

LANDRIEU:

"Longtime Washington insider whose at times contentious politics and controversial personal history make him a popular target of Democratic ire"

RON PAUL



CHRIS GANNON/MCT CAMPUS

BACKGROUND:

In and out of Congress as a Texas representative in the House. Has made multiple runs for the presidency.

KNOWN FOR: Being old; being a favorite of young libertarians who support his anti-interventionist stance both internationally and domestically; wholeheartedly supporting limited government and adhering directly to the Constitution; newsletters under his name in the '80s and '90s with racist and homophobic remarks.

TAN:

"Seems to be the only person left on stage who is talking about peace and civil liberties, which I admire."

LANDRIEU:

"Due to the radical nature of his policies, such as elimination of Federal Reserve, return to the gold standard and vast withdrawal from global military stations, not seen as a likely candidate."

RICK SANTORUM



C. ALUKA BERRY/MCT CAMPUS

BACKGROUND:

Two terms in the House and Senate for Pennsylvania. Santorum ran for reelection in the Senate in 2006, but did not win.

KNOWN FOR:

Opposing abortion and same-sex marriage; being the candidate for extreme social conservatives; Dan Savage redefining his last name: just type it into Google.

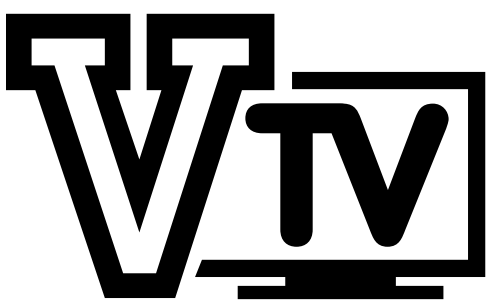
TAN:

"Simply put, Santorum is just a homophobic, Islamophobic warmonger."

LANDRIEU:

"Almost a throwback to Bush-style Republicanism: appeals directly to evangelical Christian platform, is completely dismissive of climate change and is a strong proponent of privatization, namely in health care."

VTV kicks off new year



vanderbilttelevision.com

KRISTEN WEBB
LIFE EDITOR

For one night, VTV will present their shows as never before.

This Tuesday, from 6-7:30 p.m. VTV will broadcast 15-minute segments from a majority of their shows live via internet and their station on channel 6. The event will be an open house format, where students can come into the studio to watch and take part in production.

"If you want to be involved with VTV, it's one sure-fire way to see everything we have to offer," said Live Events Director Trevor Anderson. "Instead of trying to figure out when every show is, you can just show up once and get the full spectrum to see what interests you."

VTV shows Morning VU, Kitchenventions, Sex RX, VTV News and several others will stream live on Tuesday, as well as giving interested students an opportunity to come to the station itself and get a behind-the-scenes look.

"You can see how the director, producer, and on-air talent work together in the moment to make great television," Anderson said. "If you want to get in there and do something, you can. It can be a lot more interactive than people think."

For more information on VTV's kick-off night, visit vanderbilttelevision.com. ★

Lana Del Rey: To 'Die' For

After a stellar YouTube record and a rocky performance on Saturday Night Live, which perception of Lana Del Rey should win out?

NEAL COTTER
STAFF REPORTER

"Feet don't fail me now" begins the title track of "Born to Die," Lana Del Rey's major-label debut.

It's an apt mantra considering the road leading up to this release. Within the span of a few months, Del Rey's career became a rollercoaster ride of hype and backlash in which she racked up over 20 million YouTube views for "Video Games" only to be derided for a shaky live performance on SNL. Since the start, listeners have questioned her authenticity as an artist and her decision to forgo her real name, Lizzy Grant, for her vaguely foreign pseudonym.

After hearing Del Rey's solid debut, however, the real question should be: Does any of that really matter?

Artifice has long been a key element of pop music, and many of the songs on this album are even enhanced by thinking of Lana Del Rey as a character: an alternately sexy and sad, but always dramatic, '50s starlet.

Take "Without You," a bonus track on the deluxe edition that finds Del Rey singing "I even think I found God / In the flashbulbs of your pretty cameras." Paired with these hyperbolic lyrics, her sultry vocal delivery makes for a compelling, cinematic listen or, as she describes it, a "Hollywood Sadcore" sound. It's this unique ambience that makes the album's first four tracks, all of which expertly create it, a solid gold opening stretch.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Lana del Rey's newest album "Born to Die" will be officially released on Tuesday. "Born to Die" is Del Rey's debut album, released after much internet hype.

KEY TRACKS:

- "Video Games"
- "Born to Die"
- "Blue Jeans"
- "Without You"

GRADE: A-

REVIEW

For the contemplative, 'Shame' a valuable study of addiction



PHOTO PROVIDED

BRITTANY MATTHEWS
STAFF REPORTER

"Shame" is immediately shameless. Director Steve McQueen delves into the very messed up world of Brandon, a world of constant casual sex, both free and paid for, masturbation and porn of all varieties. Superficially, "Shame" is a movie about sex addiction. But its so much more than that.

"Shame" isn't for all. The patience needed to sit through it can exclude many, and the introspection needed to appreciate the film is sometimes hard to find when constantly distracted by Fassbender in the nude or Mulligan stepping out of a shower. Even the Oscars snubbed the film in its 2012 nominations.

The film moves at an incredibly slow pace and there doesn't even seem to be a real storyline; it's more a character study. We watch Brandon go through the motions of everyday life. Work is a sham, just a way to pay for his addiction. Even the office isn't sacred, since he takes time out of his day to masturbate in the bathroom stall and uses the computer to watch porn — the sheer amount of it on his hard drive has riddled his laptop with viruses. Brandon's boss jokes with him: "Creampies, I don't even know what that is."

Brandon is unable to make true connections.

He goes on a date with a co-worker, and the awkwardness and falsity with which he handles it is exemplary of his inability to be in a normal relationship.

Even his relationship with his sister Sissy is tainted, both by their unexplained childhood, and her inability to know boundaries. She gets into his porn stash, sneaks into his room to cuddle with him in the late night, only to be yelled out of the room, and then uses his room for sex with his boss — a boss with a wife and kids. Her need for attention is as much an addiction as Brandon's.

Michael Fassbender and Carey Mulligan are beautiful as siblings Brandon and Sissy Sullivan. Fassbender has the smouldering stare mastered to a tee, and Mulligan has tortured soul written all over her. Her rendition of "New York, New York" is a hypnotizing study of her character. McQueen uses a solid five minutes to showcase Mulligan's face as she plays coy with the audience, and watches the reaction of her viewers.

McQueen is generous with film time. We watch Brandon jog through New York for an eternity, observing as he pushes himself to keep running, using it as a crutch to get away from his problems. McQueen uses these scenes so that we can retrospect, just as Brandon contemplates the shambles his life has turned into. ★

REVIEW

Michaelson finds moving album in 'Human Again'



PHOTO PROVIDED

BEN RIES
SENIOR PRODUCER

Ingrid Michaelson's unusual path to fame never included a deal with a major label and relied instead on her raw talent and appearances of her music on dozens of television shows (most notably "Grey's Anatomy"). "Human Again," Michaelson's fifth album (and her first since marrying musician Greg Laswell), exhibits her charming ability to make her introspective songs appeal to wide audiences.

At her best, the New York-based artist captures universal sentiments of deep emotion through simple song structures along the lines of R.E.M.'s "Nightswimming" (which she regularly covers in concert). Her reliance on familiar metaphors often walks a line between clichéd and affectingly blunt, but her likeable persona and impressively varied vocal performances make "Human Again" a rewarding and nourishing listen.

Unfortunately, the first two tracks showcase the worst of her songwriting tendencies. "Fire" never quite hits the mark, with obvious metaphors ("I'm walking a fire into

you," "You burn me out") simmering under overdone orchestration. "This Is War" also shies away from the intimacies that Michaelson best captures, floundering with a generic chorus: "I won't surrender/I will fight back."

The quality picks up immediately afterwards and remains high throughout. An impressive array of instruments adds additional layers to the remaining 11 tracks, but Michaelson and her lyrics always stay at the forefront. The singer-songwriter aesthetic she adopts suits her perfectly, and she deals with more personal and often downbeat themes. As Michaelson stated in a June interview with the online journal OhNoTheyDidn't, "There aren't any peppy songs on this record."

Fittingly, many songs like the album highlight "Ribbons" deal with themes of abandonment and anger: The brilliant verse "I'm sitting pretty and I don't know why/I found somebody, said he'd make me fly/Wrapped me up in ribbons then he left me to die" is later matched in bitterness by "I can see you falling like a homemade kite." Lead single "Ghost" also captures the feeling of being left behind, as Michaelson's narrator labels herself "an invisible disaster" that the object of her love cannot see. Staples of her previous work also abound — the moving "Blood Brothers," for instance, resembles a cry for love and affection.

The polished production of "Human Again" makes it immediately accessible, but the nuances in the lyrics ensure its value for repeated listens. "Human Again" reaffirms that artists with great singles can also make great albums. As Michaelson nudges at the boundaries set by her earlier works, her strength as a songwriter shines. ★

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| Grace Austin | Mallory Hope | Megan Pike |
| Emily Baran | Aaron Hurst | Natalie Schieber |
| Kristin Barth | Madeleine Jones | Laura Seeberg |
| Grace Brown | Nora Kline | Emily Specht |
| Alex Cammarota | Jayne Kravitz | Helen Stanley |
| Lauren Cardenas | Anum Lalani | Lana Stilger |
| Katy Cesarotti | Jenna Litzky | Emily Torres |
| Kelsey Creel | Becca Luferman | Lauren Viehmann |
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NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

This Wednesday, the Vanderbilt football program will sign its newest crop of talent. Who will choose VU?



BECK FRIEDMAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER



Franklin lures top-tier players to Nashville with intense recruiting

REID HARRIS
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

When he announced that James Franklin would be Vanderbilt's head football coach last December, Chancellor Nick Zeppos pledged unprecedented resources and support to turn Vanderbilt into a team that could compete for championships. Zeppos hyperbolically promised Franklin a rocket ship to compete with traditional SEC powers on the recruiting trail.

In the heart of recruiting season in late September, that rocket ship materialized in the form of a helicopter that Franklin used to see multiple prospects' games on Friday nights. Franklin tweeted a picture of his helicopter on Sept. 30, causing a stir in the world of college football recruiting and announcing that Vanderbilt would finally commit its finances to compete for recruits.

"All these things that are different are signs of us moving in the right direction," Franklin said. "There's no doubt about it."

The results of the increased emphasis on recruiting won't truly be known until National

Signing Day on Wednesday, but Franklin saw the effects of his new methods while out recruiting prospects.

"When I was in Georgia doing this, I remember coming into the game at half time and all the students were lined up at the fence giving me high-fives saying 'Vanderbilt's got swag. I love the attitude Vanderbilt has.'"

Although he said the primary purpose of using the helicopter is simply to be able to get to multiple games on the same night, there's no denying its effect on changing the mindset of prospects around the southeast.

"Is there a component to the helicopter to people starting to view Vanderbilt as a sexy, cool school?" Franklin said. "No doubt about it."

Days before National Signing Day, Vanderbilt holds commitments from six of the state of Tennessee's top 25 prospects compared to the University of Tennessee's one. Among Vanderbilt's commitments are Brian Kimbrow, the state's best running back, and Andrew Jelks, whose parents are perennial UT season ticket holders. Many of the players expected to sign their letters of intent on Wednesday hold offers from the likes of Alabama, Auburn and Florida. While Franklin's work

is far from finished, players from around the state are noticing the changes being made to Vanderbilt's football program.

To be clear, Franklin and his coaching staff are fighting an uphill battle; although ESPN currently ranks Vanderbilt as the 23rd best recruiting class in the country, it is still ninth in the SEC (including Texas A&M and Missouri). It will take time for the Commodores to be able to consistently lure in top-tier recruits.

But for perhaps the first time ever, Vanderbilt is competing for multiple elite recruits. The university is supporting the program in the form of recruiting expenses and an indoor practice facility that will be completed no later than the start of the 2014 football season.

"The more of those competitions we win in the offseason and Sunday through Friday, the Saturdays will get a lot easier," Franklin said.

As the 2012 recruiting season draws to a close and spring practice begins, coach Franklin and the Commodore football team are poised to compete with the best of the best. The building blocks are in place, and time will tell whether or not the offseason accomplishments can turn into victories on the football field in 2012. ★

MEET VANDERBILT'S NEW CO-RECRUITING COORDINATORS:

ANTHONY TRIPODORO
SPORTS REPORTER

George Barlow

Now: Defensive backs coach, defensive recruiting coordinator
Previously: New Mexico interim head coach for eight games



- Played safety at Marshall, where he still shares the record for most interceptions in a game
- Served as defensive coordinator at James Madison and led the defense in JMU's 2004 I-AA national championship in his first year
- JMU's defense ranked highly in most categories during Barlow's five years as defensive coordinator

Josh Gattis

Now: Wide receivers coach, offensive recruiting coordinator
Previously: Western Michigan wide receivers coach, one season



- Played safety at Wake Forest, earning All-ACC honors in 2005 and 2006
- Drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars in 2007 and played briefly for the Chicago Bears
- Western Michigan senior receivers Chleb Ravenall and Robert Arnheim had their best seasons under Gattis, with each making over 60 catches

SIGNING DAY SCHEDULE

7 A.M.: Football program begins announcing each signee as that National Letter of Intent is received. Check 2012 Signing Day Central on vucommadores.com for updates throughout the day.

3:30 P.M.: A live webcast of Coach Franklin's press conference will air on vucommadores.com.

6:30 P.M.: Coach Franklin and the football program will host the second annual Commodore National Signing Day Celebration in the main ballroom of the SLC.

FIRST 500 FANS RECEIVE:

- Official "Signing Day" poster
- "Anchor Down" t-shirt
- Free Chick-fil-A sandwich coupon

Vandy recruits expected to sign

DANNY NOLAN
SPORTS REPORTER

Name: Caleb Azubike
School: McGavock Comp High School (Nashville, Tenn.)
Position: Defensive End
Height: 6 feet 5 inches
Weight: 240 pounds

Azubike, a three-star recruit who committed to Vanderbilt in July, is a defensive end with good size who showed flashes of getting off the ball well. He was a sack machine in high school and really stood out in December's Tennessee East vs. West All-Star game, consistently causing trouble in the running and throwing game for the East. Azubike displays good pursuit speed and is a great tackler but needs to develop his game more. With the loss of Tim Fugger and Johnell Thomas, look for Azubike to contribute soon.

Name: Andrew Jelks
School: Henry County High School (Paris, Tenn.)
Position: Offensive Tackle
Height: 6 feet 6 inches
Weight: 260 pounds

Jelks, a three-star recruit who committed to Vanderbilt earlier this month, is one of the top offensive lineman recruits in the state. Jelks verbally committed to Vanderbilt over Mississippi State, Alabama and, most notably, in-state rival Tennessee, the team he grew up watching with his father, a lifelong Vols fan. Jelks stated that he hopes to pack on more weight, something he may need to do going against SEC defensive linemen every Saturday, but Jelks is sure to be a fixture on Vanderbilt's offensive line for years to come.

Name: Patton Robinette
School: Maryville High School (Maryville, Tenn.)
Position: Quarterback
Height: 6 feet 5 inches
Weight: 200 pounds

Initially, it looked as if Robinette was going to be playing at North Carolina, but he decided to commit to play in Nashville earlier this month. Coach Franklin has expressed the importance of getting a quarterback in every recruiting class and Robinette will fill that role nicely, coming off an outstanding senior season, where he led his high school to a class 6A championship and received the 2011 Gatorade State Player of the Year. Perhaps his greatest asset is his excellent decision-making and running ability that limits his errors, keeping opposing defenses honest.

Name: Brian Kimbrow
School: East High School (Memphis, Tenn.)
Position: Running Back
Height: 5 feet 9 inches
Weight: 165 pounds

Kimbrow, a four-star recruit, is one of the fastest football prospects in the country. He received offers from at least 24 schools, including Tennessee, Auburn, Mississippi State and Notre Dame, but verbally committed to Vanderbilt in July. His small size may limit him as an every-down back, and he needs to improve on catching the football, but Kimbrow is ready to contribute right away. He will be a positive addition to Vanderbilt's backfield and special teams units, especially considering that Franklin stressed a need to find speedy playmakers.

Name: Darreon Herring
School: Stephenson High School (Stone Mountain, GA)
Position: Linebacker
Height: 6 feet 2 inches
Weight: 195 pounds

Herring committed to Vanderbilt in May, selecting an SEC school over local ACC schools North Carolina, Clemson, Wake Forest and Georgia Tech. Herring is a very productive athlete, with the ability to defend the run along the line of scrimmage or effectively defend the pass. He comes to a Vanderbilt program looking for help in the linebacker corps. One of the more exciting features about Herring is his versatility, as he has the skills and athleticism needed to stay on the field in a variety of different coverages and defensive schemes.



IN HER SHOES



KADY SCHRANN
#5, FRESHMAN GUARD



JUSTIN MENESTRINA / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

KRISTEN SHEFT
SPORTS REPORTER

Although just a freshman, Kady Schrann has quickly emerged as one of the team's most consistent players. In Sunday's game against LSU, Schrann scored a career-high 29 points to lead the Commodores to an 81-72 victory. Since earning the starting guard position earlier this season, she has quietly helped the Commodores to a 16-5 record. *The Hustler* caught up with Schrann to talk about her transition to Vanderbilt, style of play and goals for the season.

Playing at Vanderbilt has been a huge learning experience. I'm so lucky that the coaching staff and upperclassmen have been tremendously helpful through the whole transition process. From the first day of practice until now, I have been taking in more and more. It's exciting to play at this level, but there is still more I have to learn.

I think being so young is an advantage on the court. I have a chance to prove myself and try different things because most players don't know as much about me yet. Every game is different depending on how teams guard me and what defenses they run.

I would describe my play as aggressive and smart. I try not to let other teams get inside my head. Even though I have had my share of ups and downs this season, my main focus each day is on helping the team. We all share the same mindset of getting better every day.

Right now, our team is focused on starting focused. We continue to grow every time we step on the court. We take away something valuable after each game, which helps us move forward. We still have a lot of time left in the season, and our goal is to improve and be the best team that we can. ★

Vandy displays killer instinct, tops MTSU

Ezeli turns in his best effort of the year, finishes with a season-high 21 points to lead Commodores in 84-77 win

SAMUEL DOBBERPUHL
SPORTS REPORTER

After turning in a dominant performance Tuesday night against Tennessee, the Commodores were faced with a stiffer test Saturday afternoon — attempting to end Middle Tennessee State's 12-game winning streak. Festus Ezeli scored a season-high 21 points and Vanderbilt prevailed in a hard-fought NCAA Tournament-type game, 84-77.

"We thought they would do exactly what they did and press up on us, and Festus delivered," said head coach Kevin Stallings. "No disrespect to anyone else, but he was the best player on the floor today."

Vanderbilt took advantage of strong outings from John Jenkins, who led all scorers with 26 points, and Jeff Taylor, who put up 17 points. The Commodores (16-5 overall, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) displayed the killer instinct that has been missing in past teams, finishing off the game with an 8-1 run.

Middle Tennessee State (20-3) did not go down without a fight, shooting 57 percent from the field and 54 percent from behind three-point arc. LaRon Dendy led the Blue Raiders with 22 points, and three others scored in the double figures for Middle Tennessee State.

Both teams were ready to go from the tip, with the Blue Raiders going on a 10-0 run after Vanderbilt went up 7-2. After a few early season losses to mid-major teams, the Commodores knew they needed to bring their best effort for a full 40 minutes.

"We knew that just because we weren't playing an SEC team, we knew it wasn't going to be easy today," Taylor said. "The coaches were really, really emphasizing that in practice leading up to this game, so it was good to get this one done early."



BECK FRIEDMAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Although Middle Tennessee State controlled the lead for most of the first half, the Commodores went on a 16-6 run to finish the half leading 44-39.

Vanderbilt held on to the lead until the 10:12 mark of the second half, when Kerry Hammonds hit a three to put the Blue Raiders up 62-59.

The teams traded leads until Vanderbilt took the lead for good with 1:45 remaining, when Jenkins finished a tough layup after a terrific pass from Brad Tinsley. The basket put the Commodores up 78-76, and Vanderbilt held onto the lead with a combination of strong defense and perfect free throw shooting.

With Saturday's victory, Vanderbilt has won 10 of its last 11 games. The team will resume its SEC schedule with road games at Arkansas and Florida this week.

The tipoff for the Arkansas game is scheduled for 8 p.m. CT Tuesday night, and the game will be aired on ESPN. The Commodores will face the Florida Gators on Saturday at 12 p.m. CT, a game that will be shown on CBS. ★

On-Campus Housing Fair

for All Undergraduate Students

Wednesday, February 1 • 5-7 p.m.

Scales Music Study Room,
Branscomb Quadrangle

Wednesday, February 15 • 5-7 p.m.

2nd Floor Multipurpose Room,
The Commons Center

The Office of Housing and Residential Education has made a few changes for the 2012-2013 academic year. Attend one of the two fairs to learn more about these changes and to gather information about the university housing application and selection process.



think inside the **BUBBLE**

BACK PAGE

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WHO SEES THIS AD?
11,500 STUDENTS
 and many faculty/staff, parents and alumni

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

1 2
 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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1/26 Solutions

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1/30/12

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Fashionable
- 5 ___ Blanc, the Alps' highest peak
- 9 Wintry mess
- 14 Prolonged unconsciousness
- 15 Confess openly
- 16 Like horror film music
- 17 Practice boxing
- 18 Luke Skywalker, e.g.
- 19 Postal service symbol
- 20 DUCK
- 23 The NFL's Cowboys
- 25 Energy
- 26 Snake's warning
- 27 "Can ___ honest with you?"
- 28 2011 World Series champs, on scoreboards
- 30 Rogue
- 32 Ring loudly
- 34 "Othello" villain
- 37 Fits of anger
- 41 CRANE
- 44 Actor Davis
- 45 ___-poly
- 46 Yours, to Yves
- 47 Presidents' Day mo.
- 49 "___-haw!"
- 51 Any nonzero number divided by itself
- 52 Arafat's org. until 2004
- 55 Remove, with "off"
- 58 "Key Largo" 54-Down winner Claire
- 60 QUAIL
- 63 Not shortened, as a film
- 64 Suit to ___
- 65 "Joy of Cooking" writer Rombauer
- 68 Stiller's comedy partner
- 69 iPhone message
- 70 Cowardly film beast played by 29-Down
- 71 Swashbuckler Flynn
- 72 Brother of Cain and Abel
- 73 "Ignore that editing change"

DOWN

- 1 IV amounts
- 2 "___ on Pop": Dr. Seuss
- 3 "Lay it on me!"
- 4 Christmas song
- 5 Like the Grand Canyon
- 6 Higher than
- 7 All-nighter pill
- 8 Bale binder
- 9 Reel from a blow to the head
- 10 Wife of Jacob
- 11 Involuntary impulses
- 12 Eliot's "___ Marner"
- 13 Obays
- 21 Used to be
- 22 Upper-left PC key
- 23 Tippler, for short
- 24 Helps with a heist
- 29 Actor Bert (see 70-Across)
- 31 Carvey or Delany
- 33 Explorer Ericson
- 35 Moo ___ gai pan
- 36 The "O" in SRO
- 38 "Time to move on"
- 39 Money-saving, in product names
- 40 Downhill racer
- 42 Abstain from alcohol
- 43 Canines metaphorically exchanged for something desired
- 48 Prohibit
- 50 Goof
- 52 Nom de ___: pen name
- 53 Solitary man
- 54 Hollywood award
- 56 Grecian urn poet
- 57 Cosmetics giant
- 59 Lesser of two ___
- 61 French franc successor
- 62 Deli counter call
- 66 One of the Stooges
- 67 Picnic undesirable

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1/30/12

1/26/12 Solutions

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An Open Letter to Chancellor Zeppos

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE, thefire.org) was disappointed to learn via your January 20 statement that Vanderbilt is abandoning America's pluralistic tradition by banning religious and political student groups from making leadership decisions based on their religious or political beliefs. You state that "membership in registered student organizations is open to everyone and that everyone, if desired, has the opportunity to seek leadership positions."

We understand that you are holding a "town hall" meeting to discuss Vanderbilt's decision. At this event, students will likely wish to hear answers to questions such as these about the ramifications of the university's policy:

- If one of the leaders of Vanderbilt's Muslim Students Association were to convert to Christianity, is the group required to maintain that person in his or her leadership role despite the fact that he or she is no longer Muslim?
- Vanderbilt informed the Christian Legal Society that its requirement that student leaders "lead Bible studies, prayer, and worship" was against the policy because it implied that these leaders must hold certain religious beliefs. How do you suggest religious groups at Vanderbilt fulfill their purposes without leaders who can accomplish such core tasks of religious leadership?
- While this dispute was originally confined to religious organizations, your statement of January 20 states that *all* student organizations must accept *any* student as a member or a leader. If a group of straight students—the majority at Vanderbilt—were to join the Vanderbilt Lambda Association, vote themselves into office, and disband the group or alter the group's mission, what recourse would LGBT members of the Lambda Association have?
- If a member of the College Republicans joins the College Democrats in order to discover their plans for political activism and report those plans back to the College Republicans so as to thwart them, do the College Democrats have any way to stop him or her?
- Under this policy, must an ideological student journal like Vanderbilt's *Orbis* accept editors or publish columnists who disagree with, mock, or denigrate its progressive political views?
- Many groups in the Occupy movement choose to make decisions by consensus. How could a Vanderbilt-based Occupy group operate if a small group of students joined specifically to prevent the group from acting in any way by always preventing a consensus from forming?
- If a student were to join an environmentalist group like Vanderbilt SPEAR and then used his membership in that group to increase his or her credibility when publicly criticizing the group's positions in the Nashville or Vanderbilt newspapers, what could the group do to prevent this?

FIRE, which wrote you of these concerns last September but received no response, was not alone in its concern. Twenty-three members of the United States Congress, the national Christian Legal Society, Vanderbilt law professor Carol Swain, Roman Catholic Bishop David Choby of Nashville, and many others warned Vanderbilt that a decision to deny religious or political groups the right to require that their leaders believe in the group's mission would severely impair the rights of Vanderbilt students.

Indeed, Vanderbilt promises that students "are entitled to exercise the rights of citizens," yet the university's decision now forbids them from doing so. Vanderbilt students now have fewer rights than their counterparts at the University of Tennessee—or their friends from high school who chose not to attend college at all.

We hope that you will provide honest and thoughtful answers to these important questions.

Paid for by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education • 601 Walnut St. Suite 510 • Philadelphia, PA 19106 • thefire.org

Vanderbilt Television Spring Kickoff Event

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

