



# Chancellor Zeppos announces plans to add Chick-Fil-A



Calendar to his wall. . . Tells press the 2012 one is "Hilarious."

## THIS JUST IN

### Being Uncool Finally Uncool Again

By: Jim Gillin  
Cool Killer

their kids look in the mirror and decide that baggy flannel looks terrible, and a nicely fitting collared shirt would be a better choice.

Aside from the fact that "Kool" was the new cool for a while with these cigarette-smoking hipsters, cool has not been cool since approximately 1990.

Cool people today are ecstatic: "Finally, I don't need some greasy twit judging me for popping my collar and wearing a Patagonia jacket with my pressed khakis... or showering daily... or going outside... or listening to rap!" commented one man who self-identified as "always been cool" in our survey.

Of ten thousand participants in our nationwide poll of cool people, 15% claimed, like the above man, that they have always been cool, or have been cool since the early '90s. 9% claimed they hadn't been cool before 2012, but have changed habits and recently become cool for the first time in their lives, and the remaining 76% checked the box for "Was uncool (which I thought was so cool) for a while, but I'm back to normal now."

Well-dressed, athletic, and social people everywhere confirm that it's once again uncool to be uncool, and conversely cool to be cool.

Uncoolness, frequently a problem for the lower-middle class, has been a drain on society from the 1950s, up until the late 1990s, when geeks grew some nuts and decided that it was cool to be uncool.

Donning their parents' dusty jackets over ironic thrift store t-shirts, dorky kids took on a new identity—hipsters—and spent the past decade and a half trying too hard to look like they weren't trying, in order to convince society that uncool was the new cool.

Well, it worked... for a while. Poll results this year indicate that after increasing and plateauing for many years, the popularity of artsy haircuts and skinny jeans has finally taken a downward turn, signifying that the nation believes it is once again uncool to be uncool.

Mothers are breathing sighs of relief, echoed throughout the entire American South, as

### Student Hospitalized for Alcohol Poisoning after Visit to CT West

By: Peter Linck  
Anonymous Alcoholic

This past Saturday night, student Oscar Verdose was hospitalized for alcohol poisoning after consuming excessive amounts of CT West's popular Jack Daniels BBQ sauce. Verdose, a junior with an American Studies major and concentration on the west, was said to have had a blood barbecue alcohol content (BBBQAC) level of .23, a typically fatal amount. He reportedly entered the restaurant wearing spurs and chaps and ripped shots of the sauce before groping several vaudeville show girls, addressing a staff member as "pilgrim," and eventually passing out.

CT West's Jack Daniels sauce is housed in the barrels many students assume are gaudy decor. The sauce, also believed by most to be non-alcoholic, is in fact the most potent sauce the restaurant has ever produced. Its 160 proof content is notably stronger than the 120 proof Evan Williams sauce of the 1990s. Workers at CT West seem to recognize the danger the sauce poses; Verdose, how-

ever, declined to use another sauce during his visit, saying repeatedly, "We don't need no stinking other sauces." VUStat reports that the sauce is the third leading cause of death at CT West, behind shoot-outs and obesity.

"The alcoholic sauce is necessary in maintaining the rugged, wild-west cowboy theme of the restaurant," commented that one dude with glasses who always works at CT West.

Critics of the establishment have noted the failure of the Old West saloon façade, citing especially the cheesy gunshot noise on the touch screen and awkward flickering lasso of lights. Witness of the incident and French transfer student Jean Wayne even commented, "I've never been in a restaurant that made me feel less like I was a cowboy."

Despite the incident, CT West has no plans to change out the sauce. However, that one dude did hint at plans to expand into the adjacent Quiznos, saying, "This tower ain't big enough fer the two of us."

### Advancing Darkness Suddenly Reverses for No Clear Reason

By: Andrew Snow  
Darkness Defier

An impending global catastrophe was averted late last month when the day-consuming darkness began an abrupt retreat. While experts tell us it is still to early to know for sure, with each passing day they are becoming more confident that the biosphere has been spared from unending night.

The first indication of problems appeared early last September when researchers with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration noticed an alarming trend. "When we looked at the data, we were shocked to find that not only was each day getting consistently shorter than the last, but also that this had been going on for months," says senior researcher Dr. David Marshall.

In fact, Nashville had lost an astonishing six hours of daylight from June to December. "We all tried to maintain a strong face in public for the last few months, but honestly, it looked pretty bleak. If the days had continued to wane at that rate, we would have plunged into constant night before next August. Even if we figured out how to stop the loss, and day-

light just held steady at those December numbers, there still wouldn't have been enough light to grow crops at anywhere near the scale we need."

On the evening of the 23rd, the National Weather Service reported that they had measured a slightly longer day. While many were skeptical at first, each day since has added more evidence, and the scientific community at large now believes that this trend will continue.

Although scientists still do not know what prompted the change, many public figures have questioned whether the shift's proximity to Christmas is mere coincidence. "A Christmas miracle? Undeniably," said presidential hopeful Rick Santorum in comments last Thursday. "The birth of the 'Light of the World' and our salvation here on Earth from darkness - I don't think anyone can credibly claim the two aren't related."

Still, many questions remain unanswered. Among them, what to make of strange reports emerging from Australia and other bottom-nations, claiming that their daytime hours had only expanded during our darkness and that they are now facing waning similar to what we recorded in July.

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Vandy Diversifies Classroom by Adding Yellow and Brown Boards



Bill Dyson Reinvents the Door Against the Will of General Population



Deadmau5 and Ke\$ha Confess to Skipping Second Grade English.

## FROM THE EDITOR: GUERNICA



DAN KING

Hello, everyone! I hope we all had a wonderful time over winter break.

While I was at home, I made this painting, which I wanted to share with you all! It's called *Guernica* and it is my contemplation on the Spanish Civil War. I put a lot of time into the painting and I'm very happy about the way it turned out. Enjoy! P.S. It's sideways. You're gonna have to turn the paper to see it right.



On a more serious note: Katy Jaramillo, one of *The Slant's* funniest writers and comic artists will not be able to join us this semester due to some recent health issues. Our thoughts and prayers are with her during this trying time, and we all wish her a speedy recovery.

## MASTHEAD



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PLACERE CONTENDIT

## Fucked Image



Since the Broncos got eliminated from the playoffs, Tim Tebow has been putting the "God" in "Goddamnit!"

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## CULTURE CORNER!

Trailer for *The Dark Knight Rises* Best Movie Currently in Theatres

By: Richard McGee  
Film Fiend

After a record dip in overall box office grosses, figures improved following the release of the two-minute trailer for *The Dark Knight Rises*. The trailer has gone on to become one of the most popular films of the year, sweeping the Golden Globes with five awards.

The two-minute trailer beat out critical acclaimed films like *The Descendants* and *The Help* to win the award Best Motion Picture: Drama. The victory puts the trailer in the lead for this year's Oscar race.

The trailer also won Golden Globes for Best Director for Christopher Nolan, Best Actor in a Leading Role for Christian Bale, Best Actress for Marion Cotillard, and Best Actor in a Supporting Role for Michael Caine.

After his name was announced as the winner, Caine received a standing ovation. "In my three seconds of screen time, I made sure to say my one line with absolute conviction," said Caine. "It took several minutes of rehearsal." Caine beat out fellow nominee Joseph Gordon-Levitt, who appears onscreen for 0.4 seconds.

According to Hollywood Foreign Press spokesperson Michael Bary, "We decided not to nominate *Drive*, *The Tree of Life*, *Take Shelter*, or *Melancholia* because those are good movies and we're complete idiots."

Praise for the preview, which shows the villainous Bane and Catwoman wreaking havoc in Gotham City, has been unanimous. "It's by miles the best film of the holiday season. Those two minutes are packed with truly harrowing visuals and deep emotional themes of civilization versus chaos," said film critic Roger Ebert.

Some audience members have been reported to be purchasing tickets to feature-length films just to see the trailer. "Of course I didn't want to see *We Bought A Zoo* ten times," said one filmgoer. "I just wanted to see that trailer on the big screen."

"This is supposed to be the awards season. Given all the crap that Hollywood has released, it's really not surprising that this trailer seems like such a masterpiece," said film analyst Girgus Samsen. "I mean, whose idea was it to make another Chipmunks movie? *New Years Eve*? Are you kidding? And *War Horse* – how could anybody have expected that to be any good? It's a testament to the weakness of the final stretch of this year that a piece of mediocrity like *The Descendants* is getting so much buzz."

More than six million pre-orders for the Blu-ray release of the trailer have already been placed. Many are waiting for the special collector's edition next May. Its trailer promises loads of extras, including deleted shots and a full two-minute commentary by director Christopher Nolan.



Oh my gosh did you see it yet? Ah it was so good! I hope they make a sequel to the trailer! Or, you know what would be even better? If they took the idea of the trailer and stretched it out into a full-length movie!

## The Slant Picks This Year's Oscar Winners!

It's never too early to start talking Oscars. So we've decided to go ahead and give you guys our predictions for who will win all the big awards at this year's ceremony. Our picks are so spot-on accurate that this article essentially makes the awards ceremony a trite formality. So if you still want to be surprised in February, stop reading now.

- **Best Actor:** Many people think that George Clooney will take this one home for his role in *The Descendants*. But those people are going to be really disappointed when they finally get around to seeing *The Descendants* and realize how bad it is. Michael Fassbender wins it for his work in *Shame*.

- **Best Actress:** Brad Pitt will come out as a trans-man and the behind-the-times Academy will assume this makes him an actress. She'll then win the award for her role in *Moneyball*.

- **Best Picture:** The frontrunner here has to be *War Horse*. But my cousin took a picture of her new baby that is so adorable I don't see how it doesn't qualify as the best picture of the year.

- **Best Supporting Actor:** I very badly want Patton Oswalt to win this award. There is no joke here at all. He's a great comedian, actor, and writer, and nothing in this world would make me happier than to see him receive this award.

- **Best Supporting Actress:** In an attempt to punish the world's supporting actresses for a year of terrible, terrible work, the Academy will refuse to give this award to anyone this year. Instead they'll make the actresses watch while they put the trophy up in the attic, lock the door, and announce that they'll only bring it down "when you young ladies learn to behave."

- **Best Director:** My cousin will win for directing the year's best picture. I've never understood why "best director" and "best picture" are two different things. Isn't the director's job to make the movie?

## Bastard Confession



"I'll be honest, guys. I've never read the Constitution. I had no idea that I was allowed to veto laws I don't want to enforce. Which is bad because enforcing laws is pretty much my whole job."

-- Barack Obama

# World Literally Comes to End After Girl Fails to Get Bid to Top Choice Sorority

By: Sam Mallick  
Royal Rusher

The apocalypse occurred at 3:05 p.m. January 15, when freshman Brittany Anderson did not receive a bid from Gamma Theta Rho, the sorority she listed as her first preference during rush week, fulfilling the Mayan prediction that the world would end in 2012.

Eyewitnesses stated that when Anderson heard the news, the ground shook, fire and brimstone rained from the sky, and a supervolcano erupted, showering the earth with ash. "This is, like, the worst possible thing that could happen!" Anderson said.

"The part about me not getting the bid, not the supervolcano, I mean," she added.

Despite her disappointment, Anderson did begrudgingly accept a bid from Sigma Psi Sigma, a decidedly mid-tiered sorority. "What, do you think I was going to be some GDI, or something?" Anderson said. "Please. Greek Life is, like, the whole reason I came to Vanderbilt. Plus, I'm too pretty to not be in a sorority."

She then went on to claim that she has "the best big in the world," a point which she reiterated several times during the interview.

Though no Mayans were available for comment, Thomas Leary, Professor of South and Central American History at Vanderbilt, stated that their prediction was almost completely accurate.

"If there were any Mayans left, I'm sure they'd say 'I told you so!'" Leary said. "The apocalypse occurred almost exactly the way they predicted it, which is impressive considering their civilization died off hundreds of years before sororities even existed."

The Mayans were not the only ones who saw the apocalypse as a potential outcome of the 2012 sorority rush process, though. According to Jane O'Connell, Anderson's roommate who chose not to rush, Anderson herself repeatedly said, "it would be the end of the world if I don't get a bid from GTR."

"It's really all she talked about first semester," O'Connell said. "It actually got really annoying. She wouldn't shut up about how badly she

wanted to be a GTR. If the apocalypse hadn't happened, I would have probably checked into a hotel for a week to avoid the sob fest."

Sisters at GTR cited Anderson's bitchy personality and the fact that she wore the wrong kind of shoes to the final round of rush as the reasons for denying her a bid and, incidentally, causing the apocalypse, an incident for which they take no responsibility.

"She was, like, really fake and not very nice,"



There's simply no way to tell whose fault it is that we didn't let her in to our sorority.

said Eliza Carter, president of GTR. "Plus, her shoes were kind of wrong, and that's the real way we decide who's in and who's out. It's not our problem if it set off a supervolcano."

When asked about the apocalypse, as well as the ordinary severe emotional trauma caused every year by sorority rush, the Office of Greek Life issued an official statement.

"Unlike all other student groups, Greek organizations are free to discriminate on whatever arbitrary basis they choose," the statement read. "It is up to the brothers and sisters, who are obviously all well-adjusted, emotionally mature, and not at all petty, to decide who gets bids. We take no responsibility for this or any other apocalypse."

Anderson says that the future looks bright, despite all of the brimstone-haze blocking the sun. When asked what she thought about causing the apocalypse by not getting a bid from GTR, Anderson said, "So what? I never wanted to be in that stupid sorority. They're all a bunch of sluts anyway."

## Zerfoss Health Center Discovers Miracle of "Antibiotics"

By: Alec Jordan  
Medicine Man

On January 9th, Vanderbilt's Zefross Student Health Center announced their plans to unveil, and start treating eligible students with, what they call a "miracle drug" by the name of Amoxicillin.

This drug, labeled as an "anti-biotic" by the medical community, is a pioneer of a new wave of infection-fighting medicines. One of its core components is recently discovered "Penicillin," which has shown to be effective in combating illness.

Just over a year ago, I reported on Zerfoss' then-looming sponsorship by the big-time medical giant, Mucinex. This merger never came to fruition, however, as Mucinex executives and medical staff at the Zerfoss SHC (supported by other global researchers in the field) determined that Mucinex, according to one medical journal, "Did absolutely nothing."

Zerfoss broke up the would-be partnership with a twinge of embarrassment. Chief of Staff, Jack Jackson, released a statement at the time saying, "Hindsight being 20-20, we at Zerfoss realize that our overwhelming faith in a medicine with the sole purpose of clearing congestion, an effect one can find in numerous other drugs that also have other benefits, was misplaced. We vow to vastly improve our medical treatment to students and the Vanderbilt community at large."

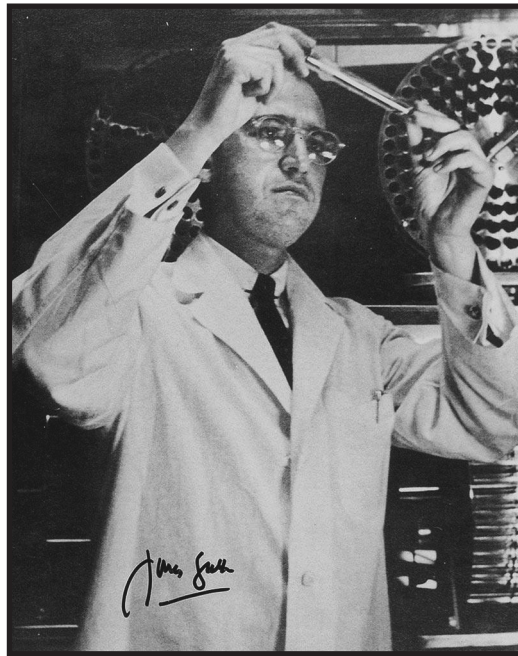
Students may still receive Mucinex for various symptoms such as stomach aches and sprained ankles, but the doctors at the Health Center are now assaulting the serious illnesses with Amoxicillin. Maladies such as sinus infections now have an enemy in this drug, as it actually has the potential to kill off bacteria.

"This announcement pleased me," stated local Nashville doctor George Castle M.D. "It's nice to see Vanderbilt's student care leap into the 20th

century."

Of course, there are mixed opinions about the touted "miracle drug." Doctor Garcia, from the medical journal MedNowNotLater, criticized Amoxicillin saying, "It may fend off infections, but then again, it may not. The problem with Amoxicillin is that it is a very weak drug, and there is absolutely no reason to prescribe it if a doctor knows the specific issues of a patient."

Nevertheless, the staff at Zerfoss are excited. "We now treat with real medicine," said Nurse Pride. "Even though there is a 60% chance or higher the Amoxicillin won't rid your infection, it will make you feel better for its 3/day for ten days course before your relapse and return."



At the rate they're "discovering" stuff, we should have a cure for Polio by 2050.

## Even Deaf Basketball Players Required to Wear Dr. Dre Headphones

By: David Johnson  
Audio Auditor

New freshman basketball stand-out Steven Pinnauricle was recently pressured into wearing Beats by, Dr. Dre headphones, around campus despite being completely deaf.

Pinnauricle, born in southern Ethiopia, lost all of his hearing in an accident involving a hammer, an anvil, and a stirrup. Not letting his disability impede his promising athletic career, he secured a scholarship to Vanderbilt some 18 months ago after a record-setting season at Ethiopia High.

Only a casual listener of music, Pinnauricle had no intentions of following the trend set by his teammates and wearing Dr. Dre's now iconic headphones around campus, but the team had other plans for him. In a recent vote, his team unanimously decided that he would wear the headphones around campus and in dormitory lobbies.

When asked why his team would force this upon him, John Jenkins merely stated, "I don't wanna be hearing all this talk about us forcing all this stuff on him. I'm tired of all this noise. We know what's best for him." When asked if he wanted to change this quote in light of the fact one of his fellow teammates cannot actually hear anything, he simply made several consecutive

3-point jumpers.

Pinnauricle apparently tried to get his teammates to agree he could wear the ear-bud version of the headphones, but all of his requests fell on deaf ears.

An interview with Pinnauricle was attempted, but when asked how he felt about the team's decision, he simply said, "Huh?" Whether this was an indicator of a deficiency in his comprehension of the inquiry presented to him, or whether he is just deaf, remains unknown. I wrote my question of, "Do you have some ear muffs for your first real winter?" on a slip of paper and he scoffed at me and wrote back that he didn't wear ear muffs, on principle.

I continued my research on his Facebook page, and things to note would be that his

favorite artist is Picasso, his favorite composer Mozart, and his favorite movie is Dumbo.

One other thing Pinnauricle related was that due to his humble beginnings, finding the money for such expensive headphones would be difficult, and when he asked his teammates if he could buy knock-off Dr. Dre headphones, they glared at him and told him to never mention something like that again and they would turn a deaf ear to it once, but only just this once.



I don't know why the hell we all wear these things.

## This Year's Bachelor Content to Let Love Find Him

By: Justin Barisich  
Love Luster

After sixteen seasons of being televised as the exemplars of genuine relationships and the models of chivalrous courting, the contestants on this season of ABC's *The Bachelor* still inspire viewers to search repeatedly and boldly for true love on reality television. Yet, the bachelor for this season is content to let ABC's hit romance series provide him with a house full of 25 beautifully-competitive women, all of whom want to shower him with small-screen attention and perhaps even meaningful companionship.

In previous renditions of the show, the leading bachelors have ranged from a US naval officer to a professional actor to a medical doctor to a literal Italian prince. This season's leading man, Ben Flajnik (pronounced Flannick), is a re-

turn contestant who took second place on last season's gender-flipped version of the series, *The Bachelorette*. Flajnik, a self-described Renaissance man who's handy with a saw, had this to say about his first attempt for the gold ring at the love Olympics: "It was a good run, but I definitely should have trained more. I thought I could have won with just my looks and potential inheritance, but some women really do like conversations that go somewhere. [Long, contemplative pause.] But Ashley broke my heart when she chose that other guy over me atop that ridge beside the Mendocino coast. And my long, wind-blown hair was looking so good that day, too."

Regardless of the natural rate of recovery, when the show's producer Mike Fleiss presented Flajnik with the prospect of redeeming his public sympathy for a second chance at televised love, Flajnik immediately pounced on the opportunity to turn the tables and have the women vying for his attention. "This really is more my style, and it makes it easier for me to find my soul mate while nodding, giggling, and saying acquiescing, self-evident statements a lot. I really am just another shy, quiet, son of a California winery millionaire. Just like everybody else," said Flajnik. When reporters asked him about his rapid recovery from last season's heartbreak, Flajnik just gave the reliable smile-and-nod, and they instantly understood.

When they asked the man behind the camera about his growing trend of picking the runners-

up from the previous seasons to headline future ones, straight-talking producer Fleiss extolled the benefits of shifting last year's rejected contestant into the headliner role: "He comes with his own built-in demographic of aging, husband-hungry women who watched him lose last season." The producer, like this season's bachelor, likes to keep things easy.

After seeing so many other, regular people like Flajnik fall madly in love on TV over the past decade, millions of viewers have been convinced of the realistic prospects and promises of celluloid love. Carrie-Ann Saunders, a committed viewer from Denver and a single mother of two, volunteered her opinion on the comments section of ABC.com's website devoted to the series. "Ben is so dreamy. I wanna run my hands all through that blasé bachelor's hair. And I just absolutely love how the dates he sets up are soooooo romantic and affordable. Thanks to *The Bachelor*, I now know what to expect out of a REAL man. The next guy that wants to seriously impress me on a date better go out of his way to fly me to Venice for a dreamy gondola ride at twilight."

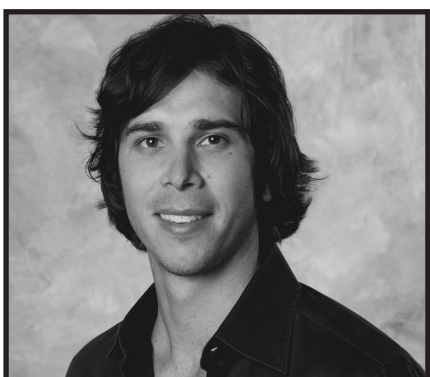
This season's premiere episode aired on January 2nd and showcased all 25 of those girl-next-door-beautiful women along with their creative attempts to catch Flajnik's eye and make a memorable first impression. One thin, blonde contestant rode a horse up the driveway for the initial meet-and-greet. A second busty, blonde contestant brought her grandmother along to show her respect for family values. A third cur-

vaceous, blonde contestant who claimed to have "a little gangster" in her even went as far as to rap a homemade verse for Flajnik. The bachelor, all the while, reclined with a gin and tonic in hand and let the show come to him. By the end of the night, those 3 contestants had all received roses and advanced into the next round of the competition.



Now, this guy... this is what I call a BACHELOR!

Enthralling viewers with a teaser at the end of the two-hour premiere, ABC showed some highlights from the upcoming season. Selecting edited clips from the entirety of the filmed season, producer Fleiss put forth four straight minutes of multiple, attractive, more timid women holding large glasses of red wine and emotionally crying through their mascara while other multiple, attractive, more bold women were lost in deep, passionate kisses they had initiated with Flajnik amid various exclusive, picturesque landscapes.



Not for nothing but... this is the guy? Really? Him?

# The Slant's International

A wise comedian once said, "Traveling can get kind of lonely. Or, not traveling. Life. Life can get kind of lonely." His words ring just as true today as they did a few months ago when he said them.

Traveling is one of the luxuries that belongs to our entire era. Not too long ago the kind of trips that we make without blinking would have been totally unthinkable. My grandfather spent the first twenty years of his life

without ever leaving northern Wisconsin. The only reason he left was to fight a war. By contrast, I have never in my life spent more than about three months in a row in the same state.

I like to travel a lot. The most difficult part of traveling, though, is that you want to go and tour some place but you don't want to look like a tourist.

Tourists are by far the worst people in the

world. They show up to some beautiful, pristine place and immediately wreck it by poking their big fat cameras all over the place and leaving trails of discarded beer bottles in their wake. Everyone hates seeing tourists in their hometown, and with good reason. I even hate seeing people tour Vanderbilt. Whenever I see a tour coming through campus I try to shoot them a look that says "Yeah, take a good look, because you're way too dumb to ever go

to school here."

Anyway, one of the challenges I face in my constant travels is managing to not look like a tourist everywhere I go. That's why I've put together this handy guide that should help you blend in wherever you go in the world. Follow my tips and everywhere you go you'll have people thinking you've lived there forever.

Happy travels!

## The Slant's Guide to Blending In

An Irish accent is just the way standard English sounds when you're blitzed on Guinness.

When traveling in the ocean, be sure to make a fish face the whole time so they don't notice you.

A lot of people think you need to wax your pubes to blend in in Brazil. Those people don't realize that nobody in Brazil wants to see your dick.

Heading to Argentina? Prepare by first being a Nazi for several decades, then nominally renounce the group one day before your trip.

People in Latin America tend to be a bit shorter than us, so try to be shorter while you're there.

Blending in in France is all about attitude. If you're pretentious enough, you don't even need to learn French.

Your best bet at blending in in Rwanda is to already be dead.

Make sure to wear something democratic while you're in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Perhaps a hat made out of freedom.

Just don't fucking go to Russia.

Indians are actually pretty welcoming, which is good because there's no way in hell you're gonna blend in to this acid trip of a country.

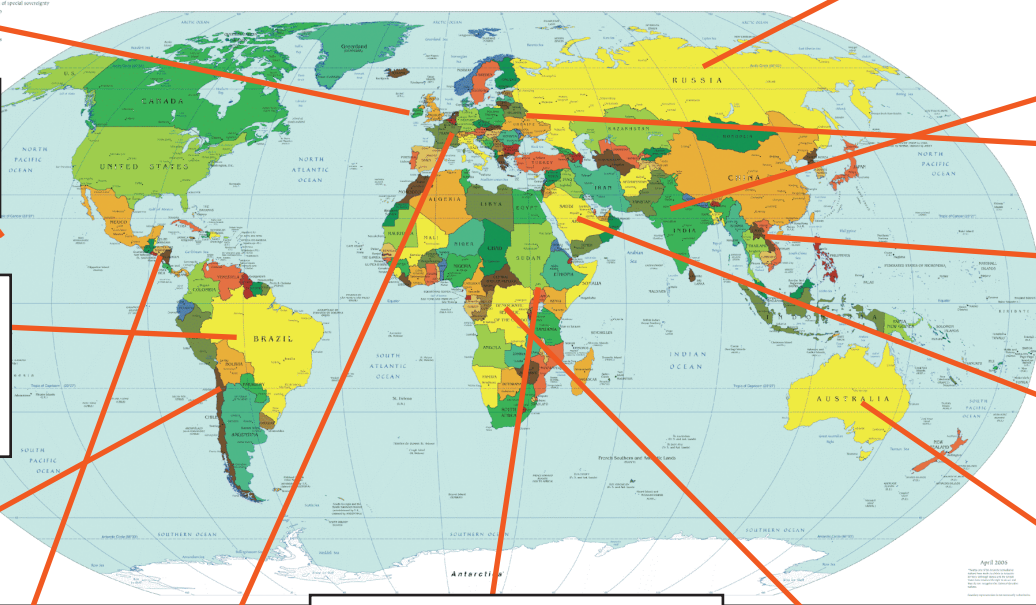
American hipsters blend nicely in Turkey. The Turks too want desperately to be European.

North Koreans will eat anyone with more than 3% body fat. There is no food in that country at all.

Try to "walk like an Egyptian" when you're in Egypt. I'm sure you'll be the first person that ever made that joke.

Australians like their soccer. Come to think of it, everyone but us likes soccer. Why the fuck don't we watch soccer?

Political Map of the World, April 2006



## Play-by-Play Record of Our Trip to the Liberty Bowl

Editor's Note: As I'm sure you know, Vanderbilt recently played in the Liberty Bowl against the Cincinnati Bearcats. Now, none of us here at *The Slant* held any illusions about Vandy winning the game, but we thought that we might be able to get some good out of the event by sending two of our top writers to cover it.

We sent them, all expenses paid, to a luxury box so they could write about the game. But, much like the great Hunter S. Thompson, when our writers hear "Go cover a sporting event"

they use the opportunity to get loaded and have an adventure.

Long story short, instead of covering the game, they gave us minute-by-minute descriptions of everything they did that weekend. We edited them down to these, the most choice and coherent selections of the bunch. We hope that, in a weird way, this strange travelogue will tell the story of the game. Not of what happened but of... oh fuck. I'm just bullshitting here.

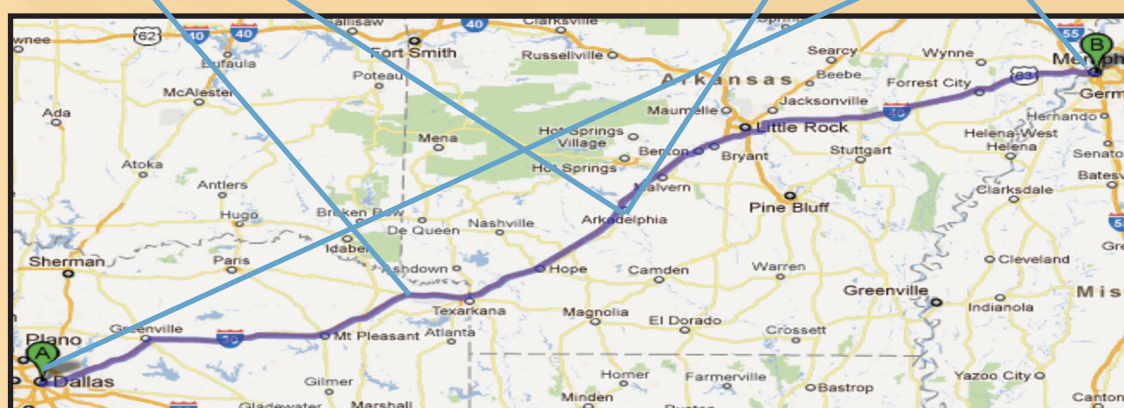
They failed. We're going to print their failure anyway.

By: Sam Mallick and Michael Hogue  
Professional Bowlers

- 5:30 pm- Depart from Dallas
- 6:00 pm- Wait in traffic outside of Dallas
- 6:27 pm- Drive along I-30, stare at plains on the side of the highway
- X 6:59 pm- Pass by store called "Beer:30," avoid swerving '89 Dodge pickup exiting Beer:30's drive through, question the ethics of a drive-through beer store
- 7:11 pm- Bored as hell
- 8:04 pm- Stare at the boring Texas landscape some more
- 8:39 pm- Stop for food and gas in Texarkana, wonder why the gas station is selling Florida souvenir shot glasses
- X 10:01 pm- Hit deer just outside of Arkadelphia; who names a city "Arkadelphia?"
- 10:03 pm- Drag deer carcass to side of road
- 10:04 pm- Say a few words in deceased deer's honor; offer our sincerest apologies to his deer family
- 11:30 pm- Arrive in Little Rock, spend the night at relative's house
- 9:12 am- Depart Little Rock, prolonged silence for the next hour
- 10:17 am- There is literally nothing in this state
- 10:24 am- Make jokes about Arkansas, but at least we're not in Louisiana
- 11:43 am- Arrive at hotel in Memphis
- 12:15 pm- Arrive at Liberty Bowl, turn down \$10 parking in front yard of lady wearing Mumu

- 12:30 pm- Complete circumnavigation of Liberty Bowl through seas of Cincinnati fans to find friend's tailgate
- X 12:37 pm- Observe middle-aged people wearing Missouri gear playing beer pong and bald man wearing ammo belt loaded with 25 red hot shots
- 2:41 pm- Vanderbilt possession, offense goes 3 and out
- 2:50 pm- Vanderbilt possession, offense goes 3 and out
- 2:57 pm- Vanderbilt possession, offense goes 3 and out
- 3:58 pm- Preposterous halftime show featuring geriatric from KC and the Sunshine Band, women dressed as Cinderella, and giant marching band we couldn't hear
- 4:35 pm- Excitement: Vanderbilt might win!
- 4:43 pm- Game dissolves into frustrating stalemate of decent defense and ineffectual offense
- 5:01 pm- Vanderbilt could still win...
- 5:53 pm- Vanderbilt loses; express utmost dissatisfaction using expletives; apologize to family with 3 small children sitting behind us
- 6:24 pm- Arrive on Beale Street. Seems fun, but they've sold themselves out a little
- 6:35 pm- Eat at barbeque joint
- 7:21 pm- Walk down alley to see outdoor blues concert; rethink our decision as shirtless men keep entering through shadowy gate topped with razor wire
- 7: 33 pm- Not sure if we should judge or admire people with 4-foot-tall margaritas
- 7:45 pm- Go to outdoor concert on Beale Street; singer of blues band wearing black cape and red leather pants sounds like he has eaten a bowl of staples in preparation for his career
- 8:32 pm- Punk metal band hailing from Tupelo, Mississippi

- takes the stage; concert attendants leave
- 9:01 pm- Observe enormous, unwashed man dressed as Santa Claus drinking 4-foot-tall margarita, take picture, careful not to let him see; run away, thinking he might have rabies
- 9:50 pm- Friend's dad purchases Diver (aka Elvis Juice), a bucket of mystery libations from Silky O' Sullivan's Irish Tavern
- 10:32 pm- See preacher with sign condemning the sinful wicked of Beale Street for their debauchery
- 10:33 pm- Offer to buy preacher a drink, secretly ask God for forgiveness
- 11:40 pm- Irritating Cincinnati fans and general intoxicated public swarm onto Beale Street; claustrophobia sets in
- 11:59 pm- Novelty guitar outside of Hard Rock Café begins to fall--a shameless, sad mimic of Times Square
- 12:00 am- Celebrate yet another passage around the sun; wasn't sure if the world would make it this time
- 12:40 am- Make it back to the hotel; crash
- 9:15 am- Depart from hotel, trying not to mention the bowl game
- X 12:47 pm- Stop for lunch and gas at truck stop Subway in Arkadelphia. Seriously, what's up with that name?
- 12:48:03 pm- Make *Deliverance* joke at truck stop in Arkadelphia
- 12:48:04 pm- Run like hell away from truck stop
- 12:49 pm- Sneak back into truck stop to retrieve forgotten sunglasses
- 5:03 pm- Tired silence interrupted by occasional conversation
- X 5:05 pm- Arrive back in Dallas; cross our fingers that Vandy gets a bid to the Cotton Bowl next year



We were somewhere around Arkadelphia on the edge of the cultural desert when the football began to take hold.

# Guide to Annual Travel!

## Government Coup Reported in Mayan Afterlife

By: Jessica Ayers  
Myan Cat

New Tikal, Mayan Cloud, Heaven- Mass riots resulted in a government coup in the Mayan heaven last week after the predication for the complete destruction of the universe proved to be false. The so called "end of days" myth was heavily supported by the ruling party in the Mayan afterlife for their impressive three thousand year control over the Mayan people. While support for the majority party has been waning since their complete annihilation from the planet earth 1800 years ago, the failed prediction of the apocalypse seemed to be the last straw for the Mayan people.

"We were informed by the government we trusted to pay off our debts and settle our disputes and we listened," one citizen explained. Many sold their businesses, were nicer to their neighbors, and reconnected with loved ones they didn't really like out of guilt because of the government's prediction.

"I finally told my wife I never loved her. I'd been holding it in for years. Now, well, it's just awkward," said another protestor of the displaced regime.

While many former officials managed to escape the coup unscathed and sought political asylum in neighboring ethereal societies, reporters caught up with the former Undersecretary of Sacrifices and Virgins, who quickly defended his government by stating: "To be fair, we predicted this incident hundreds of years ago. There's no way we thought people would still believe

this stuff in the 21st century."

After almost a week of violence, the people have established a temporary democracy until the Mayan's first public election is held sometime in the next two months. While many lead-



For all their predicting prowess,  
nobody saw this coup coming.

ers of the movement against the former government have expressed interest in the position of the president, Manny "The Jaguar" Ortiz, a front man for the radical activity and current temporary President, is the most likely candidate.

"We are responding to a public cry for rationality. My campaign seeks to depart from the former government's fear of progress, and will not support off-the-handle predictions not supported by the seventeen calendars of the Mayan people," Ortiz said at a rally on Tuesday the 10th (or Friday the 32nd if you are using the Short Count Calendar).

Rationality and logic are two major platforms of the new government, which has led to massive support for the movement by the Mayan people. The new government has recruited the realm's most progressive and advanced scientists and cosmologists to debunk the 2012 legend for good.

"It's an old idea," one scientist said. After initial data collection, the leaders of the new progressive party now support the new 3023 "End of Days" theory.

"3023? Yeah, that seems pretty far away," one civilian said in support. Pretty far away, indeed. With the intensity of the last month, most citizens hope they will not have to face eminent destruction or political upheaval for at least one thousand years.

In other news, reports from the Aztec cloud of heaven have announced the arrival of visitors from Spain!

## "Dear Leader Kim Jong Il has Gone to Vacation in Farm Upstate" Says Press Release

By: Nate Braman  
Deer Leader

On December 17th, The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was rocked by the announcement that Kim Jong Il had retired from his position as the country's Supreme Leader to reside on a large farm "somewhere up north, northwest-ish."

"Too far for visit," the press release stated multiple times.

Following the statement, the citizens of North Korea took to the streets en masse, laughing and popping champagne bottles, presumably in mourning. North Korean Secretary General of Truths and Happiness, Kwak Tai-Hee, spoke the next day to assuage the "sincere fear and hopelessness" that the news had brought to the North Korean people.

"It is true that our Dear Leader has gone up north for forever. But there is no reason to despair. He is in a very beautiful place where he will be very, very happy."

"This farm," the General Secretary assured, "has big rolling hills and lots of other dictators to play with and large trees under which he can spend his days. You remember how much Supreme Leader Kim Jong Il used to love to battle the demons

of capitalism in the shade of that great big oak in Pyongyang, now don't you?"

Vice Admiral of the People's People Army of the Everlasting Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Hoi Man-lee, also offered words of encouragement to his grief stricken people. "Although Dear Leader is living up North and you will certainly never see him again, he is not truly gone. He'll still be looking down on you and watching you, always. Watching everything you do. Everything."

Kim Jong Il's retirement is, of course, the end of an impressive era. In his 17 years as North Korea's Supreme Leader, Il built himself an impressive resumé, both politically and personally. Among his many accomplishments, Il was the greatest golfer the world has ever seen, never defecated, defeated Chuck Norris in a simultaneous arm wrestle/ staring contest/ Yahtzee competition, and caused the Great Depression of the United States solely through the power of dance, an impressive twelve years before his own birth.

The retirement of such an eminent leader has, predictably, caused a power vacuum and left uncertainty as to whom will succeed Il. Many North Korean officials support Il's son, Kim

Jong Un as the country's heir apparent.

This selection is, however, vastly unpopular with the North Korean people, who have argued that "having another dictator would be just too much work."

"Maybe a nice gerbil or something this time around," some have suggested.



See, kids. Look at all the room that Dear Leader has to run around and play with his friends. He's happier there.

## Tourists Flock to See World's 50th-Largest Ball of Yarn

By: Dan King  
Yarn Yawner

Tourism in Quebec has seen a spike in recent weeks which many in the area attribute to the recent opening of the "World's 50th Largest Ball of Yarn" exhibition in a barn just outside the city.

Three months ago, the city decided to move forward with plans to create and then exhibit the ball of yarn, sinking city funds into the project. Local artists and craftsmen went to work and only two months later had converted a barn into a viewing space and gift shop for the ball.

Debbie Cotourier is the current executive director of the attraction. She told our reporter, "people come to see the ball of yarn because being in the presence of it fills them with wonder and awe. The ball stands as a testament to that which the people of this city can achieve when we commit the best of ourselves to achieving our goals."

Visitors to the big ball of yarn are able to take their picture with the yarn and are even allowed to reach out and touch it if they'd like.

Linda Carle, a six year old first grader, was among those who reached in to feel the yarn. "It feels like yarn!" exclaimed Carle,

as she touched her hand to the yarn.

There is also a gift shop in one corner of the barn that sells smaller balls of yarn which people can take home as souvenirs.

The ball of yarn has been officially confirmed to be exactly the 50th largest such ball in the world. The ball falls just shy of



I shit you not, this is the ball in question.  
It's not even a ball; it's a spool.

being 49th largest, an honor which currently rests with the big yellow ball of yarn in Bismark, North Dakota.

The ball of yarn is about twice the size of the industry standard ball. It is made entirely of Barnet-brand royal blue mid-weight yarn.

Michael Giroux was part of the team tasked with creating the ball of yarn. He told The Slant, "We basically took two balls of yarn and tied them together. Now people are coming to see it."

The ball of yarn has become so popular that many in the community around Quebec have become fans. A group known as the "Yarnsmen" has taken to wearing thickly knitted sweaters to show support for the ball of yarn.

Unfortunately, the advent of the Yarnsmen has made it difficult for any non-supporters of the ball to wear sweaters without appearing to be part of the movement. Karen Pronger says that she doesn't even feel comfortable wearing her own knit scarves in public "lest people think I'm a tour guide at the yarn ball."

The popularity of the ball of yarn attraction has baffled many people outside of the city. One such skeptic says that he'd like to remind everyone that, "It's just a ball of yarn. Why would you want a picture of that? Sure, it's slightly larger than other balls of yarn, but... come on."



# Opinions!

Welcome to The Slant's Opinion section, with the most opinionated opinions this side of the St. John's River.



## Student Frustrated Trying to Find "The Rant" on InsideVandy Has No Outlet for Frustration

By Sam Mallick  
Anger Abater

Junior Cameron MacDowell became incredibly frustrated last Wednesday when he found himself unable to vent his frustration in InsideVandy's anonymous commentary feature, known as "The Rant," frustrating him even further.

MacDowell, who was incredibly irritated by the perpetually long lines at the package pickup window, wished to express his unhappiness in a public yet anonymous way, thinking it would make him less frustrated that he was unable to pick up his package before class.

However, according to MacDowell, the new updates to the InsideVandy website made "The Rant" impossible to find.

"I was already pretty pissed about the package pickup window," MacDowell said. "When I couldn't find 'The Rant' to vent about it, I got really pissed and wanted to complain about it, but I couldn't!"

MacDowell said that, while he appreciated the irony of the situation, he really just wanted to complain. "I know that complaining about the package window line always being absurdly long won't make the line any shorter," MacDowell

said. "And I know that posting a rant about 'The Rant' being gone won't make it come back, but I really think I'd feel better if I had an outlet to vent my frustration."

MacDowell said he did consider venting in other media but ultimately decided that "The Rant" was the only suitable outlet for his anger.

"I thought about posting on my Facebook about it," MacDowell said. "But then people would complain about the long line, and I don't want to listen to them bitch about it. And the PCC is so far away that I would probably want to rant about the distance if I went there and that would just make things even worse."

MacDowell said that he hopes "The Rant" is not permanently gone, but says that he is not sure what happened to it. "Honestly, I have no idea if it's still a thing or not," MacDowell said.

"If it's not gone, then they've hidden it really well, and that's something I'd like to rant about. If it is gone, they just took it away without warning, and I wasted thirty minutes looking for something that wasn't there, and I'd like to rant about that too."



Alright, so maybe it's not quite the same as a depression-era breadline, but that's what it feels like!

## ELECTION HQ

### The Slant Endorses Santorum: Closest Thing To a Gay Man Running for President

We at *The Slant* have been following the Republican primary very closely over the past few years. We've watched all 25 of the debates (so far) and have been both watching the polls of others and keeping track of our own statistics. Up until now our role in the campaign has been strictly observational. But we've decided to change all of that today by coming out and endorsing one of the candidates.

We had a tough time settling on which candidate deserved our support. We had to figure out which of the remaining rich white men best represented ourselves, our newspaper, and our student community. It took weeks of intense debate among *Slant* editors before we finally came to a decision.

*The Slant* is now prepared to officially endorse (drumroll please) Rick Santorum.

All of the candidates had different strong points, making it very difficult to pick just one. But then one of our editors decided that we would be remiss if we didn't pick a candidate that addressed the concerns of our (sizable) LGBTQI readership.

Our first thought was "Great, we'll just pick one of the openly gay candidates." But we quickly learned that none of the candidates are openly gay. We all thought there was at least one, but it turns out that it was actually his wife who was running, not him. With no openly gay candidates, we had to take the next best thing. We chose a candidate who seems like he's still in the closet.

And that's what we've got here in Santorum. You know, folks, it's one thing to be against gay marriage. Lots of people are. It's another thing to be homophobic. But at a certain point a person reaches a level of homophobia so absurd that anyone who hears them speak about gay marriage just has to wonder, "How the hell did this guy learn so much about homosexuality?"

Sure, Mr. Santorum has lots of ideas for this country. He has an economic plan. He's got a plan for health care and even ideas to reform Social Security. But for some reason he chooses to not talk about these issues all the time. Much like the great Harvey Milk (another gay political pioneer), Santorum has decided to make LG-BTQI issues the hallmark of his campaign.

To say that Santorum talks a lot about homosexuality is a bit like saying water is damp. The man mentions gay sex in an astounding 43% of his public appearances. He really is the only candidate who gives LGBTQI issues the amount of attention they deserve.

As I mentioned earlier, a lot of our readers are gay. And among those people, many have spent some time in the closet. So I'm sure that lots of you can sympathize with Mr. Santorum. There are lots of people out there who will tell Mr. Santorum that being gay is wrong (including Rick Santorum himself). Well here is our chance to take a stand and say together, in one voice, "It's okay to be gay, and you can come out any time you want!"



Rick stands ready to fight off any gay thoughts that might be silly enough to enter his brain.

## Ron Paul Calls on Nation to Stop Caring about Iowa

By Sam Mallick  
Iowa Idiot

In a recent press conference, Republican presidential nominee hopeful Ron Paul called for Americans to pay even less attention to Iowa than it usually does between presidential primaries over the next four years.

Paul placed third in the caucus, four thousand votes behind Rick Santorum and Mitt Romney. Paul says that because of the negligible margin by which Santorum won, America should go above and beyond its usual apathy toward Iowa these next four years.

"This is what happens when you let some ass-backwards Midwestern state full of salt-of-the-earth heartland farmers have this kind of influence on the political scene of the most advanced nation in the world," Paul said.

"I didn't know that it was possible to care less about Iowa than I did before this primary, but my interest in it has hit a new low."

According to Paul, America cares about Iowa once every four years, during the Caucus. The time in between is characterized by general apathy towards the state, a few jokes at its expense, and large percentages of the population forgetting that it's there.

"To be honest, I didn't even really give a damn about Iowa during the primaries," Paul said. "I don't think I can even point to them on a map. I just pretended to care because for some

reason this one practically worthless state has a disproportional influence on the whole nation."

Political experts agree with Paul. "Add this year's Caucus to the list of reasons why nobody cares about Iowa," said CNN analyst Bob Kelly. "They have exactly two jobs in this country. One is to grow corn, which the rest of the Midwest can do just fine without them. Two is to figure out who the frontrunner is in the primaries, and those hicks blew that. I foresee the nation heeding Paul's call to ignore Iowa more than usual because, well, screw those guys."

Kelly says that he is disappointed that Iowa wasted so much national time and energy and was still too worthless to pick a clear Republican frontrunner. "It's not a hard job," Kelly said. "A margin of two percent would be enough! Hell, we'd take half a percent. But eight damn votes? People have been voted off the island in Survivor by wider margins than that."

President Obama agrees with Paul's call for heightened ignorance and apathy. "The fact that they chose some crazy homophobic and the Mormon without a personality just proves that Iowa's the kind of state that shouldn't have this kind of pull in the national political system," Obama said. "And Romney's tiny margin of victory proves that Iowa deserves even more indifference than we usually give it."

ence than we usually give it."

The long-term future does look hopeful for Iowa, however. "They'll get another shot in four years," said Kelly. "When the next round of primaries get started, we'll have to care about them again. Who knows? If they play that one the right way, the nation might forgive Iowa and go back to its usual level of indifference about the state."



I don't even care enough to make a joke here.

## Huntsman Tries to Energize Campaign by Acting Like Lady Gaga

By: Richard McGee  
Crazy Chronicler

"The key problem with my campaign was that I didn't appear completely crazy," said Republican Presidential candidate Jon Huntsman at a press conference yesterday. The former governor of Utah and ambassador to China rode a pink unicorn on stage and had painted his face in a sickly combination of black and white to resemble a zombie.

"Newt, Perry, Bachmann – they all seem poised to demolish civilization as we know it and send the world into a never-ending nuclear holocaust with their awe-inspiring levels of stupidity and insanity," said Huntsman. "That's why they were so far ahead of me in the polls."

Reports surfaced earlier this week that Huntsman had embarked on a new campaign strategy in an effort to boost his popularity. Huntsman has been trailing throughout the campaign season, with support rarely higher than 1% among Republican voters.

"I've settled on a new slogan for my campaign: I was born this way," continued Huntsman. "And when I say that, I mean that I was born a straight Christian, of course."

"Here I was with positions that actually sounded halfway reasonable. For God's sake, I actually said that I believed the entire scientific community about global warming. So I scratched my head," said Huntsman, who scratched his head to reveal that it had been shaved and painted to resemble an exposed brain, "and I thought, why am I losing so badly? Then I realized the problem – I appeared remotely sane. So I dropped all the substance from my campaign and turned to Lady Gaga."

At this point, Huntsman threw open his tuxedo, revealing a red leather nun outfit underneath. Donning a white cornette, Huntsman performed an elaborate dance across the stage, using the podium as a pole and repeating "Rah rah ah-ah-ah/Gaga oh-la-la!"

The response was mixed. "I'm still supporting Gingrich," said one Republican voter. "It all seems like a stunt. I don't buy that Huntsman is actually this crazy. Newt, on the other hand – he's genuinely an opportunistic, egotistic, sociopathic moron."

"Dancing zombie nun or not," said another voter, "I'm still for Rick Perry. Of course his ideas are ludicrous, but I can hardly believe that he's even sober half the time he's talking."

"I'm still voting for us," said Rick Perry. But Huntsman's poll numbers have risen dramatically. "Just remember, don't be a drag – just be a queen," said Huntsman at the end of the conference. "Honestly, I have absolutely no idea what that means," he added.

A music video of Huntsman's dance routine has already reached eighty million views on Youtube. The success of the strategy has inspired other candidates – early reports indicate that Mitt Romney will soon be releasing a video cover of *Sexy and I Know It*.



You see that look? That's a look that says "I'm fully prepared to do a strip-tease for you at any moment."

# Mrs. Fields Makes Fat Cookies to Tame Cheating Hubby

By: Joseph Dow  
Cookie Catcher

The cookie baroness, Mrs. Fields, has filed for divorce from her husband of 10 years. She was unavailable for comment, but her lawyer made a statement, saying, "Mrs. Fields is a victim of years of indiscretion from her husband and is merely looking to finally put all this to rest and move on with her life."

This celebrity split should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with the recent headlines filled with rocky details of the couple's troubled marriage. Mr. Fields, more widely known as fizzled out rap metal frontman of Limp Bizkit, Fred Durst, has been slightly more proactive in the divorce proceedings.

Mr. Durst has foregone the usual legal representation in order to afford a team of private investigators to infiltrate the Mrs. Fields operation in an attempt to uncover any skeletons in the closet. This snooping has led to some startling discoveries.

We here at *The Slant* had the fortune of being contacted by one of these P.I.s, who had some revealing information about the business model behind the seemingly harmless individually packed treats. According to the P.I. (who has requested we don't publish his real name), several company bank loan statements show that Mrs. Fields only became interested in the cookie industry after she became aware of her husband's first indiscretion with another woman.

Several email exchanges to her director of marketing also make apparent her desire for the company to focus on targeting "pretty young girls."

After we contacted Mrs. Fields with the intent to get her to confirm or deny such claims, she promptly responded in the affirmative, saying, "My husband is going to have a hard time finding any other whores who aren't super obese when we unveil our dark chocolate cookies."

She was of course referencing the dark chocolate craze that has misguided many young girls into thinking they're guiltlessly indulging in a chocolatey treat when really they're just overloading on body mass-inducing fat.

We immediately got in touch with Mr. Durst, who told us, "Well of course that psycho bitch is fattening you idiots up," and claimed he knew all about it, saying, "why else would I write a song with lyrics like 'I did it all for the nookie, so you can take that cookie and stick it up your ass?' I write from the heart, and this was a little message for my overbearing, soon-to-be ex wife about my little escapades."

In light of Mrs. Fields' attempts to keep her husband tied down, Mr. Durst was unfazed, saying, "The joke's on my wife. Who do you think I was running around with? Bingo: fat chicks. Who else is going to give the nookie to Durst?"

Feeling like the child of a divorced couple, we here at *The Slant* relayed this message to Mrs. Fields, who simply said, "You know that bastard's 'biskit' wasn't the only thing that was limp?"

The couple is set to be officially divorced sometime in April.



What's that? I can't hear you over the sound of how bad Fred Durst wants to fuck me.

## Letters to the Editor!

Dear Slant,

Pikachu pikachu pikachu. Pikachu pika-chu, pika, pi pikachu pikachu.  
Pikachu pika pi. Pi pikachu pika pikachu pikachu.  
Pika, pikachu. Pikachu pikachu pika pi pi pika. Pikachu. Pikachu. Pika. Chu.  
Pikachu pikachu pikachu pikachu. Pika-chu pikachu pikachu pikachu. Pikachu pika-chu pikachu pikachu.  
Pika pi. Pika, pika pi pikachu pikachu pika chu,  
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Pikachu pikachu pika pi pikachu pika pika pikachu.  
Pikachu pikachu.

Pika pika,  
Pikachu  
Viridian Forest, Kanto

Dear Slant,

Hey there bro! I can call you bro, right? Because that's what I call all my real brothers and I figure that any day now you'll be my real bro so... you know.

Well anyway I'm just writing you this letter... to show you a picture of me doinking your sister. Hahaha just kidding, Slant! On the real tip, though, we need to talk bachelor party.

Now my best man Dave has been working really hard getting this thing put together, we're gonna go out, get some drinks, have some... female entertainment... if you know what I mean. Maybe some stuff your sister wouldn't want me to see... haha, just kidding.

But not really.

Anyway, if you want in on the party just let me know! We'd love to have you there, bro!

Love,  
Your (soon to be) brother-in-law,  
Rodney  
Nashville, TN

## First Season of *That '90s Show* Set to be Released on DVD

By: Michael Woods  
Naughty Nineties Know-er

The box set collector's edition of the new sitcom, *That '90s Show* (from the creators of *How I Met Your Mother* and *Full House*), is set to release this Saturday. With the '90s as an era officially deemed "retro," this first season is a perfectly-timed smash-hit comedy.

The show was originally aired on Discovery Health, and, despite early reviews calling it a "narrow cult classic," the show has gone on to delight nearly the entire country with its special brand of comedic genius.

The series takes place in the Michigan town of Burnsville directly following the ironic destruction of its high school due to arson in 1994. The story follows Jefferey Walker and his friends as they attempt to deal with the psychological trauma of losing two of their friends in the fire. His father is a Vietnam veteran, whose bouts of binge drinking and PTSD will have the viewer roflcoptering into the ether. In one gut-busting episode, his neighbor and crush (the ever-quirky Amber White) slowly and hilariously takes up heroin, much to the bemusement of her parents. As Jefferey attempts to reconcile their relationship, viewers will hear a delightful soundtrack filled by Rick Astley's love ballad "Cry for Help" and The Police's "Every Breath you Take."

The priceless flashbacks in the episode "Smells Like Death" of the midnight vigil following Kurt Cobain's suicide will bring tears of joy to viewers' eyes. This heartwarming episode, set to Cobain's own "I Hate Myself and I Want to Die," shows the diversity of the series, high-

lighting the dear memories of newly-formed friendships. It also serves the viewers to recall their own happy memories of the culmination of Cobain's plunge into severe depression.

The series is not without historical merit, either. Those of us who barely remember the dawn of the World Wide Web will cherish the chance to vicariously experience the OJ Simpson trial, while those who recall the Clinton era will enjoy the lighthearted class assignment in "The Carnage Never Stops," in which the gang learns about the Rwandan genocide.

Overall, this first season is a gold mine of jokes and topical humor. The laughs literally never stop in this nostalgic new series, which leaves many viewers longing for the glory days that are the '90s. I, for one, know that these DVDs will have a permanent place in my DVD player, at least until the next season arrives!



The 90s: when shit got real.

## [TFLVP: Texts from Last Vandy Party Remembering what you said when you can't.

(504): I want you to know I was about to drink n get really drunk bc you werent coming in for new yrs, then I realized alcohol will never fill the dumpling-shaped hole in my heart.

(225): I'm willing to negotiate weekly quotes or suggested shortish poems I should read. Project Keep Marcie Literate,

(440): Congrats on coming up in my interview with the chancellor.

(665): I'm gonna go tell that girl how I feel about her.  
(434): Well good luck with that. I'm gonna be busy getting laid instead.

(253): How much firefly do you think it'll take to get me drunk?  
(530): There's only one way to find out!  
(253): Yeah there is!  
(530): Right, I just found a chart on google that has this information. So it looks like, based on your bodyweight, it should take about six shots in an hour to do it.  
(153): Dude... fail.

What is your new year's resolution!?!?

### Katy Perry



Top Michael Jackson's record for #1 singles off one album by cramming another Teenage Dream hit down America's throat.

### Pinky and The Brain



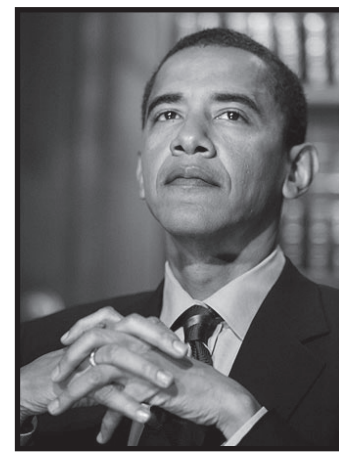
The same thing we do every year, Pinky. Try to take over the world!

### Iran



Bring about the apocalypse!

### Barack Obama



Stop Iran from bringing about the apocalypse.

### iPad 2



1024 x 768  
;) )

### M. Night Shyamalan



Release my next masterpiece: Don't Open the Bookcase.

### Kim Jong-un



Show Korea the REAL meaning of crazy.

### Grins



Reduce the trans fats in our salads.

**TOP TEN**  
Undercover CIA Activities in 2011

- 10 Increasing fluoridation of Water Supply to Suppress Occupy Movements
- 9 Implantation of Paula Deen with Diabetes
- 8 Disembowling of Mexicans in Area 51
- 7 Filmed sequel to "Reefer Madness", "Medicinal Marijuana Psychokillers"
- 6 Introduction of AIDS into Heterosexual Culture
- 5 Seized Control of Internet Porn Media to Defeat the Female Orgasm Once Again
- 4 Reading our minds--through our Tweets!
- 3 Repainting the "Moon Landing" film set red for "Man on Mars"
- 2 Use of HAARP to create "Gnarly Waves" for CIA Surfing Retreat Weekend
- 1 Currently arranging Obama's trip to Dallas, Texas

# Campus Boyfriends Preparing for the Sheer Volume of Emotional Support Necessary to Get Through Sorority Rush

By: Nathaniel Rabin  
Emotional Entertainer

Vanderbilt males who are currently in relationships with freshman girls were reporting extreme levels of apprehension leading up to the sorority rush process, occurring this January.

The Slant talked to several students about the issue and the results were largely the same. "Yeah, rush week is going to blow," said Brendan Haynesworthy '15. "I just know she's going to come complaining to me about how so-and-so said something about her dress or the girls at whatever house don't like her and then I'll have to, like, reassure her or whatever. It's bullshit."

Upperclassmen had similar attitudes. "I've dated a freshman every year I've been here," said Clayton Roberts IV '12, "and none of the relationships made it past the third week of January. Why do you think that is? I'll tell you why, it's because rush turns them all into crazy fucking psychos."

Vanderbilt boyfriends said that the extreme amount of self-esteem issues brought on by sorority rush will require up to eight times the normal amount of consoling, reassuring, and the use of the phrase, "No, you are beautiful. Don't listen to her."

Male students who have been through this before had little to offer in the way of advice. "Just try to stay out of her way if she's crying," said Bryant James Bryant '12, speaking to campus males. "Asking her what happened isn't going to make it any better. For you, I mean."

Boyfriends, though, aren't the only ones affected by the harrowing process.

The Psychological Counseling Center (PCC) reports a 60%

increase in claims of harassment and bullying during the week.

In addition, the Commons munchie mart reports that the day after bid night is the single highest-selling day for Ben & Jerry's ice cream to females, a phenomenon likely caused by shame eating and as a celebration of the end of weeks of starvation.

Despite the overall feeling of dread, some boyfriends chose to take a more positive approach.

Said one junior who wished to remain anonymous, "I understand, it's a tough time for her. Getting judged by a group of your peers on qualities that you largely have no control over would be tough for anyone, and I'll be there for her to help her feel better about herself and to let her know that she's loved. But if she doesn't get a bid from Tri-Delt, she's fuckin' dumped."



Guess which girls are getting kicked the fuck out today.  
Hint: it was pink skirt day.

# New Jersey Finally Passes Law Banning Sale of Human Meat

By: Jim Gillin  
Jersey Jerk

After a long battle in state congress, New Jersey has legalized the processing, distribution, and sale of human meat. As of January 2013, no foods with "man" in the ingredients can be sold within the state of New Jersey, including at butcheries and mortuaries.

This new law ends centuries of man eating in the state. The human meat trade in New Jersey dates back to its colonial days, and has been a large factor in the state's economy since then.

After the Dutch established the colony, savvy trading soon led to a market for cheap and tender human meat. Many other New England states had flourishing human meat markets as well, but with the development of the other states, most of them have cut human meat off their menus decades or centuries ago; New Jersey is the last holdout in this archaic trend.

The ban comes as part of New Jersey's project, included in Obama's economic stimulus package, to elevate its class from historically critically-low levels.

New Jersey governor, Chris Christie, said "We're not looking for miracles here. We may never have things like clean water or normal levels of trash in the streets, but if we could get people to stop eating people, we'd call it good enough."

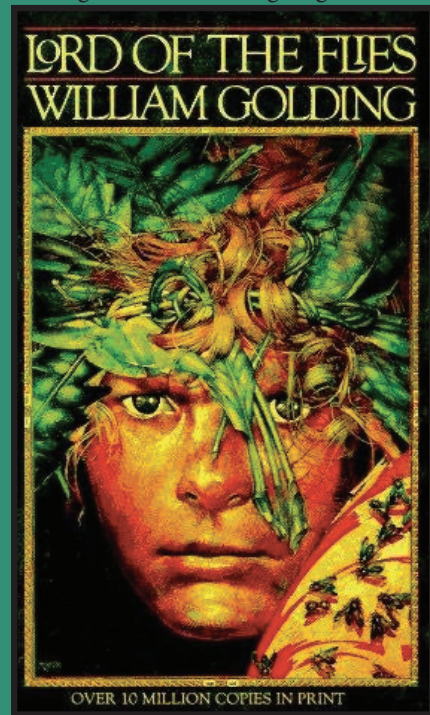
Those who can't adapt to inhuman meats, rest assured; the law does not forbid the consumption of human meat already in one's possession.

Christie says he hopes to prevent meat riots in this way, by weaning the population off human meat.

Economist Jean Laurie, employed by New Jersey to manage the state's transition to "Man-Meat Free '13," believes this will

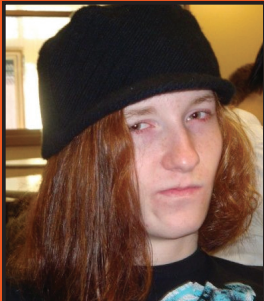
also benefit the state's economy during its last year of selling human meat: "Prices will be a lot higher in 2012 as consumers rush to buy up the last of the man meat. The sales rush will help invigorate the economy as we look into other cheap meats to place in our hamburgers."

Laurie predicts that come 2013, gourmards and rare food eaters may still be able to locate human meat on the black market, but with the heavy charges to be associated with getting caught selling man meat, "it's going to cost them an arm and a leg."



Yeah, New Jersey is pretty much like that...

## Join The Slant, Robert Hilland



By: Michael Woods

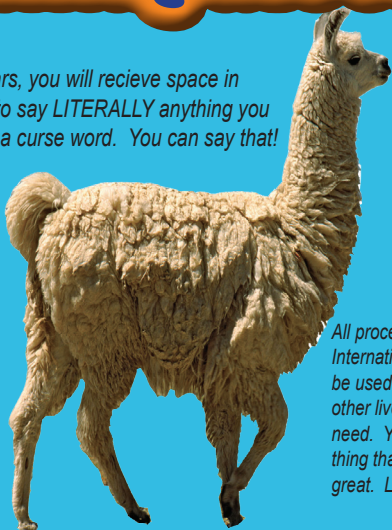
It's been a while since you've read this section. Let's face it, you've been pretty distant lately, and although I can admit part of the blame lies with me, too, we're not here to point fingers. I'm simply trying to get you to open up to me again, maybe write an article or two, nothing crazy, baby, just be natural. Don't pretend like those funky, animalistic moments in the production room didn't mean anything.

It's not that I'm lonely, doll, I'm just missing you. That sexy Colts jersey, those dicks on McGill's chalkboard, they haven't left my mind, and I know I haven't left yours. You might just be busy, or you're trying to work on some personal issues right now, but we can work on those together, and maybe we can work on some Slant issues at the same time. This is a partnership -- a two-way street, baby. Come on, Robert. Mr. Hilland. Mr. Dollface. Let's give this another shot, grab some Steak 'n Shake, and talk it over.

I didn't want to have to pull this card, but I'm nothing without you, you know that? I'm a mess; I can't sleep. I need you, Robert. Rejoin Big Daddy Slant, and he'll take care of you. Stop by Sarrat 130 Thursdays at 8, or email daniel.j.king@vanderbilt.edu, but you haven't forgotten that, have you, baby?

**The Slant Presents:**  
Come see us on the wall:  
Jan 31st, Feb 1,2,3,6  
**The 3rd Annual**  
**Llamapalooza!**

For only 5 dollars, you will receive space in our next issue to say LITERALLY anything you want. Think of a curse word. You can say that!



All proceeds go to Heifer International where they will be used to provide llamas and other livestock to families in need. You'd be doing something that is both obscene and great. Like sex.

# Defense Bill Passes Unchallenged Due to Internet Distractions

By: Michael Hogue  
Internet Interrogator

On December 15, 2011, the National Defense Authorization Act passed through the Senate, on a vote of 86-13. The bill, an annual act that provides for the military budget, has raised a great deal of controversy due to a provision allowing the US military to indefinitely detain American citizens suspected of terrorism without trial.

The National Defense Authorization Act is always viewed as a "must pass" bill, targeting it for ridiculous earmarks; this year, however, sources close to Congress cite a different reason: time-wasting sites like StumbleUpon and Facebook. When asked why he voted for a bill that violated Americans' rights to due process of law, Sen. Richard Burr (R- NC) claimed, "The bill says what?!?! That's ridiculous. I didn't read it; I was epically dominating all the letter quizzes on Sporcle."

Senator Barbara Boxer (D- CA) similarly said, "Wait, that bill allows the military to do what? Shit. I got the new timeline profile on Facebook, so I was messing with that. If I had read the bill, I never would have voted for it."

Sponsor of the bill, Sen. Carl Levin (D- MI) had this to say: "The war on terror is of utmost importance to our national security. Terrorists are bent on destroying our freedom as Americans. I added the provision as a way of fighting terrorism, giving the military the power to indefinitely detain without trial suspected terrorists, even if they're US citizens. I was worried about the bill meeting too-heavy opposition, but I figured that most congressmen would not read the bill too closely, because I've noticed a dramatic rise in Facebook, YouTube, Sporcle, Hulu, and StumbleUpon usage during congressional sessions."

A spokesperson for the American Civil Liberties Union called the provision in the Defense Authorization Act "An atrocious desecration of the right to due process of law as outlined in the Fifth and Sixth Amendments of the Bill of Rights."

In response, Sen. Scott Brown (R- MA) said, "Yeah, it's a blatant transgression against the most fundamental legal rights of all Americans. I feel kinda bad about it. I didn't know; I didn't

read the bill, cause I was stumbling upon cute animals all last session. That site's so addictive, you know?"

Senator Dick Durbin (D- IL), one of the thirteen senators who opposed the bill, had this to say: "Yeah, the congressional session before this, I wasted so much time on YouTube and Facebook. So this time around, I blocked myself from all my usual time-waster sites, so that I would actually do some work. When I read the provision in the Defense Authorization Act, there was no way I could vote for it. Military detainment of citizens? That's such an egregious offense against this country's basic tenets of liberty."

On December 31, 2011, President Obama signed the bill into law, but with the qualification that his administration would not indefinitely detain without trial US citizens, as the provision allows.

The president's public statement claimed, "I signed the bill with reservations, but it was necessary to fund military operations and pay military personnel. I will not authorize the indefinite detainment of US citizens without trial, because to do so would be a crime against the Constitution, which I have sworn to uphold."

Sources close to the White House have alleged that President Obama was overheard saying "Thank God it created such a scandal in the Senate; I sure as hell didn't read it. I got hooked on How I Met Your Mother, so I was catching up on all the seasons on Netflix. At least I had enough warning to publicly oppose the provision in the bill before I signed it."



We all knew that Sporcle would cause the end of civilization, but nobody thought it would be as direct as this.