

## Vanderbilt law professor: Obamacare problematic and unconstitutional

TYLER BISHOP  
STAFF REPORTER

The United States Supreme Court heard arguments and voted last week on the constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, more commonly known as "Obamacare."

Dr. James Blumstein, Vanderbilt Law professor and director of the Vanderbilt Health Policy Center, articulated that the law is problematic and certain portions are unconstitutional, but holds that it is impossible to predict the actions of the Court.

"Though one can never really know what will happen with such cases, the arguments seem to be in favor of the states," Blumstein said. "The justices seem quite sympathetic to the arguments against the law."

Despite the uncertainty of the ruling, Blumstein has been outspoken about his concern with the constitutionality of the Medicaid expansion portion of Obamacare. He has submitted a brief to the Supreme Court as amicus curiae, or a voluntary third party offering of information, outlining the problematic nature of the Medicare portion of the statute.

"If states choose not to comply, they relinquish the federal government's obligation to fund their Medicaid programs. This act is forcing their hands to act," Blumstein noted.

President Obama professes quite a different ideal. The president insists on the constitutionality of the law, and has called for the Supreme Court to use their power wisely.

"I have enormous confidence that in looking at this law, not only is it constitutional, but that the court is going to exercise its jurisprudence carefully because of the profound power that our Supreme Court has," Obama said in a press conference Tuesday.

Whichever way the Supreme Court rules, the Vanderbilt University Medical Center will be affected. The law largely expands federal regulations on healthcare and insurance agencies, most notably the "individual mandate," requiring all citizens to have medical insurance.

Professor Blumstein noted that most hospitals and healthcare centers support the act because it could ease the problem of uninsured patients being unable to pay for their care.

"This law will put money on the table to compensate for previously uninsured care," Blumstein said. "However, I can't really project with any clarity its effect on the Medical Center. There may be unforeseeable extra costs with this system."

The Supreme Court is expected to release a ruling on the case in late June. ★

## Fighting mental illness Under the Stairs



MICHAEL FRASCELLA / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

LA-based hip hop group *People Under the Stairs* perform during "A Celebration of Life: A Tribute to Kyle Craig" Wednesday afternoon on Alumni Lawn. Proceeds from the event, which was hosted by Beta Theta Pi, went to the Minding Your Mind foundation.

## Constance Gee speaks out in support of medical marijuana

KENNY TAN  
STAFF REPORTER

A measure to legalize medical marijuana in Tennessee has likely failed in the Senate.

The move occurs after the legislation received public support from Constance Gee, the ex-wife of former Vanderbilt University Chancellor Gordon Gee. Known as House Bill 294, the Safe Access to Medical Cannabis Act was introduced by state Rep. Jeanne Richardson, D-Memphis, over a year ago.

The Government Operations Committee voted 5-4 on Wednesday to send the proposal sponsored by Democratic Sen. Beverly Marrero of Memphis to the Senate Health Committee. However, that panel has closed for the year, unless its chairman decides to reopen it.

In 2004, Gee was diagnosed with Meniere's disease, a disorder that causes hearing loss and severe vertigo. The symptoms of the incurable disease became worse over time causing her to experience "drop attacks." During these attacks, severe vertigo prevented her from being able to lift her head high enough to reach a toilet even as she retched for hours. Meniere's disease affects the inner ear, which contains fluid-filled tubes that help interpret body position and maintain balance. Common



FILE PHOTO

Gee used marijuana to relieve symptoms of Meniere's disease several years ago.

complications include inability to walk or function due to uncontrollable vertigo and complete hearing loss on the affected side.

In May 2005, at her friend's suggestion, Gee began discreetly smoking marijuana in a bathroom in the chancellor's residence. Gee shared her secret with a member of the household staff, who reported it to the Vanderbilt administration, which then reprimanded her.

While investigating the Gee's lavish spending on renovations to

the chancellor's mansion, the Wall Street Journal discovered the reprimand and focused heavily on Gee's marijuana habit in a 2006 article. In early 2007, the Gees filed for divorce and the Chancellor moved back to Ohio State University, where he served as president in the 1990s. Constance Gee continued teaching at Vanderbilt and was teaching a course in art and philanthropy until late 2010.

Radley Balko, a drug policy expert, senior writer for Huffington Post and Nashville resident commented, "For years the federal government has told us that marijuana has no medical benefits. For patients like Gee and thousands of patients like her, those claims obviously ring hollow."

"Think about it. The government sends heavily armed men into homes and businesses in violent raids to prevent patients like Gee from using a drug that relieves her symptoms. I think a generation or two from now, we'll look back on pot prohibition with a great deal of shame," said Balko.

Gee will testify before the committee in the Tennessee House this week to express her support for the bill to legalize medical marijuana. However, the bill is not expected to pass the Republican-led legislature this year. ★

The Associated Press contributed to this story.



ERIKA BOLSTAD / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi speaks at a press conference with other attorneys general, following the second day of arguments in the healthcare case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., Tuesday, March 27.

### NEWS BRIEF

#### Baseball recruit dead of apparent suicide

JACKSON MARTIN  
SPORTS ASST. EDITOR

Stephen Gant, a Vanderbilt baseball signee, was found dead in his hometown of Decaturville, Tenn. Tuesday afternoon.

"We found the body of Stephen Gant about 30 feet from the roadway with a gunshot wound," Perry County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Nick Weems said. "We do believe at this time that it was self-inflicted; however, we will continue to investigate to look at other possibilities to make sure it was suicide."

Gant was a senior baseball player at Riverside High School

who was scheduled to join the Vanderbilt baseball team in the fall. Head coach Tim Corbin released a statement Tuesday night about Gant's death.

"This stops you right in your tracks," Corbin said. "These are life occurrences that can't be explained ... there are no 'do-overs.' We are all deeply saddened for Gloria, Tony, his brothers and sister as well as the many friends that Stephen had. All we can do is be supportive for the family and be there for them."

A moment of silence was held at Hawkins Field prior to the Commodores game against UT - Martin Tuesday Night. ★

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# Vanderbilt Model UN presents: The Girl Effect



KEVIN BARNETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Carolyn Elliott speaks at "Girl Effect" — a nonprofit that champions the power of girls in the developing world to end poverty for themselves and their communities through education, empowerment and micro-finance on Monday.

**KATIE KROG**  
STAFF REPORTER

A large buffet, a silent auction and a keynote speech by Dr. Carolyn Elliott were highlights of Vanderbilt Model United Nations' spring gala Tuesday, April 3 in support of The Girl Effect.

Vandy MUN has hosted an annual spring gala for the past five years, and this year's event was held in the SLC Ballroom from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Student Life Center Ballroom.

The event, which has been in the planning stages for a year, was sponsored by Vandy MUN in collaboration with Vanderbilt Student Government, the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, International Student and Scholar

Services, the Dean of Students Office, the Dean of the Martha Ingram Commons and the Human Identities Initiative.

Keynote speaker Dr. Carolyn Elliott is the author of Global Women's Empowerment. She is not personally affiliated with The Girl Effect, but she said she believes the organization does a lot of great work.

Students filled the room for the gala. Although mostly women were in attendance, a few men came to the event.

The Girl Effect is an organization that works to empower women through many different projects and initiatives.

On their website, the organization defines the term "girl effect" as "the unique potential of 600

million adolescent girls to end poverty for themselves and the world."

According to The Girl Effect, girls are more likely to reinvest in their communities than boys, reinvesting at a rate of 90 percent compared to a 40 percent rate among males.

According to Vanderbilt Model U.N. Philanthropy Chairs Erin Baldwin and Garret LeDonne, The Girl Effect was chosen for the focus of the Model U.N. spring gala because of the organization's relevance to many different groups on Vanderbilt campus and because the organization connects with "Half of the Sky," a book about the oppression of women and girls in the developing world, the Commons Reading for the incoming Class

of 2016.

"It's so diverse," LeDonne said of The Girl Effect, "It really doesn't address just one aspect of life, but really just development as a whole."

The organization focuses heavily on the impact the group believes adolescent girls can have on their community once empowered.

"My favorite part of this is that it focuses not on the broad term of women, but it just specifically focuses on adolescent girls," Baldwin said.

Vanderbilt Model U.N. is currently in the process of calculating how much money was raised for The Girl Effect at the gala. Follow @InsideVandy on Twitter to receive an update when the amount is finalized. ★

## Panelists discuss Arab Spring

**SAM McBRIDE**  
STAFF REPORTER

About 50 people gathered Tuesday evening for a panel discussion about the "Arab Spring" revolutions in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia that occurred just over a year ago.

Historian Thomas Schwartz, political scientist Katherine Carroll, and religious studies scholar Richard McGregor discussed how the situation in these countries and has evolved and, in many cases, defied the expectations many Americans had for them a year ago.

Each professor discussed the topic from his or her own field of study. McGregor discussed the growing role of the Islamist parties, especially the Muslim Brotherhood, in Egypt.

"Is this an Islamic Egypt being born?" McGregor asked. "Right off the bat we see people speaking to this question."

The major successes of the Muslim Brotherhood in early elections suggest that in fact the new Egyptian government will be heavily influenced by Islam. Professor Carroll argued that this is partially a result of the prevalence of Islam in Egypt, but more indicative of the greater organization

of the Brotherhood immediately after the revolution. She argued that Egypt has thus far failed to heed the warning of Iraq, which elected an early government that wasn't representative of the population.

"They were struggling for legitimacy, but they forgot representation," Carroll said.

Schwartz went on the remind everyone that while democracy in the Middle East is undoubtedly a good thing, the democratic governments elected are not always going to be friendly to Americans.

"In Egypt, the United States was identified with Mubarak," Schwartz said.

Still, the panelists retained a largely optimistic attitude that democratic governments in the Middle East could flourish and develop a relationship with the United States that was neither hostile nor dependant.

The panel was a part of the five-part series "Voices of the Revolution: The Arab Spring." The series continues on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. with a reading of "Comedy of Sorrows," a play about the Egyptian revolution by Egyptian playwright Ibrahim El-Husseini, and wraps up on Thursday with a discussion with El-Husseini. ★



AHMED ASAD / MCT CAMPUS

Egyptian voters queue at a polling station in the Manial neighborhood of Cairo on November 28, 2011.

## Re{cycle} kicks off



KELLY HALOM / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Re{cycle} kicked off with a launch party outside the Commons Center Monday. The first winner of Vanderbilt Ventures, Re{cycle} is a student-run company that offers bicycle rentals on campus.

## Kopstain to take on finance duties at Vanderbilt

**JIM PATTERSON**  
VU NEWS SERVICE

Vanderbilt University will welcome a top executive for its central financial services team in May, when Eric C. Kopstain begins work as associate vice chancellor for finance.

Kopstain, currently associate dean of finance for the Faculty of Arts and Science Office of Finance at Harvard University, will be the new associate vice chancellor for finance at Vanderbilt, beginning

in May. He will provide strategic leadership of the university's accounting, financial reporting, tax, financial systems, budgeting and capital management teams.

"With a finance career that truly spans all parts of the university enterprise, and with a set of successful experiences enhancing the quality of services provided by the finance team, Eric will fit right in here at Vanderbilt," said Brett Sweet, vice chancellor and chief financial officer at Vanderbilt.

A graduate of Northwestern

University in 1991 and of the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern in 2001, Kopstain has two decades of higher education budget planning, analysis and administration experience at Harvard, Dartmouth and Northwestern universities.

"Vanderbilt is an institution on the move," Kopstain said. "It possesses a financial and administrative leadership team that is world class and motivated by a dynamic and integrated vision for teaching, research and learning." ★

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# Yunus challenges students to seek social change, not money

KEVIN FURLONG  
VU NEWS SERVICE

Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus challenged Vanderbilt students to create businesses in which helping people — not making a profit — is the ultimate goal. Yunus spoke to several student groups and alumni during a visit to campus April 2.

“Chasing money has created a lot of the world’s problems,” Yunus said, though he acknowledged that the human capacity for selfishness is programmed in our DNA. “It’s a measure by which we protect ourselves.”

But humans also have a great capacity for selflessness, he said. “That’s in our DNA too.”

Yunus, who earned his Ph.D. in economics at Vanderbilt in 1971, developed the concept of microcredit and

founded the Grameen Bank in his native Bangladesh. Grameen Bank makes small loans to people living in poverty without requiring collateral and at very low interest rates. In 2006, Yunus and Grameen Bank were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for these efforts.

In 2008, Yunus established Grameen America, a branch of the bank in New York City. The bank now has 7,000 members who boast a payback rate of 99.3 percent, Yunus said. The success has led to the opening of three more branches in New York City, as well as in Indianapolis and Omaha, Neb.

“Money is a very small part of a social business, while creative problem solving is a very big part,” Yunus said, challenging the Vanderbilt students to undertake a social business design

competition in order to spur their creativity.

“If you create a social business, you have changed the world,” he said. “You’ve sewn seeds for change in others.”

Yunus told the students that they are part of the most powerful generation yet, because current technology gives them access to information and allows them to communicate rapidly.

“You have the capacity to change the world very fast,” he said. “The question is, what do you want to use this power for?”

Yunus, a 2009 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, was given Vanderbilt’s first Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1996 and the Nichols-Chancellor’s Medal in 2007. His visit April 2 was sponsored by the Office of the Provost. ★



JOE HOWELL/VU MEDIA RELATIONS  
Nobel Peace Prize recipient Muhammad Yunus greets students during his campus visit April 2.

# Tenn. governor ‘probably’ will sign evolution bill

LUCAS JOHNSON II  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee, where the nation’s first big legal battle over evolution was fought nearly 90 years ago, is close to enacting a law that critics deride as the “monkey bill” for once again attacking the scientific theory.

The measure passed by the Tennessee General Assembly would protect teachers who allow students to criticize evolution and other scientific theories, such as global warming. Republican Gov. Bill Haslam said this week he would likely sign it into law.

Haslam said the State Board of Education has told him the measure won’t af-

fect the state’s current scientific curriculum for primary, middle or high school students. Louisiana enacted a similar law in 2008.

“I think the one thing about that bill is this: Nothing about the curriculum of the state of Tennessee will change, and the scientific standards won’t change,” he said. “So I think some of the discussion about its impact has probably been overblown.”

The bill says it would encourage critical thinking by protecting teachers from discipline if they help students critique “scientific weaknesses.”

Scientists in Tennessee and the American Association for the Advancement of Science are asking Haslam to veto the bill, saying that

evolution is established science that shouldn’t be taught as a controversy.

“The Tennessee legislature is doing the unbelievable: attempting to roll the clock back to 1925 by attempting to insert religious beliefs in the teaching of science,” three Tennessee scientists wrote in an op-ed column in *The Tennessean*.

The three writers hold doctorate degrees and are members of the National Academy of Sciences: Roger D. Cone and Jon Kaas of Vanderbilt University and Robert G. Webster of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. They argue that the law is unnecessary and likely to provide expensive legal fights and hurt the economy in Tennes-

see, which is home to Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The Tennessee Education Association called the bill a distraction from the most pressing education issues in the state.

“I think at a time when we’re trying to put a focus on science, math, education; to pass something like this really sends a signal that the state is going backward instead of forward,” TEA lobbyist Jerry Winters said. “They’re avoiding the real problems in education by dealing with some of these emotional hot-button issues.”

The state held the famous Scopes “monkey trial” in 1925 in Dayton, Tenn., and opponents of the legislation say evolution is still under attack in 2012.

School teacher John Scopes was convicted of violating state statute by teaching evolution in biology class and fined him \$100. The Tennessee Supreme Court overturned it on a technicality a year later. In 1967, Tennessee’s anti-evolution law was revoked.

Some believe the bill could open the door for religious teaching in the classroom. The American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee asked the governor to veto it.

State ACLU executive director Hedy Weinberg said allowing students to critique “scientific weaknesses” is language frequently used by those seeking to introduce non-scientific ideas like creationism and

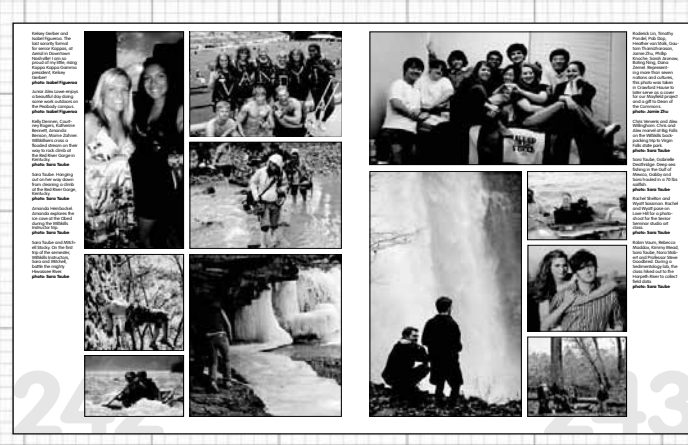
intelligent design into science curriculum.

“No one doubts the value of critical thinking to any serious course of scientific study, but this legislation is not truly aimed at developing students’ critical thinking skills,” she wrote.

House sponsor Bill Dunn, a Knoxville Republican, said the proposal states that it is “not ... construed to promote religion.”

“What the bill says is that as long as you stick to objective scientific facts, then you can bring that into play,” the Knoxville Republican said. “So if students start asking questions or if there’s debate on it, it’s not a one-sided debate. But it is a fair debate, in that it’s objective scientific facts that are brought forward.” ★

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# OPINION

**GUEST COLUMN**

## A meaningful juxtaposition

**Conversations about nondiscrimination and mental health are linked**

**KYLE BROACH**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

I was reading Monday's issue of The Hustler and was intrigued at the juxtaposition of two articles on one page: one on the intransigence of religious life, the other on the suicide of Kyle Craig specifically, and of college students generally. Vandy+Catholic was making the argument that their religious beliefs prevent them from unconditionally supporting nondiscrimination (albeit worded differently), and James Crater made the argument — quite rightly — that Vanderbilt needs to invest more heavily in its student mental health services at the Psychological Counseling Center.

Very few students likely would have thought anything of this spatial relationship, but as a student named Kyle who attends the PCC and is frequently entangled with religion because of sexual orientation, I saw the two articles — or rather the larger issues they raise — as having a fundamental connection. While the complex emotions of college students might elevate risk for suicide generally, is it any wonder that suicide among gay youth is exponentially higher when the message we receive on a daily basis is one of exclusion? Think about the argument made by student organizations propagated from the original BYX scenario of a few years ago: No gays allowed.

While the current debate about discrimination within Vanderbilt student organizations deals with leadership, the homophobia that sparked our cam-

pus controversy permeates American society throughout. Placing even marriage aside, look at the states in which gays are not allowed to adopt children, can be bullied without recourse, or have no legal outlet to which they can turn when they are the victims of crime. In 19 states, including Tennessee, it is completely legal to fire a person from any job, including public service jobs, simply for being gay. It is also legal in these states to deny gays housing or tenancy. Throw in the federal Defense of Marriage Act and such state laws as Tennessee's "Don't Say Gay" bill and California's Proposition 8, and being gay in America may present a rather grim outlook.

Why else would something like Dan Savage's "It Gets Better" campaign exist? Why does the Trevor Project specialize in gay youth suicide? Really, why do we even have nondiscrimination policies in the first place? Because messages imparted by religious organizations like Vandy+Catholic seek faith-based discrimination and normalize it beyond question. That message leaves deep scars in both anti-gay proponents that perpetuate it and the dehumanized gay community they target.

Maybe we believe we are insulated from these tragedies in the Vanderbilt bubble, but Provost McCarty said it himself in the town hall months ago: Gay students are not comfortable on this campus. As recently as the fall of 2007, before any of us were here, Vanderbilt witnessed a hate crime against a gay couple outside Towers perpetrated by a Vanderbilt student and his non-Vanderbilt guest after harassing the couple in Quiznos. How sad is it that some of us must actually be concerned with these kinds of statistics when considering where to live, where to work, or where to go to school. The Vander-

bilt community's response was that LGBTQI visibility needed to increase to promote discussions like this one. However, during Lambda's Rainbow ReVU (the annual pride week) my freshman year, rainbow flags were ripped off of several buildings, including my dorm of East House and the K.C. Potter Center housing the Office of LGBTQI Life. Homophobic slurs are the norm; visibility is hard to achieve.

I empathize with Vandy+Catholic's feeling that they cannot be full, functioning members of the Vanderbilt community; imagine if that were the message society gave you every day, long after college, and even went so far as to codify it in legislation. This type of discrimination affects one's spiritual and mental health, and sometimes there does not seem to be a way out. This is not to say that Kyle Craig was gay, nor do I believe that all Vandy+Catholic students harbor anti-gay sentiments. I am only saying that we do not know others' secrets, especially not where complex religious identity and sexuality meet. Perhaps that is why, to many, the juxtaposition of those two articles may have meant little, but to those of us who have lived or do live at the intersection of two core aspects of our being, their placement was more than an editorial whim — it was a subtle testament to a truth we routinely live. In their letter to the editor, the Vandy+Catholic board mentioned the truths that Christ has revealed to them. I may not be an expert, but I know at least one of the truths to which they refer: Love thy neighbor. Now let me impart another on your way to grayer territory: It gets better. Really, it does.

—*Kyle Broach is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at kyle.h.broach@vanderbilt.edu.*

## THE RANT

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

Watching Vandy+Catholic cut off its nose to spite its face is pretty hilarious.

Why do I have to listen to DKE's awful Saturday afternoon playlist?

I can't believe they're closing C.T. West. I wouldn't have signed up to live in Towers next year if it wasn't for C.T. West. I want to order my food out of a barrel!

Occupy Vanderbilt is a joke. There's never anyone there ...

Why isn't there a Rant in every Hustler????? It's the only reason I get one. SMH.

People who do all their assigned homework must hate themselves.

Dear main campus roommate, There are so many things I would do to see you get up at the same time as me for one week. Just one week. Sincerely, your sleep-deprived Blair roommate.

By changing the name of the "Vandy Girl" latte to something else, aren't you actually DECREASING awareness of eating disorders on campus?

**LETTER**

## Lessons from history

*Nondiscrimination a step in the right direction*

To the editor:

I am writing in support of Vanderbilt's nondiscrimination policy. I salute my friend Chancellor Nick Zepos and his administration for their stance.

My friend, Charles Churchill from London, England, and I from Connecticut, arrived in Nashville to enter Vanderbilt University as freshmen Sept. 13, 1959. We had never been to Vanderbilt, Nashville or the South before this date. We knew no one in Nashville or at Vanderbilt.

As roommates, Charles and I became quickly aware that the majority of students were from the five states surrounding Tennessee, and that most students were there to party and ultimately find a spouse. Vanderbilt was not a very interesting place. Everybody was the same.

The age of innocence was ending and college campuses were calling for change in the world, particularly in the Ivy League. Vanderbilt was different.

While we had never encountered segregation on any level, we were astonished that people could not drink from the same water coolers or eat in the same restaurants. There were no students of color, very few International students and hardly any disabled students. At best, the campus was apathetic, boring. Even the fraternities were segregated; the Jewish guys had their own fraternities. The most fun these fraternity boys had was getting down on all fours at parties and approach the

girls from the back to "hyne bite" them. No one seemed to understand the word "respect." Vanderbilt's culture was quite different from that of our former boarding school!

Because Charlie's uncle was Harold Vanderbilt, we had easy access to the chancellor. Often, over dinner at his house, we would discuss the discrimination policies at Vanderbilt.

Chancellor Branscomb wanted change, but at least half of his board consisted of old-time Southerners who were dead-set against change. We would take Uncle Harold to Rotier's for lunch when he was in town and would plead the case for change in this informal setting. Harold was for it. While Charlie and I cannot take any credit, over the next few years, a group of dedicated students, faculty and staff made change happen.

Fast-forward to today — Vanderbilt has become one of the most highly-ranked universities in the world! Twenty-six percent of all admitted students last year were minorities! The campus is brimming with enthusiasm and intellectual curiosity. It is an exciting place to be. This is the reason why we should continue to welcome all comers. This is the reason why we, the Vanderbilt community, seek to protect everyone's opportunities. There can be no exceptions. If an organization cannot accept the university's policies, then the answer is simple — just move off campus!

Respectfully,  
**Lucius W. Carroll II, A&S '63**

**COLUMN**

## Vandy Loves the Arts, and vice versa

**MICHAEL GRESHKO**  
COLUMNIST

Many student organizations often "love our 'Dores," as brightly colored stickers festooning many a football game-bound button-down shirt declare. It's interesting, however, to reflect upon the particular ordering of this love: They, the organizations, publicize their love for Vanderbilt, while the reverse — that "Our 'Dores love" a given student group — is unspoken, perhaps because it is secondary or, more cynically, assumed. If groups took for granted their widespread community support, they would feel no need to publicize such a love, for it would be a given.

For the arts, however, the widespread support of the community through awareness, attendance and material support is far from a universal given, and one group has bravely stepped into the fray to address this glaring issue: Vandy Loves the Arts.

The people behind Vandy Loves the Arts — nursed into being from an HOD 1100 project — come from a wide range of backgrounds across the arts participation spectrum, but all are committed to the vision of a Vanderbilt more imbued with the arts, creativity and personal expression. The group's emphasis seems to rest on the "unexpected fan": the person interested in the arts who doesn't fit prevailing "artsy stereotypes" and is typically underserved in terms

of publicity. The group's Facebook page serves as an important stopgap; by "liking" the page, the logic goes, people opt into access to a regularly updated feed of arts events on campus, improving visibility, awareness and attendance for such event.

By the metrics of awareness alone, VLTA has seen enormous success very early in its history; since founding their Facebook page on March 12, Vandy Loves the Arts has accrued over 500 likes, endorsements from everyone from Dean Wcislo of the Ingram Commons to football coach James Franklin, and a prominent campus profile to boot. But the group's message is deeper and more profound than merely serving as a guerrilla marketing campaign, for what the group represents through its name alone is profound; unlike many student organizations, who silently acknowledge Vanderbilt's love for them, VLTA silently — and correctly — assumes that the arts love Vanderbilt.

Hundreds of students across dozens of student organizations put in countless hours of rehearsal time in order to share their talents with the broader Vanderbilt community. So much time and energy goes into performances that may last a couple hours and only offer a couple of repeat performances, if any. Why is worth it for these groups? Because they are committed to the ideal of people and the importance of stories that bring

people together. The arts are by their very nature a unifying force, and by calling attention to their commitment to community, Vandy Loves the Arts is helping promote the ideal of community across all spheres of Vanderbilt life — and, ultimately, the fact that true freedom of expression only comes when a completely trusting community surrounds and defines said expression.

The future is bright for this young campaign, though challenges and new opportunities for improvement lie ahead for the group and for the arts in general: While the Sarratt Student Center renovation plans make room for rehearsal space — a wonderful, important step forward — other campus renovations will lead to a net stasis in total rehearsal space. Despite high demand, the Kissam College Halls currently fail to include demarcated performance spaces or rehearsal space, and current metrics used by the Office of Reservations and Events inaccurately gauge actual space use by arts organizations.

But the arts will thrive and work toward a better future for themselves and for all of Vanderbilt. After all, Vandy loves the arts — and the arts love Vandy all the more.

—*Michael Greshko is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at michael.a.greshko@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.

## Catch that act



### Juggleville VII to bring lively, plot-driven show to Ingram Hall

**BEN RIES**  
SENIOR REPORTER

The Vanderbilt Juggling and Physical Arts Club will be holding three shows for their seventh annual Juggleville event this weekend. "Juggleville VII: Caught in the Act!" advertised as "Half mystery. Half thriller. All juggling." will actually feature a 40-member cast made up of a variety of performing artists in addition to jugglers, including dancers, baton-twirlers, poets and acrobats. The shows will take place at 8 p.m. Friday, April 6 and at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 7 at the Ingram Center for Performing Arts at the Blair School of Music.

Co-director and senior Jonathan Tomick describes the show as "more plot-driven than shows have been in the past," as the antics will be anchored by a mystery about a detective retrieving lost artifacts from thieves. According to Tomick, the

idea was selected because it appeared clear and fun and the story will allude to Scooby Doo and other influences in the detective genre.

Junior Jessica Rutsky, who will play one of the thieves, called Juggleville VII "the most innovative Juggleville yet" in the organization's press release, a trait that Tomick attributes to extensive collaboration between different branches of the group.

Juggling performances typically evoke awe at the sheer talent on display and nervousness at the prospect of a performer slipping up and making an accident. Tomick insists that enough patience and practice can make anybody into a performance-worthy juggler and that mistakes can actually add to a performance.

"There will always be one or two drops, but, both personally and for all of my performers, as director I remind them that often the drops earn more smiles and more laughs. The audience likes to see that you're human and the

audience wants you to succeed so even if there's a drop onstage they'll often clap louder to support you onstage," said Tomick. "No show is drop-less, and that's okay."

Most members of The Vanderbilt Juggling and Physical Arts Club start with no past experience, but have reached a level where they can perform in the Juggleville show by the end of the year. Many marching band members and veterans participate and musical backgrounds are common. Juggleville VII will feature artists and professionals from the community along with Vanderbilt students.

Tickets for Juggleville VII cost \$5 and can be purchased at the door. However, every past Juggleville has sold out, so obtaining tickets online through Ticketmaster or at the Sarratt Student Center is recommended. In order to allow more students and family members of performers to watch, the event will also be live-streamed at the Juggleville VII website at <http://juggleville.com/7>. ★

**LUIS MUÑOZ** / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

The Vanderbilt University Juggling and Physical Arts Club performs last year's Juggleville performance at Langford Auditorium, Tuesday, April 2, 2011.

## Vanderbilt Off-Broadway gives a look at 'The Last Five Years'

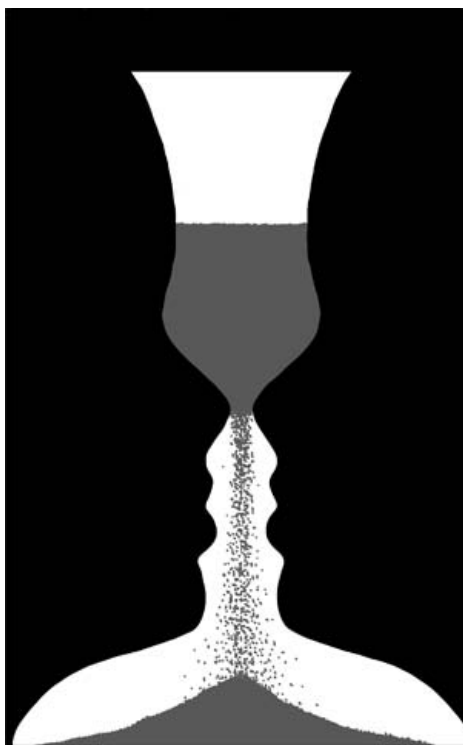
VOB's second-ever spring musical to be performed this weekend, features a small cast with big emotion

**KRISTEN WEBB**  
LIFE EDITOR

Those looking to relive the last five years need look no further than Sarratt Cinema this weekend.

Vanderbilt Off-Broadway will premiere their spring show "The Last Five Years" this Friday evening, April 6 at 8 p.m., with additional shows on April 7 at 8 p.m. and April 8 at 2 p.m. The performance follows the story of two young people, Cathy and Jaime, as the story of their relationship is told from the beginning from the male's perspective and from the end of the relationship from the female's.

"The show plays a lot with time, which is an important factor in a college student's life, particularly for the seniors," said actor and senior Ryan Korell, who plays Jaime. "One character moves forward in time while the other moves backward, only sharing the stage when their timelines collide in the middle."



GRAPHIC BY MICHAEL GRESHKO

The show is innovative in more than just its storyline, however. VOB's mainstage productions (such as January's performance of "Reefer Madness") typically consist of between 20 to 35 cast members. "The Last Five Years" features seniors Ryan Korell and Molly Snead as the only two characters in the show, spending most of their time on stage alone.

"As an actor, I love getting extra attention and direction as well as time in the limelight, of course, but that does require much more work on my part," Korell said. "It's also a bit strange since Molly and I are never on stage at the same time. The concept works really well for the structure of the show, but it felt as though I hardly got to spend time with Molly."

The show tests not only the actors' emotional skills, but also their vocals. The music, written by composer Jason Robert Brown, truly showcases the talents of the two cast members, especially as they take the stage alone for the majority of scenes.

"I'd say that this show is unique in that it's not just a musical," director Haley Rausch said. "It's a story that somehow manages to resonate with our own lives, for any audience member. We've all had relationships that have changed us in some ways. It's not just the story of a bad relationship between Cathy and Jaime; it's so much more than that."

"The Last Five Years" will be brought to life (and relived) this Friday and Saturday, April 6-7 at 8 p.m., with a matinee performance on Sunday, April 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets are free for undergraduate students and can be purchased for \$5 for non-students. ★

Freshman Duncan Hall and senior Aaron Moscow perform their respective roles as Dorante and Cliton in Wednesday's tech rehearsal of "The Liar."

KEVIN BARNETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER



April 6 to April 8, 2012  
**WEEKEND PREVIEW**

**TREVOR ANDERSON**  
SENIOR REPORTER

**VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS**

**"The Liar"**

by David Ives, adapted from the play by Pierre Corneille

**WHEN:** April 6/7 at 8 p.m., April 8 at 2 p.m.

**WHERE:** Neely Auditorium

**COST:** Free for undergraduates

\$7 Graduate students

\$10 General admission

**WHAT:** VUT opens its final mainstage show this weekend, "The Liar." The plot revolves around the fabrications of the compulsive liar Dorante and his pursuit of the heart of a woman named Clarice. After much deception and misunderstanding, everything is finally resolved. Though "The Liar" was first performed in 1644, don't worry! David Ives adapted the script in 2010 for modern audiences.

**VANDERBILT OFF-BROADWAY PRESENTS**

**"The Last Five Years"**

by Jason Robert Brown

**WHEN:** April 6/7 at 8 p.m., April 8 at 2 p.m.

**WHERE:** Sarratt Cinema

**COST:** Free

**WHAT:** Continuing a tradition that began last year, Vanderbilt Off-Broadway presents their spring show "The Last Five Years" this weekend in Sarratt Cinema. The musical tells the story of Jamie Wellerstein and Cathy Hyatt's five-year relationship. However, the show uses a form of storytelling in which Jamie's story is told in chronological order, while Cathy's is told in reverse chronological order.

**JUGGLING AND PHYSICAL ARTS CLUB PRESENTS**

**"Juggleville VII: Caught in the Act"**

**WHEN:** April 6 at 8 p.m., April 7 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

**WHERE:** Martha Ingram Center for the Performing Arts at the Blair School of Music

**COST:** \$5 on the card

**WHAT:** For those looking for fun for all ages, Juggleville VII promises to be one of the series' most memorable shows. The seventh installment of the Juggleville series features over 40 performers from Vanderbilt University and community professionals who offer dynamic displays of juggling, acrobatics and other physical feats combined with a fun cops-and-robbers storyline. A portion of the show's proceeds will be donated to the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

**VOICES OF PRAISE PRESENTS**  
**Spring Concert**

**WHEN:** April 7 at 3 p.m.

**WHERE:** Benton Chapel

**COST:** Free

**WHAT:** Voices of Praise will present their annual spring concert this Saturday at Benton Chapel. In addition to singing, the program will contain dancing, miming, stepping and spoken word performances. This year's theme is "Be ye not conformed to the ways of this world, yet Transformed in the Word of God," inspired by Romans 12:2. ★

## SPORTS

@IVSports

# Women's bowling team selected as part of 8-team NCAA Championship field

REID HARRIS  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

While many Commodore fans have focused on the basketball team's premature exit from the NCAA Tournament and the baseball team's nonconference struggles, the women's bowling team has quietly put together an impressive season to be selected as one of only eight teams in the NCAA tournament field. The Commodores' season included three tournament championships on the way to amassing an 86-36 overall record. Coach John Williamson and the team learned of their selection by NCAA Bowling Committee last week, and are busy preparing for their opportunity.

"We're excited to go and we're excited to represent Vanderbilt," Williamson said. "I think we've got a good team and we've got an opportunity to have a year that's memorable."

Coach Williamson is no stranger to success at Vanderbilt — this year's championship appearance marks the seventh consecutive trip to the NCAA Bowling Championship for the Commodores. In 2007, the bowling team brought home Vanderbilt's first national championship in any sport. Last year, the Commodores made it to the championship match before falling to

Maryland-Eastern Shore.

"In terms of talent, in terms of leadership, in terms of experience, this team is very similar," Williamson said. "That can bode well for us next week if we stay in the moment."

The team has just two seniors — Brittni Hamilton and Samantha Hesley, who transferred to Vanderbilt from Florida Atlantic before her junior season. Both bowlers were an important part of last year's national runner-up squad. Hamilton and Hesley's experience has helped mentor many of the program's younger bowlers.

"Brittni has been through four years of this. She has the talent to go with her experience," Williamson said. "With a freshman class of five people, I'd like to think they're learning something from those two seniors."

Although the season as a whole has certainly been a success, the team has struggled at times. Last month, Vanderbilt finished a disappointing 10th in a 20-team field at the Music City Invitational after struggling on the first day of competition. That said, the Commodores rallied on the second day of competition, defeating No. 1 ranked Fairleigh Dickinson and No. 2 Arkansas State.

"All teams have their moments, highs and lows. This team has definitely had its



BEN SOLOMON/VU MEDIA RELATIONS

highs and lows," Williamson said. "The difference is (other teams) put it together for the weekend of the national championship, and we haven't had that opportunity yet."

Starting on April 12, the 2012 Vanderbilt team will have its chance to match the success of previous teams and bring Vanderbilt another national championship.

## NCAA BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP:



### QUALIFYING ROUNDS

THURSDAY, APRIL 12 - ALL DAY

### PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

FRIDAY, APRIL 13 - ALL DAY

### CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY, APRIL 14 - 7 P.M. CT

### FREEWAY LANES OF

WICKLIFFE, OHIO

WATCH: ESPNU

# Commodores look to continue turnaround with Miss. State road trip

SAUNDERS MCELROY  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Commodore baseball team heads into the weekend looking to build some momentum in the Southeastern Conference after unleashing the team's offense against nonconference opponent Tennessee-Martin on Tuesday, 16-2.

Vanderbilt starter Sam Selman (2-3) was flawless, turning in five no-hit innings, allowing only two walks and striking out seven to match a career best. Yet, his performance was overshadowed by the awakening of the Commodore bats, with Tony Kemp and freshman John Norwood notching their first career homeruns en route to one of the team's best offensive performances of the season.

This weekend, the team will travel to Starkville, Miss., to take on the Mississippi State Bulldogs (18-11, 3-6 Southeastern Conference) in a matchup of two teams in search of some much-needed success in the SEC.

Both schools currently are on the wrong side of the standings in the hunt to make the conference tournament. Last weekend, the Bulldogs played on the road at Auburn and took game one in the series before falling on consecutive days after two poor pitching performances by starters Nick Routt (1-4) and Kendall Gravenman (2-1).

The bright light for MSU so far this season, however, has been right hander Chris Stratton (6-0), who turned in an eight-strikeout performance last Friday, allowing two earned runs and lowering his ERA to 2.21. Stratton will likely face Commodore southpaw Kevin Ziomek (2-4) in the opening game of the series tomorrow. Ziomek is coming off a rough outing last weekend against South Carolina, getting pinned for the loss after allowing six earned in 5.1 innings.

With both clubs struggling with pitching in conference play, this weekend could be the time to rebound for both pitching



BECK FRIEDMAN/ THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

staffs. Vanderbilt (12-17, 3-6 SEC) and MSU both rank in the bottom third of the conference in batting average and slugging.

Something has got to give in this matchup, and with both schools badly needing a series win in conference play, pitching will be the catalyst this weekend. Look for the team that gets the most quality starts on the mound to take the series.

On the offensive side of things, keep an eye on Bulldog shortstop and leadoff man Adam Frazier. Among the league leaders in batting average and on-base percentage so far this season at clips of .357 and

.460, respectively, he has been the spark that has gotten Bulldog offense rolling all season. He also leads his team in stolen bases, so once he gets on, the MSU coaching staff often looks to manufacture runs with his speed. Frazier's performance usually dictates the success of the Mississippi State offense, so if the Commodores can neutralize him this weekend, they will be in good shape to remove themselves from the gutter of the SEC East.

Vanderbilt is not far from overtaking South Carolina and Georgia, and a few wins this weekend will put them on the right track to get to Hoover this May. ★

## NEXT SERIES:



FRIDAY, 6:30 P.M. CT  
SATURDAY, 2 P.M. CT  
SUNDAY, 1:30 P.M. CT

POLK-DEMENT STADIUM  
STARKVILLE, MISS.

## COMMODORE BUZZ:

Football player DeAndre Jones, baseball player Drew Fann and track and field athletes Louise Hannallah and Nia Washington have all been nominated for post-graduate scholarships. The Southeastern Conference will announce award winners on Thursday and Friday.

# IN HIS SHOES



**TONY KEMP**  
SOPHOMORE LEFT FIELDER, #6



MICHAEL FRASCELLA / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

**GEORGE BARCLAY**  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Hustler caught up with sophomore left fielder Tony Kemp following Tuesday's 16-2 victory over UT-Martin. Kemp notched his first career homer in the game, scoring two runs in the impressive offensive effort. Batting .289 this season, Kemp leads the Commodores with six stolen bases.

**Our routine has stayed the same.** Our motto is "It's not how you start, but how you finish." That's what we've been doing better lately. All the hitters stay in the cages, the pitchers are doing the same routines. I don't think anything has changed.

**Sometimes during games the ball doesn't go our way, but**

**that's baseball** — you just have to keep plugging and not give up.

**I like getting to see the pitcher first.** If you get out, you can go back to your teammates and tell them what the pitcher's doing, what the ball looks like, if the ball is tailing away or tailing in, what's his breaking ball look like. It's pretty much being the guinea pig and seeing what the pitcher has to offer first.

**I got to sit down and talk to Coach Holliday over the last couple of weeks.** He said that I've been having some mechanical issues with my hands lately. He said that sometimes it's just mental and that I should just see the ball and not over-think too much at the plate. He said to just go out and play and have fun.

**You definitely can't take for granted the competition that you play every weekend in the SEC.** You're not going to see below 92 miles an hour on a fastball for the whole weekend. Just knowing what kind of competition you're facing, you have to strap on your cleats and give your best performance.

**Getting to play in those big games last year was very humbling.** I thank coach Corbin for putting me in that situation. I wouldn't say that I'm a veteran. I'm just another guy in another role just trying to win games with my team.

**Like I said before, it's not how your start, but how you finish — and I think we're going to finish strong this year.** ★

# Around the bubble

**Commodores top Blue Hose, 19-5, as 11 players score in Wednesday contest**



JAMES TATUM / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Vanderbilt's offense wasted no time on Wednesday afternoon, scoring three goals in the first three minutes against Presbyterian. The Commodores would beat the Blue Hose, 19-5, led by three goals a piece from Katie Mastropieri and Abby Wheeler. Vanderbilt held an 11-3 advantage over Presbyterian at halftime. On Sunday, the Commodores host Ohio State at 1 p.m. CT at the Vanderbilt Lacrosse Complex. ★

# Baseball use eight-run first inning to beat Skyhawks, 16-2, on Tuesday



BECK FRIEDMAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

The Commodore baseball team easily handled the UT-Martin Skyhawks on Tuesday, 16-2. Junior pitcher Sam Selman pitched five innings without surrendering a hit and struck out seven opposing batters. Vanderbilt scored a season-high eight runs in the first inning, sending 12 men to the plate. Both Tony Kemp and John Norwood registered their first career homeruns and tallied six combined runs batted in. Sophomore Jack Lupo also had three RBIs, picking up two hits on three trips to the plate. ★



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4/2 Solutions

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## CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**  
1 Pig \_\_\_\_  
6 Out of the cooler?  
10 Street prettifiers  
14 Kicking partner  
15 Maker of Old World Style sauces  
16 Wet bar  
17 One concerned with Times changes  
19 Senate wrap  
20 "Roundabout" band  
21 Country club costs  
22 Related  
23 Offensive blue-print?  
27 Diamond  
30 Disney girl with a seashell bikini top  
31 Dieter's catchword  
32 Stomach discomfort  
33 Little devil  
36 Beetle Bailey's boss  
41 Navy VIP  
42 Wall St. deals  
43 Vintner's prefix  
44 British Petroleum took majority ownership of it in 1978  
46 Answers the call  
49 Tonicity indicator  
52 Condé \_\_\_\_: Vogue publisher  
53 Carvey of "SNL"  
54 URL-ending letters  
57 Rock ending

**DOWN**  
58 Tournament that begins today (and collectively, words that begin 17-, 23-, 36- and 49-Across?)  
61 Part of ABA: Abbr.  
62 Mouse pad?  
63 Hair-raising  
64 GOP rivals  
65 Receiving customers  
66 Quits

**3/29/12 Solutions**

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