

# vanderbilthustler

THURSDAY JANUARY 31, 2013

VOL. 125, ISS. 8

WWW.INSIDEVANDY.COM



**Billy Joel brought the house down on Wednesday night in Langford Auditorium**. The legendary songwriter played the hits and dished out the advice to aspiring songwriters on a special night in Nashville.

### By TREVOR ANDERSON Life reporter

If being a musician didn't work out for Billy Joel, he would have made a good comedian.

The Vanderbilt Programming Board presented "Billy Joel: Questions and Answers and a Little Bit of Music" last night at Langford Auditorium. While some audience members may

have thought Billy Joel to be a crabby old musician or the stereotypical singersongwriter, he was delightfully funny. Would you imagine have a spot-on impersonation of Soviet leaders, Ronald Reagan, Paul McCartney or

reggae artists?
Probably not. While most crowds expect the artists they're watching to just "shut up and sing,"
Joel proved he could hold the audience's attention with hilarious anecdotes and more than a

few memorable one-liners.
Yet, for all the comedy, Joel's intention for agreeing to the program was, as he stated, "to help those who want to write and record music." A fair number of questions revolved specifically around music, and Joel offered

his advice on writer's block (staying positive, listening to things that inspire you or having your heart broken), what makes a good song (when it comes together and you "can't hear the nuts and bolts") and his own composition process (generally creating the melody before the

For Vanderbilt Programming Board president David Head, Joel's question-and-answer session was

useful for all

students, not

only those

interested

in music.

"Being able

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Head said.

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communi-

"Being able to bring a world-class musician and give him an open forum to communicate with students was invaluable. His anecdotes, though about music, could really be applied to any field, and students can take his advice in any career path."

**DAVID HEAD,** nior and President of Vanderbilt Programmin Board

dent of Vanderbilt Programming Board

> "His anecdotes, though about music, could really be applied to any field, and students can take his advice in any career path."

While some audience members relished the opportunity to ask questions, others couldn't resist requesting their favorite Joel hits. Joel obliged sophomore Nora Elderkin and senior Hilary Dennen by performing "Vienna" and "Leningrad," respectively. Except for the occasional strain to reach high notes,

Joel's vocals sounded clear and sharp, especially impressive given that Joel hasn't recorded a full-length album since 1993's "The River of Dreams."

And although Billy Joel — you know, six-time Grammy Award winner and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee — was all you'd expect and more, the star of the evening was undoubtedly freshman Michael Pollock, who bravely asked Joel if he could accompany him on "New York State of Mind." Joel agreed, and for the next few minutes, Pollock had the audience captivated, his impressive piano skills matched Joel's vocals note for note. For his performance, Pollock received a standing ovation from Joel's band — and soon the entire audience was on its feet.

"I just want to point out that he did get a standing ovation that I noticed was started by the people that Billy Joel was with," said freshman Jacob Teichner. "So, to get a standing ovation from those people — professionals — speaks to his (Pollack's) performance."

If there was any disappointing part of the night, it had to be how quickly the conversation passed. The audience emitted a collective groan when Joel's timer went off, but before he departed for the evening, he treated the audience to a rousing rendition of "Piano Man."

And true to his tune, Billy

And true to his tune, Billy Joel — musician, songwriter and sometimes-comedian — had us feeling all right.

#### **WORDS** from the **STARS**

Michael Pollack, freshman who stepped on stage to play "New York State of Mind" with Billy Joel on his on-stage experience: I walked up, we spoke about the arrangement for about 15 seconds — he just went through what he wanted me to play — and then from there, it was just ... foggy. It's hard to remember. I just started playing. I had practiced it a little bit thinking maybe I'd get the chance to go up ... I kind of lost myself playing. Then I walked off, and that was it ... It was probably the greatest moment of my life, up to date.

Pollack on learning to play "New York State of Mind":

I've been playing it for at least eight years now ... it's one of my favorites by him. I play a lot by ear — I listen to music, and then I play it just from listening. I gave up reading music about four, five years ago. But "New York State of Mind" — I actually learned the whole thing by ear. I had to tune up a little and learn the bridge one more time before the show just in case he called on me. But for the most part, it was by ear.

Pollack on connecting with Joel's saxophonist Richie Cannata after being referred to his studio: I was 13 at the time, and it was a Monday night, it was, like, 1 a.m. in a smoky bar with drunks, he brings me out — I must've been, like, 4-foot-10 at most — and he brings me up and I walk up and we jammed on "New York State of Mind" and "Summer, Highland Falls."

**Billy Joel on what makes a good song:** *I want it to sound ... as if it was dropped from God's lap.* 

**Billy Joel before performing "Temptation":** Here's a song no one knows is about my daughter. I don't think I've ever done this one live ...

Billy Joel performs during Elton John's and Billy Joel's "Face 2 Face" concert at Wrigley Field, July 16, 2009, in Chicago, Ill.

# Minority party ladies get 'er done in Congress

— Sam McBride, news reporter

Vanderbilt researchers have found that congresswomen in the minority party are more effective than their male counterparts. On average, they introduce more bills, and those bills go further in Congress, than male Congressmen in the minority party.

Vanderbilt political science professor Alan Wiseman believes women in Congress are more collaborative than the men.

"In Congress, men tend to adopt more individualistic and competitive approaches to policymaking and women rely on more collaborative methods," said Wiseman, codirector of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Vanderbilt University. The co-authors write, "With this tendency toward collaboration, female legislators in the minority party are expected to experience greater effectiveness than their male minority party colleagues."

The 113th Congress has a record number of women, 98 in the Senate and House of Representatives. The researchers believe that, while the Democratic Party is in the minority in the House of Representatives, they'll benefit from the greater number of women in their party.

### Secretary Kerry

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate overwhelmingly confirmed President Barack Obama's choice of five-term Sen. John Kerry to be secretary of state, with Republicans and Democrats praising him as the ideal successor to Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The vote Tuesday was 94-3. One senator — Kerry — voted present and accepted congratulations from colleagues on the

Obama tapped Kerry, 69, the son of a diplomat, decorated Vietnam veteran and 2004 Democratic presidential candidate, to succeed Clinton, who is stepping down after four years. The Massachusetts Democrat, who had pined for the job but was passed over in 2009, has served as Obama's unofficial envoy, smoothing fractious ties with Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, the panel's top Republican, called Kerry "a realist" who will deal with unrest in Egypt, civil war in Syria, the threat of al-Qaida-linked groups in Africa and Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons.

Obama had nominated Kerry after Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, removed her name from consideration following criticism from Republicans over her initial comments about the attacks on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

Voting against Kerry were three Republicans — Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma and John Cornyn and Ted Cruz of Texas. Absent from the vote were Sens. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and John Hoeven, R-N.D.

# OWNER OF BRAZILIAN NIGHTCLUB ON FIRE ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

— Tyler Bishop, news editor

Elissandro Spohr, owner of a nightclub in southern Brazil where more than 230 people died in a fire last weekend, attempted to take his own life after a "disaster" of a week.

Lilian Caus, one of the officers watching over Spohr, said he had made a suicidal gesture, removing a shower hose and tying it to a bathroom window Tuesday.

"By the way it was tied it looked like he wanted to use it to hang himself by the neck, but he didn't even use it," Caus said. "There seems to have been the intention to use it."

Attorney Jader Marques said Spohr "regretted having ever been born" because of his grief over the fire, but still blamed Sunday's tragedy on "a succession of errors made by the whole country."

The blaze also claimed another life late Tuesday, raising the death toll to 235, as a 25-year-old man with burns covering 70 percent of his body succumbed to his wounds. The man's older brother was also killed in the fire and buried on Sunday.

The Associated Press contributed to this report

**QUOTE OF THE DAY** 

"I cannot stress enough how seriously the university took what happened or rather what didn't happen — this morning." **ELIZABETH LATT, NEWS AND COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR** 

#### CRIME LOG

**By EMILY TORRES** 

Senior news reporter

#### FRIDAY, JAN. 25

**Stambaugh House, 3:05 a.m.** — A student was found unconscious in the bathroom and received charges for liquor law violations and drunkenness after the student admitted to being intoxicated.

#### **SATURDAY, JAN. 26**

24th Ave. and Kensington Place, 8:36 p.m. — After being observed stumbling on the sidewalk, a person was arrested on-site for drunkenness.

Morgan House, 1 a.m. — Three students were given disciplinary referrals after admitting to drinking alcohol.

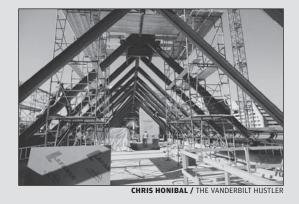
Gillette House. 2:09 a.m. — A student was found passed out from drinking alcohol and was transported to Vanderbilt University Hospital.

#### **SUNDAY, JAN. 27**

**Wesley Place Garage, 2:26 a.m.** — A student was observed intoxicated on CCTV camera and was transported to VU Hospital.

#### **MONDAY, JAN. 28**

**Carmichael Towers, 2:40 a.m.** — A visitor was observed intoxicated and on-view taken to the Criminal Justice Center (CJC).



# Search begins for College Halls faculty directors

Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Cynthia Cyrus and Dean of Students Mark Bandas will co-chair a search committee to find the first faculty directors of Moore and Warren colleges, representing a critical step in developing the two college halls now under construction at the corner of 21st and West End avenues.

Interested candidates must be current fulltime Vanderbilt faculty.

"College Halls at Vanderbilt will enhance the campus learning environment for generations to come," Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard McCarty said. "I look forward to a successful search for its inaugural faculty leaders." From a Vanderbilt press release

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# Where was the ERIVU?

#### By TYLER BISHOP

News editor

The National Weather Service at 3:07 a.m. Wednesday morning issued a tornado warning for Davidson County, indicating that an approaching storm had the capability of producing multiple tornadoes.

Under tornado warnings, the Weather Service recommends that cover be taken on the lowest floor of a sturdy building.

Despite the warning issued by the Weather Service, many students on campus remained unaware of the potential danger that the storm posed to the university due to a malfunction in the AlertVU system. AlertVU is the university's emergency notification system.

According to the Vanderbilt website, "AlertVU rapidly sends messages to the delivery points the user — cell phone (voice or text), land line, or Vanderbilt email account — in the event of an emergency that poses an imminent threat or danger to the Vanderbilt community. Examples of such a threat include a tornado forecasted to strike Vanderbilt, or an active shooter on campus."

According to Elizabeth Latt, assistant vice chancellor and director of Vanderbilt University News and Communications, issues surrounding the transition to a new operating system caused

"We did recently adapt the operating system with a new vendor. In doing that, the procedure for actually activating AlertVU changed a little bit," Latt said. "There was training and testing done, but it often can be the case that you have potential problems that come up that you might not have had otherwise.'

Dean of Students Mark Bandas Wednesday afternoon released an email to the Vanderbilt Community to inform of the system failure.

"The activation revealed a procedural problem that prevented the vast majority of

the campus from receiving the severe weather notification," Bandas wrote in the email. "The cause of the failure is known, and solutions have been put in place."

Latt said the university took the situation seriously and that action has been taken to prevent future issues.

"I cannot stress enough how seriously the university took what happened — or rather what didn't happen — this morning," Latt said. "Once the problem was identified, we did all we could do to address it, and we have remedied the situation."

In lieu of the AlertVU failure, some Vanderbilt resident advisers began moving students to basements and hallways just before 3:30 a.m. Students were allowed back into their rooms beginning at 3:45 a.m. Some floors in Vanderbilt dormitory buildings saw no action taken.

The lack of an alert from the university left many students asking questions about the effectiveness of the AlertVU system. Soon after the tornado warning was issued, students began expressing concern via social media.

"Texts from ASB2k12 group about tornado: 13. Texts from AlertVU about tornado: 0. Um..." posted sophomore Michael Diamond to his Facebook wall at 4:14 a.m.

Despite concern expressed by many students, others saw the warning in a more positive light. Shortly after 3 a.m., sophomore Hedda Bates posted to her Facebook wall: "3 a.m. tornado sirens, at least they'll keep me awake to study!"

"Should have gotten 4th meal after severe weather hang out time in the Highland tunnel. Guess I'll have to wait until the sun comes up in 2 hours," posted senior Turi Clausell to his Facebook wall shortly after 4 a.m.

Area tornado sirens began sounding off at 2:55 a.m. and continued until 3:45 a.m. The tornado warning lasted until 4 a.m. Davidson County was also under a severe thunderstorm warning until 4 a.m.

#### **Timeline of events** (Wednesday, Jan. 30):

**2:54** a.m. — Students began hearing area tornado sirens.

**3:07 a.m.** — A tornado warning was issued for Davidson County.

3:17 a.m. — The Hustler published an warning article on InsideVandy.com.

**4 a.m.** — The tornado warning for Davidson County ended.

**1:14 p.m.** — The Hustler contacted the Vanderbilt Office of News and Communication requesting information regarding the AlertVU malfunction.

**3:19 p.m.** — Dean of Students Mark Bandas released an email to the student body to inform of the AlertVU malfunction.

**4:09 p.m.** — The Vanderbilt Office of News and Communication responded to The Hustler's inquiry.

### Students react via Facebook



Tornado was cool when it was on a 6-year-old's soccer jersey. Not at 3:30 am on a school night.

#hallwaybonding

Like - Comment - 8 hours ago via mobile - 18



Michael S. Diamond

Texts from ASB2k12 group about tornado: 13. Texts from AltertVU about tornado: 0. Um...



Alonzo Jones

Tornado sirens please shut up!!! I have a lot of sleep to catch up



**Hedda Bates** 

3 am tornado sirens, at least they'll keep me awake to study!

Like - Comment - 9 hours ago near Nashville - 🎎



# 'The Greatest Party on Earth' dances its way back to Vanderbilt

**By MARIA RAMOS** News staff reporter

"The Greatest Party On Earth," presented by Vanderbilt Dance Marathon, is coming to campus this Saturday, Feb. 2. For the past 10 years, Vanderbilt Dance Marathon has been a year-long fundraising effort to raise money for the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, a Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

Because of its national donors, Dance Marathon has successfully raised a total of over \$1,000,000 "for the kids" — the organization's motto since its start in 2002. This year at Vanderbilt, there have been several new fundraising initiatives to help surpass last year's total, such as canning, an online silent auction and a "pie in the face" auction.

Every weekend throughout the past month, organization members of Dance Marathon have been "canning," or collecting donations from grocery shoppers at several Harris Teeter locations throughout the Nashville area. Students who have canned have raised over \$4,000 to date.

The online silent auction, which began Wednesday, Jan. 30, and goes until the day of the event, is open to anyone who would like to participate. A Gibson guitar, a David Yurman bracelet

and Southwest Airline tickets are among the items available.

This year, Dance Marathon is introducing a new fundraising initiative, the "pie in the face" auction - an all-day event that allows dancers the opportunity to pie Vanderbilt's own Kristin Shorter, Felix Urquia, Mike Maley, Kerrie Turney, Patrick Thomas and the Dance Marathon directors in the face.

In hopes of surpassing last year's fundraising total, Dance Marathon encourages all students to participate in the event. So far, Delta Delta Delta leads the fundraising efforts with \$10,971 raised. Alpha Tau Omega follows in second with a current total of \$9,473, and Alpha Epsilon Pi is currently in third place with \$5,814 raised.

All students who would like to participate in "The Greatest Party on Earth" must go to the Office of Greek Life, pay the \$20 registration fee and receive their T-shirt. Registration is open until one hour before the event.

Dance Marathon encourages all dancers to arrive by 10:30 a.m. on the day of the event in order to ensure that they receive a T-shirt. Food from Krispy-Kreme, Chick-fil-A, Subway, Qdoba, Papa John's, McDougal's and other locations will be available to dancers throughout the day.

The event will run from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. in the Student Life Center.



#### **Event schedule**

11 a.m. — Introductions of the **Miracle Families on the Red Carpet** 12:30 p.m. — Sigma Gamma Rho Step

**2 p.m.** — Line Dancing

3:10 p.m. — Dueling Pianos **4:15 p.m.** — Phi Beta Sigma Step Team

4:30 p.m. — Chris Winward Band

5:10 p.m. — "Pie In The Face" Auction **6:40 p.m.** — Tongue-N-Cheek

**7:30 p.m.** — Morale Dance 8 p.m. — Melodores Performance

9 p.m. — Acrobats

9:40 p.m. — Frat DJ Competition 11:30 p.m. — Closing Ceremony with **Provost McCarty** 

#### Want to register?

Go to http://helpmakemiracles.org, search for Vanderbilt University Dance Marathon and click Register.

Students can register up to one hour before the event.

# Howard at the top of the (Vanderbilt) food chain

**By HANNAH SILLS** Senior news reporter

It's almost guaranteed that Camp Howard affects the day of each Vanderbilt student on campus, even if they don't realize it. As Director of Vanderbilt Campus Dining, Howard manages everything from product selection to the creation of new concepts like the 2012 Rand renovations. But as an award-winning Certified Executive Chef, he also has experience in the trenches of the kitchen. The Hustler sat down with Howard to learn more about Vanderbilt's "top chef."

#### **BECOMING THE DIRECTOR**

Howard has deep roots in the culinary world. "When I was in high school, I worked for restaurants and really liked it. I worked in the front of the house serving tables and busing tables and so forth," Howard said. He then went on to cook in the restaurants of several different resort communities across the country.

Later, Howard received a formal culinary education from the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, whose alumni include celebrity chef personalities featured on shows like "Ace of Cakes," "Hell's Kitchen"

He then worked for a company called ClubCorp of America, serving as executive chef for 4 of the 7 years he was with the company.

"That was a great opportunity because I was able to kind of create my own style," Howard said about the experience. "We did everything from scratch, bought everything fresh. I learned how to manage people, learned how to write budgets, learned how to run a kitchen, learned how to be a boss, learned how to discipline people, learned how to cook - do all the things that a chef does."

In 1993, Howard decided to make a change from the "grueling hours" of the private food industry and applied for an executive chef position at the University of Tennessee. One of the main reasons he took the job became clear to him during the interview process: "College food service is more than just serving food to students," Howard said. "You're part of the commu-

Four years later, in 1997, Howard came to Vanderbilt, taking the job of executive chef. In that position, he helped to rewrite menus, redesign kitchens and create new dining concepts. Howard was then promoted to assistant director, associate director, interim director and ultimately his current position as director of Campus Dining. He has served as director for five years.

Having worked in Vanderbilt's kitchens in several different capacities, Howard has a special familiarity

with the campus culinary scene that goes beyond his current position. "Even though I'm the director of the department, I know our kitchens, our facilities and our recipes like the back of my hand," he said. "It's nice, when I go into our restaurants and visit our staff ... I've been there, done that kind of thing."

#### A DAY IN THE LIFE

"There are no two days that are alike," Howard said. He usually starts the morning by ensuring that Dining's overnight operations ran smoothly. After that, he may work on creating new concepts, product selection, human resources tasks or other activities. There are also many meetings every week with different Vanderbilt staff to keep the process running well.

One surefire part of his day involves going out and experiencing Vanderbilt dining. "I try to go to at least three locations per day," Howard said. "I walk around, talk to the staff, say hello to students, make sure things are humming along."

"I always eat lunch on campus," Howard said. "Very rarely would I take lunch to go, take it back to my office." Instead, he prefers to eat on location in one of the campus dining facilities.

Another important part of Howard's job involves watching the bottom line. "I always look at our numbers," Howard said. "We run this like a business - we're a self-sustaining auxiliary of the Division of Administration. I report up to Business Services, so I have to run this thing in a fiscally responsible way."

#### **SERVING THE STUDENTS**

Working in the campus food industry provides a unique set of circumstances to consider. Howard emphasized that understanding the students' needs is a critical part of creating the optimal Campus Dining department to meet those needs.

"It's being a part of the community ... understanding that we are here for the greater good of the students," Howard said. "We're just one little slice of their day, but we're such an important slice of their day, and we take it very seriously."

In the stressful college environment, Howard views Campus Dining's role as helping students to temporarily escape from the frantic pace. "Food makes people happy," he said.

The best part of the job for Howard is getting to interact with students and staff on campus.

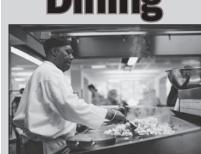
"I like to impart enthusiasm and motivate the folks that work in our department, and seeing students enjoying our services, I think it's great," Howard said. "Walking through Rand or the Commons, when I see students eating and laughing and having a good time, I'll ask them if they're enjoying their meal, and they say 'Yes,' and I just say 'Great. We're doing our job.'"



JOHN RUSSELL / VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

In addition to being a Certified Executive Chef, Camp Howard is an avid unicycler, a hobby he's had since he was 11 years old.

# Vanderbilt











# Nicholas Kristof to speak at **Chancellor's Lecture Series**

Co-author of Class of 2016 reading, 'Half the Sky,' visits Vanderbilt to spread his book's message

**By EMILY TORRES** 

Senior news reporter

Nicholas Kristof will be speaking tonight at Vanderbilt as part of the Chancellor's Lecture Series. Kristof is a Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times journalist and co-author of "Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide."

Kristof's presentation, "The World's Women: Fighting Poverty and Repression by Empowering Women and Girls,' will make a call to arms against the human rights issue of oppression of women and girls on an international level.

Kristof will also illustrate how the key to progress lies in unleashing women's potential. He will tell the Nashville community how it can do its part to support worldwide women empowerment.

Kristof co-authored "Half the Sky" with his wife and fellow Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Sheryl WuDunn, who also spoke at Vanderbilt in Septemper 2012. The book uses individual stories and socio-political context to shed light on injustices women face around the world, including sex trafficking, sexual violence and inequality in girls' education, claiming that oppression worldwide is the "paramount moral challenge" of our time.

The book was used as The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons 2012 reading, a tradition in which first-year students read and discuss a common text.

There will be a book signing and reception prior to the lecture from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the Board of Trust room in the Student Life Center (SLC). The lecture will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the SLC. Admission is free to the public, but seating is limited. Video of the presentation after the event will be available for viewing on the Vanderbilt News website.

# Will DTD have a home?

With the arrival of a new fraternity, Delta Tau Delta, members of the Greek community have been speculating about their future residency on Greek Row

**By EMILY TORRES** Senior news reporter

The Greek community at Vanderbilt welcomed a new organization in the fall: Delta Tau Delta (DTD). Sixty-five members became the founding class of DTD, who welcomed another 11 new members in

As the newest addition to Greek Life, DTD does not yet have an exclusive chapter facility. Currently, chapter meetings are typically held at the 208 24th Avenue facility, which served previously as the space FIJI used for chapter meetings and parties.

"When Delta Tau Delta was given an invitation to join the Vanderbilt community, it was with the understanding that no exclusive-use facility was available for the organization and they would operate without an exclusive-use facility for the foreseeable future," Director of Greek Life Kristin Shorter said.

Junior Cameron Doberstein, president of DTD, is satisfied with the progress of the colony chapter, regardless of its lack of a permanent

"We would of course love to have our own shelter on campus, and if the opportunity presents itself to us, then we will do our best to find a more permanent center for our chapter operations," Doberstein said. "There is no specific timeline, since there is really no way to predict when housing opportunities will arise. Regardless of our housing situation at this time, or at any point in the future, I have no doubt that Delta Tau Delta will make its presence felt on this campus in a meaningful and positive way."

Shorter commented that if a Greek facility became available, DTD would be considered as an option. However, the chapter is currently focused on growth and integration into the Vanderbilt com-

"The colony is a diverse group of campus leaders who are committed to the values of Delta Tau Delta," Shorter said. "They are looking forward to making an impact at Vanderbilt.'



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# opinion

**QUOTE OF THE DAY** 

"On our end, however, we are especially concerned with defending The Hustler from a social media backlash stemming from the misinterpretation of its content."

HUSTLER EDITORIAL BOARD

# TWITTER ROUNDUP

Tweets or it didn't happen. Check out what's happening this week on Twitter!

### Lamar Alexander's comments on video game violence

#### Frank Conniff - @FrankConniff

Lamar Alexander calls video games worse than guns, citing all those incidents of psychos attacking people with video games.

#### **Colin Moriarty - @notaxation**

Let politicians point at video games all they want. The First Amendment is clear.

#### James Chen — @jchensor

If what the media said about Video Games was true, everyone in Japan would have obliterated each other already with swords. Get over it.

#### Joe Hill – @joe\_hill

I wonder if the 60 year old who just shot up an office in Phoenix was inspired by video games like Call of Duty or Marilyn Manson or what?

#### Meep - @MeepisMurder

every day teens are jumping into volcanos thinking they'll hop out right out like mario. please, stop the madness. ban lava in videogames

#### **Christos Gage – @Christosgage**

Next politician who says video games are a bigger problem thanguns gets smacked upside the head with my Atari.

#### **David Roberts – @drgrist**

Dear @SenAlexander, I'm confused. You say video games "affect people" but guns don't? Can you expand on that?

#### CDP – @seekerwisdom8

GOP says — "guns don't kill people; video games do." #p2

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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.

The views expressed in lead editorials reflect the majority of opinion among The Hustler's editorial board and are not necessarily representative of any individual member.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to the Hustler office or via email to opinion@insidevandy. com. Letters via email must come from a Vanderbilt email 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.

The Vanderbilt Hustler (ISSN 0042-2517), the student newspaper of Vanderbilt University, is published every Monday and Thursday during the academic year except during exam periods and vacations. The paper is not printed during summer break.

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

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# Setting the record straight

Responding to criticisms of and clarifying comments in Monday's column 'VSG: Vanderbilt's sloppy government'



MICHAEL GRESHKO

is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at michael.a.greshko@ vanderbilt.edu. fter I submitted my article for this past Monday's issue, I thought it would generate the lukewarm buzz that my VSG-related articles usually have.

But my goodness, this was surprising.

After a steady stream of online criticism levied upon me by VSG and others, I thought it would be appropriate to spend some time readdressing my previous article's flaws — and the larger truths contained therein.

First, my mistakes. To VSG's credit, 13 documents were uploaded onto Anchor Link between Sept. 2, 2012 and Jan. 13, 2013, including copies of some Senate minutes and Cabinet minutes, among other things. I'll also give VSG another inaccuracy it didn't notice: Because of the time crunch of revising my article after last Wednesday's Senate session, I neglected to update the total number of resolutions passed by VSG.

My bad, VSG. These were oversights I can only chalk up to carelessness, and I apologize.

The rest of my article, however, has more than withstood the additional scrutiny, and VSG's madcap rush this week to correct itself has been nothing short of remarkable. Since Sunday evening, when Monday's issue of The Hustler went to press, VSG has:

Uploaded 39 documents to Anchor Link, including three copies of Senate minutes that were days and months overdue, all of this year's resolutions and all of the standing committee minutes that I correctly claimed were unavailable. Three quarters of all Anchor Link uploads overseen by Maryclaire's administration occurred between 5:21 p.m. on Sunday and 1:07 a.m. on Tuesday. (I cannot help but pity that incredibly busy uploader.)

Added a "Resolutions 2012-2013" section to its student organization website.

 Issued an apologetic press release responding to the very real institutional failures I described in Monday's article.

 Uploaded Senate minutes to VSG's student organization website.

In the face of such questions about VSG – and about ourselves – we have two options: We can check out and proclaim the system irrevocably broken, or we can engage and work to change the system.

I commend VSG for the work it's done since Monday to bring itself up to scratch, and after chatting with Maryclaire on Monday evening, I am hopeful that progress will continue to be made. But the fact that such sweeping changes and updates were necessary speaks to my original point: that VSG had displayed "a lack of either knowledge of or interest in the process of upholding current VSG statute and the resolutions that crafted said statutes."

I'd like to respond now to criticisms that I am taking this all too seriously: Some of the people who responded to VSG's first response — a widely viewed Facebook post on Maryclaire's personal page — certainly agreed, all but suggesting that I've been taken to "delusions of grandeur."

I'm not taking VSG too seriously. I'm taking it as seriously as it ought to be taken by both its own politicians and the student body alike.

VSG dispenses tens of thousands of dollars in event co-sponsorships annually, oversees the allocation of over \$2 million in student activity fees and is one the undergraduate student body's best shots at discussing university policy with campus administrators. Furthermore, VSG gets the majority of its \$100,000 annual budget directly from annual housing fees, represents the undergraduate student body at events on and off campus and ostensibly serves as a microcosm of who we are as Commodores.

And some people are arguing that apathy is the best option in the face of such real and potential power? Hardly. In fact, Vanderbilt's collective habit of wearing our apathy on our sleeves — convincing ourselves at every turn that VSG's scope is narrow and trifling — is the very thing that is holding VSG back.

Ask yourself, reader: Can you name your academic or residential senators? How often do VSG members reach out to you outside of email or the occasional "free food" table in the lobby of your residence? How often do you see something about Vanderbilt you'd like to change? And how often do you think of VSG as an agent of that change?

In the face of such questions about VSG — and about ourselves — we have two options: We can check out and proclaim the system irrevocably broken, or we can engage and work to improve the system.

Many people on this campus, including some on The Hustler's staff, fall in the first category. No matter how testy I get with VSG, though, I find myself falling in the second camp. No matter how problematic VSG's policies may be, and no matter how much the group is plagued by the pettiness of student government, the ideal of VSG is what drives me forward, as I hope it drives others.

— Michael Greshko

# Half the picture

Nicholas Kristof's 'Half the Sky' was a powerful read but a poor choice for the freshman Commons Reading

KARA SHERRER

is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at kara.n.sherrer@ vanderbilt.edu. his afternoon, journalist and author Nicholas Kristof will speak at Vanderbilt on his New York Times bestselling book "Half the Sky," which he co-wrote with his wife Sheryl WuDunn. Kristof is coming partly because "Half the Sky" was chosen as the Commons Reading for the Class of 2016. Over the summer, the Commons Reading is mailed to all members of the incoming freshman class. When the students arrive on campus, they discuss the book with their Vanderbilt Visions groups, among other activities.

While I firmly believe "Half the Sky" is a compelling read that explores and reveals crucial women's issues, I do not believe it was the best choice for the 2016 Commons Reading. My problem with its selection is twofold. For one, it hindered Vanderbilt Visions in accomplishing its ostensible purpose, which is to encourage "a sense of community among first-year students, faculty and staff" (according to the Common Place website). Secondly, the typical Visions treatment of "Half the Sky" actually did a grave disservice to the appalling treatment of women the book presents. To say that the subtitle of the book — "Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide" — does not communicate the full magnitude of injustice would be an understatement.

A disclosure is first warranted: I am that student who read the entire Commons Reading. Now I know that for a variety of factors, most freshmen skimmed or simply didn't open the book. However, having read "Half the Sky," I think that it is particularly hard to fault the Class of 2016 for this, since the book's subject matter included forced prostitution, mass rape, female genital mutilation and honor killings.

Indeed, one of my fellow Visions students summarized the book's content with the phrase "mass rape and such."

I don't wish to criticize her treatment of the subject; in fact, I think given the setting of Visions, "and such" is perhaps the only admissible way to refer to a man brutally thrusting a stick through a woman's vagina and into her internal organs. I know that statement is graphic, but it is representative of the subject matter and of the language of "Half the Sky." In fact, the only parts of the book we could comfortably explore in Visions were girls' education and microfinance. These are both extremely worthy issues, but they are only a fraction of the book's worthy content. Attempting to discuss any other part of the book only increased our discomfort and awkwardness, which is ironic because the Visions program was originally instituted to accomplish the opposite: to foster community.

I would argue that this predicament arose because Visions is not an appropriate place to constructively consider matters of this gravity. Can you imagine being a first-week freshman again, still trying to remember where your dorm is, and having to discuss women leaking urine from obstetric fistulas? Such subjects are already challenging to examine in even the most professional of contexts, and the nature of Visions only heightened the difficulty of discussion since we students barely knew one another.

This inability to consider the problems presented by "Half the Sky" was actually unfair to both the issues themselves and to the women who experience them all over the globe. I don't think anyone would disagree that "something should be done" to stop girls from being forced into brothels or women from being attacked with acid. However, this naturally prompts the question: Did assigning "Half the Sky" as the Commons Reading and facilitating its discussion in our Visions groups accomplish

this "something?" To my knowledge, it did not result in any such action, and particularly not effective action taken by many people, as the authors themselves advocate.

I would be remiss if I gave the impression that "Half the Sky" was the sole focus of Visions, at least in my group's case. Both my student and faculty VUcept leaders were excellent, and they led engaging discussions on many other topics, including school stereotypes and the presidential election. Furthermore, I believe that the selection staff had the best of intentions when they chose "Half the Sky" as the Commons Reading. They wanted a book that would expose students to serious worldwide issues and result in thought-provoking conversation. "Half the Sky" certainly fulfilled the first goal, at least for those students that read it. However, the very gravity of its issues is what kept it from accomplishing the

In the future, I think it would be wise for Commons Readings to continue to expose students to serious issues and encourage discussion, but to do so in way that will truly promote community among the students and staff of Vanderbilt. The reading for the Class of 2017, "College: What it Was, Is, and Should Be" by Andrew Delbanco, certainly seems like a step in this direction. That notwithstanding, I think it is undeniably admirable that Vanderbilt is having Kristof speak, in addition to engaging in other events that promote awareness of women's issues. However, I believe a more effective way to "turn women's oppression into opportunity" can be found than simply assigning a book for a Commons Reading.

— Kara Sherrer

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# The meaning of manliness

LUKE MIKSANEK

is a junior in the Blair School of Music. He can be reached at christian.l.miksanek@ vanderbilt.edu. n his column in last Monday's issue of The Hustler, Charlie Schwartz erroneously claims that men's self-confidence issues are a minor or uncommon cause of difficulty in dealing with women. From my perspective, lack of self-confidence is the primary cause.

Let us consider some advice directly from the ultimate man's man, John Wayne: "Talk low, talk slow and don't say too much." Does this sentiment correspond with the "cocky asshole" type that Mr. Schwartz associates with confidence? Of course not. The Duke's confidence

in his role as a man revealed itself in his not needing to offer proof in the form of conceited behavior.

This observation helps unmask the "socially-powerful hunk" under whose shadow Mr. Schwartz cowers as no more confident than an "introverted English major." The flaunting of supposedly masculine traits like skirt-chasing is not necessary for a man to be comfortable in his own skin.

Oftentimes, a man falls into the trap of believing that the pursuit of a woman is the only worthwhile activity in developing his manliness, but nothing could be further from the truth. There are many facets — maintaining physical and spiritual health, acquiring skills (both practical and artistic) and above all, behaving in a chivalrous fashion — that demonstrate respect for others.

The aforementioned activities can cultivate a man's self-confidence in a manner that is both healthy and genuine. He becomes a man whom women want and whom men want to emulate.

— Luke Miksanek

# Lead editorial: Our stance, for the record

VSG's meeting minutes are now posted for all to see, but we're not exactly excited about the way we got here

#### THE VANDER-BILT HUSTLER **EDITORIAL BOARD**

is composed of the top four editors of The Hustler. These editors present the viewpoint of the majority of the Hustler staff.

s columnist Michael Greshko mentioned on page 4, he and Editor-In-Chief Eric Single met with VSG President Maryclaire Manard on Monday night to discuss the message, accuracy and purpose of Greshko's Jan. 28 column, "VSG: Vanderbilt's Sloppy Government." Michael has laid out his personal investment in his argument; we would like to build upon that by describing our investment as an organization.

We sincerely appreciated the meeting with Manard, the work VSG did to fill in the missing reports required by statute and the VSG press release admitting to the updating lapses, which was issued Wednesday night. However, our emotions concerning the way the story was initially received and repurposed as a criticism of The Hustler and its columnists are a little more complex.

Just minutes after VSG completed a wave of retroactive document uploads on Monday morning, Manard reacted to Greshko's column on her Facebook page, posting an entry at around 11:30 on Monday morning. The full

"Hmm.. now these look like minutes from every senate session held this year. And yes, anyone can view these. Weird.. I guess I just assumed only "Middle school students with a minimal grasp of copy-and-paste could probably manage this feat" - but that was probably expecting too much from a collegiate student newspaper. oh well, better luck next time I guess (here Manard posted a link to the online version of Greshko's article) and yes, we will also ADDITIONALLY upload these to all other media platforms to please our lovely opinion writers;)"

Interestingly, Manard added to this post a screenshot showing VSG's Senate-related documents on AnchorLink, two of which ("Senate 1-9-13.doc" and "Senate 11-28. doc") were very clearly uploaded well after VSG's 24-hour window. What's more, those who clicked to the second page of the search results found that the meeting minutes from all November 2012 Senate sessions had been uploaded between Sunday night and Monday morning of this week, and that minutes from the Jan. 23 Senate session were posted late Monday night — again, well past the window provided by the statute in question.

(For the record, Greshko's "middle school students" comment within his initial column, which appeared to hit a nerve, was a reference to the lack of timely postings on VSG's Vanderbilt student organization website, an oversight that was not corrected by VSG until later on Monday afternoon. Greshko's separate AnchorLink complaint that Manard

chose to redirect the phrase toward in her Facebook comments was not introduced until the following paragraph in Monday's column.)

Greshko and Single received an on-the-record email from Manard regarding her status later on Monday afternoon, sent Monday at 1:01 p.m.:

#### "Hi boys,

Just wanted to let you guys know that my facebook status is nothing personal (as I am sure none of your articles are ever personal), but I just wanted to defend our organization and make sure the correct information was being circulated. I do appreciate you letting me know however that the documents you mention in your article aren't as easily accessible as they could be, and like I said in my status I will make sure they are posted to all of our media platforms by tonight.

Thanks, and have a lovely rest of your day!

It appears that The Hustler and VSG share all of the aforementioned priorities, and we are much less concerned with making something personal than we are with making it correct. On our end, however, we are especially concerned with defending The Hustler from a social media backlash stemming from the misinterpretation of its content.

In that vein, we studied and sorted all of the documents posted on VSG's AnchorLink page by upload date. The results of this search bear many of Greshko's complaints out: As of press time, 40 of the 81 documents on VSG's page had been uploaded since Sunday evening, and 22 were uploaded last spring, before Manard took office. That does not leave very many entries left out of the total 81 for the current administration to have displayed the commitment to organizational routine and self-discipline that Greshko argues we all should expect.

We won't go item-by-item in this space, but you are welcome to do so on InsideVandy. com, where we've posted an Excel file that lists every document on VSG's AnchorLink those required by statute to be entered and otherwise - sortable by upload date and file type. If you have shared an opinion one way or the other, please take the time to peruse that list and make your own judgments.

We at The Hustler will continue to do all we can to meet the needs of every Vanderbilt student, staff member, administrator and community member courageous enough to expect too much from his or her student newspaper.

— The Hustler editorial board

BOSCH

#### **VSG PRESS RELEASE**

Printed below is the press release issued by Vanderbilt Student Government in response to the issues raised in last Monday's paper:

By: Vanderbilt Student Government & the Office of Student Organizations & Governance

Contact: Fletcher Young fletcher.r.young@vanderbilt.edu (740)-221-5350 Release Date: January 30, 2013 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Updating Past Minutes on VSG's Website and AnchorLink**

A recent opinion article has brought a lapse in documentation to the attention of Vanderbilt Student Government, in accordance to our statutes, particularly the

#### 3.11 Publication of Committee Updates

3.11.1 Committee Co-Chairs shall publish monthly committee updates on the VSG website for all standing and ad hoc committees by the first legislative session following the end of a month

However, in regards to the following statute, VSG has maintained the integrity of its responsibility to report the minutes of the voting branch of the organization, and this has been noted as not being accurately reported by the article mentioned

#### 2.8 Documentation of Senate Sessions

2.8.2 The General Secretary and the Director of Public Relations shall publish these minutes to the VSG website within 24 hours of the legislative session

At this time, all relevant minutes and reports have been posted to both Anchor-Link and the VSG website (http://studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/). Monthly committee reports can be found under the "Standing Committees" subheading of the "About VSG" tab located on the VSG website. Although neither cabinet minutes nor resolutions are required to be published on a public forum (as currently outlined in the VSG constitution), students are encouraged to contact the Director of Public Relations for access to the material. Students are also invited to every bi-weekly Senate session to voice opinions on campus issues and gain a better sense of VSG proceedings. The next VSG Senate Meeting is Wednesday February 6th at 7pm.

While it is clear that there has been a partial lapse in uploading files in a timely manner, the only way to remedy the situation is by uploading the documents as soon as possible and maintaining a stricter adherence to our statutes in the future. VSG thrives on student input and is now able to correct problem areas in an effort to be more transparent and better serve the student body. Students are encouraged to reach out to the Director of PR Fletcher Young (fletcher.r.young@vanderbilt.edu) for the most direct and accurate information relating to VSG.

As outlined in the article, VSG continues to bring exciting and innovative programs to campus including the Food Trucks, peer evaluations, Movie Nights, and Angel Tree.

















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THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER • WWW.INSIDEVANDY.COM THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2013





# A GUIDE TO YOUR WEEKEND

#### **IN CONCERT**

#### **Carrie Underwood**

Grand Ole Opry House Friday, Feb. 1

Carrie Underwood will be headlining at the Grand Ole Opry House on Friday night. The Grand Ole Opry showcases a mix of country legends and contemporary stars for a live radio broadcast. The show starts at 7 p.m. and ends at 9:15 p.m. For more information and tickets, visit http://www.opry.com.

#### **IN THEATERS**

#### 'Warm Bodies'

This ain't your typical zombie movie. Set in a post-zombie apocalypse world, "Warm Bodies" follows the relationship between R, a zombie, and Julie, a live human, after he saves her from an attack. R's love for Julie slowly transforms him back into a human. Based on the book by Issac Marion, "Warm Bodies" is a horror-comedy starring Nicholas Hoult of "Skins" as R, Teresa Palmer as Julia and the infamous John Malkovich as Julia's zombiehunter father. Director Jonathan Levine — director of acclaimed films "50/50" and "The Wackness" — has garnered a lot of buzz.

#### 'Bullet to the Head'

"Bullet to the Head" stars Sylvester Stallone and Sung Kang as a hitman and a detective who form an alliance to bring down a common enemy. Despite the tired premise, Stallone still has enough star power to get the film some traffic. Here's to hoping it doesn't flop like Arnold Schwarzenegger's "The Last Stand" did a few weeks ago.

#### **ON CAMPUS**

#### **The Rude Mechanicals**

Langford Auditorium

Great Performances presents the award-winning theatre troupe The Rude Mechanicals and their absurd, acclaimed piece "The Method Gun." The production explores the life of actor training guru Stella Burden and "The Approach," her ominously named training technique that is supposedly the most dangerous technique in the world. The piece delves into such themes as sex, death and violence and contains nudity, adult language and sexual situations. Time Out New York called it an "immensely funny, abruptly touching physical-theater work." The show starts at 8 p.m. in Langford Auditorium, and tickets are available online at http://ticketmaster.

#### **Rhythm & Roots Performance Company presents**

Ingram Hall Saturday, Feb. 2

The Rhythm & Roots Performance Company is an ensemble of Vanderbilt students that use performance art as an expression for social issues and a catalyst for social change. They combine aspects of African American and American culture with contemporary dance, music and drama. This Saturday at 7 p.m., Rhythm & Roots will perform their piece "FLY" in Ingram Hall. Tickets are available in Sarratt Student Center for \$7 and are \$10 at

#### **Dance Marathon**

Student Life Center Saturday, Feb. 2

Vanderbilt celebrates its 11th annual Dance Marathon to raise funds and awareness for the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital. Activities include dancing, crafts, a Zumba lesson and a DIY photo booth. The Melodores and the Chris Winward Band will also perform. Doors open at 10 a.m., and Dance Marathon officially starts at 11 a.m.

#### OFF CAMPUS

#### SPROCKET Improv presents 'Nashville Safari'

The Filming Station Saturday, Feb. 2

"Nashville Safari" is an improv and sketch comedy show presented by SPROCKET Improv that is all about Nashville. Nothing is too sacred — from songwriting and honky-tonks to neighborhoods and even Vanderbilt University. The show is an interactive experience, so come prepared to be involved. The show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at http://sprocketimprov.com.

#### Street Theatre Company presents 'Love Letters'

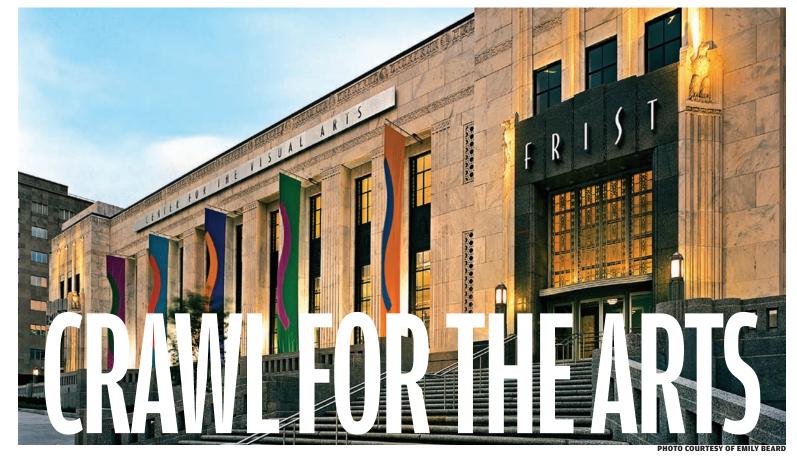
1933 Elm Hill Pike Friday, Feb. 1 and Saturday, Feb. 2

Street Theatre Company presents two special performances of "Love Letters," a Pulitzer Prize-nominated drama by A.R. Gurney that is completely comprised of letters exchanged between two people over the span of nearly 50 years. The play is simple. Two actors read the letters aloud, and the audience is treated to the hopes and ambitions of two people over their lifetimes. The show starts at 8 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday. Tickets cost \$30 and are available at http://streettheatrecompany.org.

### **'ENTOURAGE': THE MOVIE**

Deadline reports that "Entourage" is finally making a movie. The film will be a Warner Bros. project and act as a sequel to the HBO hit show that centered on a film star and his inner circle. The show's creator, Doug Ellin, has written the screenplay and will direct the movie, while the studio is currently trying to work out deals with the stars. The film has no start date for filming yet, but the story line is supposed to pick up six months after the finale and focus on Ari's new career move.





**By VANESSA XIAO** 

Life reporter

First Saturday Art Crawl, a free monthly art event held on the first Saturday of every month, combines receptions and art openings all throughout downtown Nashville. The galleries showcase local and worldrenowned artists and artwork, with participating venues from Fifth Avenue of the Arts to Broadway. Starting in 2006, the art crawl always provides a great way to spend your night in Nashville, with free wine and other refreshments served in many of the galleries.

Andrea Champion, communications director of Nashville Downtown Partnership, said that the night was created to combat the inconvenience of so many art openings on different nights and weekends throughout the month. "It ended up being a win-win for the galleries and the people who attend the openings," Champion said.

The night has definitely made it easier for art enthusiasts to see all they want in a night, with all of the galleries within footsteps of each other. "This is the only event in Nashville where one can walk to 18 galleries that are all next door to each other," Champion said. "If an attendee doesn't like the style of art in one gallery, they can go to another spot with very little effort.

The art galleries are of totally different

styles, with a strong diversity of artworks. While galleries such as the COOP and OPEN display contemporary works of local artists, photography can be found in places like the UltraViolet Gallery.

The UltraViolet Gallery is an especially notable exhibit, as it is usually not open to the public. Home to the Nashvile Scene's Best Gallery Exhibit of 2012, the UltraViolet Gallery is only open on the first Saturday of every month, showcasing Amiee Stubbs' private photography studio.

If you want to start your night early, the Frist Center for the Visual Arts hosts an architecture tour at 4:30 p.m. before the crawl each month. Constructed between 1933 and 1934 in the midst of the Great Depression, the former post office is a prominent Nashville architectural treasure from the Art Deco period. As you walk through the Frist Center you will learn about the landmark building from one of the many well-versed docents.

First Saturday Art Crawl has become extremely popular, as over 1,000 people attend every month. The event will be held this Saturday from 6-9 p.m. The event is informal, and there is no set attire. The Nashville Downtown Partnership provides two free shuttles among the galleries from 6-10 p.m., making it even easier to hop from one place to another. For more information on the event, visit http://nashvilledowntown.

### **GALLERIES**

40AU - 69 Arcade Andy Anh Ha - 63 Arcade The Arts Company - 215 5th Ave N BelArt Studio & Gallery - 56 Arcade Blend Studio - 79 Arcade The COOP - 75 Arcade Frist Center for the Visual Arts - 919 Broadway The Ha Factory - 238 5th Ave N Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission - 800 2nd Ave S Nashville Lines - 58 Arcade

> OPEN - 57 Arcade Picture This Creative Framing - 44 Arcade The Rymer Gallery - 233 5th Ave N Space - 61 Arcade Studio 66 - 66 Arcade Sweeney Art Gallery - 83 Arcade

O Gallery - 42 Arcade

Tennessee Arts Commission - 401 Charlotte Ave Tinney Contemporary - 237 5th Ave N Twist Art Gallery - 73 Arcade UltraViolet Gallery & Photography - 59 Arcade

Tennessee Art League and Galleries - 808 Broadway

# Making xx-ptional music





#### By KEVIN BARNETT

Understated British alt-rockers The xx will be performing in Ryman Auditorium for the very first time Thursday night at 7:30 p.m., bringing a little bit of English flair to Music City in support of their second album, "Coexist." As it happens, The xx is less recognizable by name (at least in the United States), but be assured that you have heard their music at some point in time. If you happen to be a fan of television series such as "Suits," "Person of Interest" or the nowdefunct "Cold Case," you've likely heard a song by the band — in fact, if you spend any amount of time sitting in Rand, hearing one of The xx's songs is inescapable. This Mercury Prize-winning trio will fill Ryman with their hypnotic, brooding and minimalist sound. Look for the concert review as well as photos in Monday's upcoming issue. Until then, here are some songs to help you discover the band you've always known.

#### 1) 'Crystallized'

Sporting nearly 27 million views on Youtube, "Crystallized" may be The xx's most recognizable song. Opening with a strange, otherworldly cry, Crystallized is the de facto standard for The xx's music. Light guitar riffs accompanied by sparse bass and synthetic percussion leave space for the haunting duet of Romy Madley Croft and Oliver Sim.

#### 2) 'Islands'

Islands is the third single released by The xx peaking at No. 3 on the UK Indie charts (the highest a song of theirs reached at the time, shutting out Crystallized at No. 14). This song features a repetitive musical line driven by the thrill of an electronic snare drum and singlyplucked guitar strings. This song places 28th on New Musical Express's "150 Best Tracks of the Past 15 Years.'

#### 3) 'Angels'

Nearly three years after their debut album, The xx released "Angels" as the teaser and lead single for their sophomore LP "Coexist." Unlike most bands that receive acclaim, The xx did

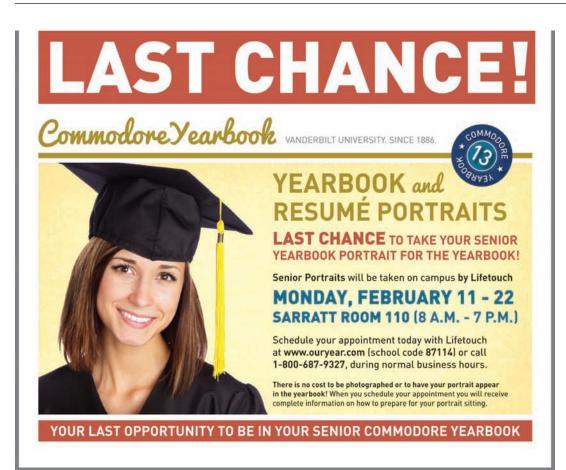
not radically change their music in order to fit a mold (and thus, disappoint their existing fans) but instead refined their already successful style. The song features Croft whispering lines of lovesickness.

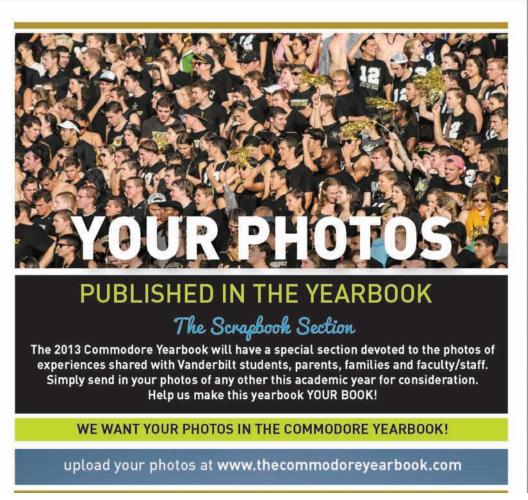
#### 4) 'Chained'

One of the first songs written for the sophomore album, "Chained" followed Angels as a promotional single, being available one month prior to the Sept. 5 release date of "Coexist." This song continues the duet of Croft and Sim, spinning a tale of two estranged lovers against the steady heartbeat of drums.

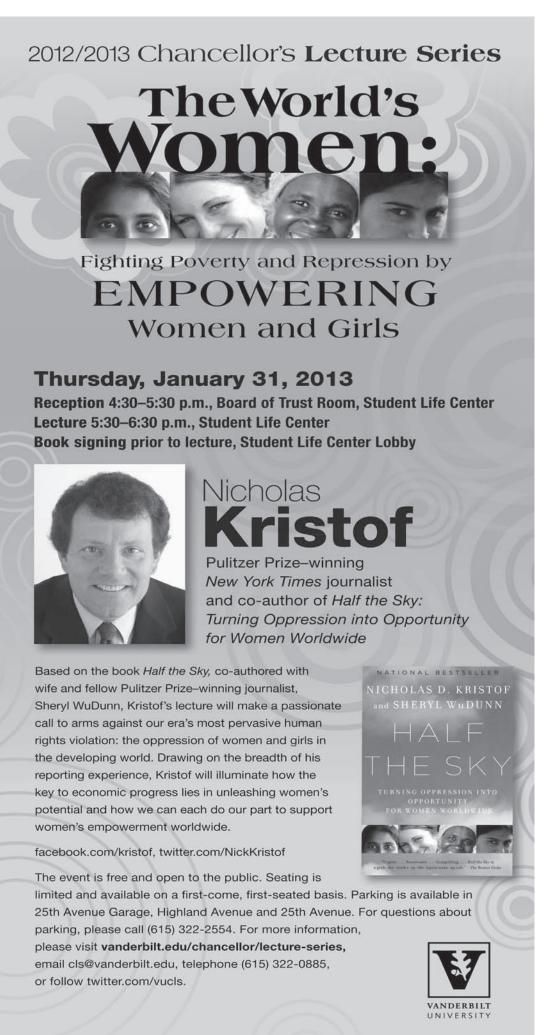
#### 5) 'Fiction'

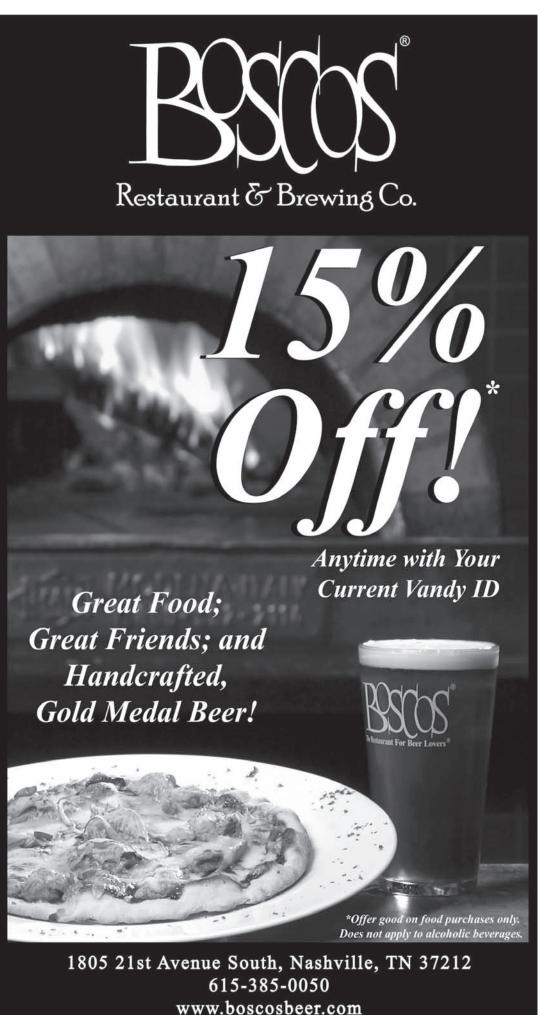
As mentioned above, if you happen to be a fan of "Suits," "Fiction" is the song that was used predominantly in the spring premiere two Thursdays ago. This track is a solo by Sim, displaying the full brunt of loneliness and despair he feels after having been abandoned by his lover. A defeated and downtrodden melody pushes his vocals along as if acknowledging his woes while simultaneously demonstrating the inevitability of moving on.











THE BIG STAT

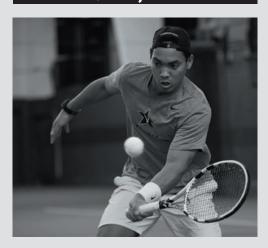
Number of points redshirt sophomore Josh Henderson scored on Tuesday night against Tennessee, tying a career-high. 13



# THIS WEEKEND IN VANDY SPORTS

**By GEORGE BARCLAY** *Asst. sports editor* 

FRIDAY, FEB. 1



Gonzales Austin and the men's tennis team took on Michigan State on Jan. 20.

#### Men's tennis vs. Middle Tennessee State at 2 p.m. CST

The Commodores are 2-2 heading into their in-state matchup and are fresh off a 7-0 victory against Minnesota on Jan. 26.

### Women's bowling at Prairie View A&M Invitational (All Day)

After a fourth-place finish at the Arkansas Mid-Winter Classic on Jan. 13, the Commodores made progress in the Kutztown Invitational, finishing in second place on Jan. 27.

### Women's track at Armory-NYC (All Day)

By the end of their last meet at the Indiana Relays on Jan. 26, the Commodores finished the weekend with some milestones. Freshman Sara Barron set a school record in the mile with a time of 4:44.44. Junior Brionne Williams tied a school record in the high jump, clearing 1.83 meters.

#### SATURDAY, FEB. 2

### Men's basketball vs. Alabama at 3 p.m. CST

The Commodores look to get back in the win column after a 58-57 loss against Tennessee on Tuesday. Redshirt sophomore Josh Henderson tied a career-high with 13 points for Vanderbilt.

### Women's tennis at Georgia Tech at 11 a.m. CST

After defeating Illinois and Yale 4-1 in the ITA kickoff, the Commodores will head down to Atlanta following a home match against Northwestern on Thursday.

#### Women's swimming vs. Arkansas-Little Rock at 1 p.m. CST

The Commodores return home after a 155-86 loss at Tennessee on Wednesday.

### Women's bowling at Prairie View A&M Invitational (All Day)

Women's track at Armory-NYC (All Day)

#### SUNDAY, FEB. 3

#### Women's basketball vs. Ole Miss at 2 p.m. CST

Following a matchup on Thursday against Texas A&M, the Commodores return to Nashville to take on the Rebels.

#### Men's tennis vs. Tulane at 12 p.m. CST

To close out the weekend at home, Vanderbilt will take on the Green Wave.

Women's bowling at Prairie View A&M Invitational (All Day)



MURPHY BYRNE / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

The women's lacrosse team practices ahead of the 2013 season opener on Sunday morning against Jacksonville.

# Hoppin' on the field for L-A-X

A retooled and youthful women's lacrosse team looks to make great strides this season by upping production on offense and stifling opponents with an experienced, stingy defense. Coach Cathy Swezey believes the team has the personnel, the resolve and the heart to have a stellar 2013 season

#### By ANTHONY TRIPODORO

Asst. sports editor

Ladies, anybody care to lax?
The Vanderbilt women's lacrosse team kicks off its season this Sunday on the road against Jacksonville.
Coming off an 8-8 season where the Commodores played strong at home but struggled on the road, Head Coach Cathy Swezey will look to lead this year's squad to greater consistency and a winning 2013 campaign.

And she's confident that it's going to happen.

"I really believe the sky is the limit for this team," Swezey said. "I can honestly say we haven't been this fast, this fit or this strong in years."

This season's squad features a veteran defense. Junior defenders Brandi Byner and Alyssa Dunlap have been in the starting lineup for Vanderbilt since they were freshmen, and they join experienced senior Paige Cahill to anchor the backfield. Having played together so many times before, they will give opposing offenses a very tough time when they take the field. The fourth starting spot on defense remains up for grabs, with several players currently fighting to

earn it. Senior Chelsea Pasfield stands behind the staunch defensive line as the team's starting goalkeeper.

At midfield, the Commodores will need to rebuild after all four of last season's starters — Ally Carey, Kacie Connors, Kelly Connors and Kendall Pittinger — graduated. These spots also remain question marks for the team entering the season, but Coach Swezey feels confident that freshman Kelly Chandler will be ready to start and take draws as Carey's replacement. That says a lot about Chandler, as Carey graduated with the all-time school record for draw controls. Chandler has some pretty big shoes to fill as a freshman.

The attack, however, will be what makes or breaks the team this season.

"We have to run a more productive offense. That's been our Achilles' heel the past two years," Swezey said. "In 2010, we were in the top-five offenses in the country. At one point, we were as high as No. 3. In 2011 and 2012, we just didn't have the production. We couldn't get our motion offenses going, and our inside stick work wasn't as strong. I think that really has been our issue, and I think that we're going to fix that this year. I think we're going

to do better."

The offense, like the midfield, lost most of its veterans in the offseason, with only one of its top scorers returning in senior Carly Linthicum. A big boost could come to the attack in the form of Courtney Kirk though. She returns as a senior after redshirting last year. In her junior year, she led the team in scoring. The rest of the goals will need to come from other older attackers, as well as some freshmen, like Mackenzie Smith.

The 2013 women's lacrosse team may be young, but Coach Swezey likes her chances with so many fresh new faces.

"Sometimes, youth is unpredictable," Swezey said, "but I really believe that great things are meant to be, and I think their hearts are in the right place, and I think that hopefully that will pay off for them."

While the final results remain an uncertainty, this season will no doubt bring a ton of excitement, with the juniors and seniors looking to groom the younger members of the team to form the best unit Vanderbilt has seen in years. Spring is here, and these women are ready to make it a lax season to remember.

#### **SCHEDULE**

Feb. 3 at Jacksonville Feb. 10 vs. Kennesaw State Feb. 16 vs. Denver Feb. 20 at Boston College Feb. 24 vs. Northwestern March 2 at Duke March 6 at Louisville March 13 vs. Notre Dame March 17 at Penn State March 21 at Penn March 26 vs. Stanford March 30 at Johns Hopkins April 1 vs. Harvard April 7 at Ohio State April 14 vs. Florida April 20 vs. North Carolina May 2-4 American Lacrosse Conference Tournament May 10-26 NCAA Tourna-

# **UT 58, Vandy 57: Another Knoxville nightmare**

The Commodores fell short in their first matchup of the season with in-state rival Tennessee. A close game down the stretch ultimately ended in yet another hard-to-swallow loss for the struggling Vanderbilt squad.

#### By JESSE GOLOMB

Asst. sports editor

The Commodores fell short in the final seconds once more on Tuesday night, losing to the instate rival Volunteers by a score of 58-57. Vanderbilt's first game since nearly being driven off the court by the Missouri Tigers last Saturday was a more closely contested affair, but no less frustrating. Following tough, last-second SEC losses to Ole Miss and Kentucky a few weeks ago, the Commodores again failed to execute in the final moments.

With Tennessee leading 58-54 with 30 seconds remaining, Kedren Johnson stood at the free throw line. He sunk his first shot, but his second attempt caromed off the rim. Redshirt sophomore forward James Siakam grabbed the offensive rebound and two second-chance points — his only of the game — to shrink the Volunteer lead to one.

One foul and Tennessee missed free throw later, the Commodores had the ball with 19.8 seconds left and a chance to grab an unlikely in-conference victory.

As the clock ticked towards zero, Johnson drove to the left of the hoop, guarded by Volunteer guard Brandon Lopez. Johnson got an excellent look, but his layup attempt bounced off the backboard and kicked off the rim, where the flailing left arm of forward Rod Odom was only able to tip the ball toward Kevin Bright.

Still, there was one more chance — with the

clock nearly null, Bright grabbed the offensive board, faced the basket and had a chance for a quick put-back shot. His attempt, like so many Commodore attempts this season, fell short.

The loss dropped the Commodores to 8-11 overall and 2-5 in conference play. The Volunteers escaped with the inverse record overall, 11-8, and stand at 3-4 against SEC opponents.

The loss dropped Vanderbilt to No. 13 in the SEC standings, just a half game ahead of the reeling LSU Tigers.

They had their chances. After falling behind

12-0 at the start of play, the Commodores rallied all the way back, taking a one-point lead with 2:36 to play before the half.

The Volunteers came out of the break up four points and soon expanded the margin to

The Volunteers came out of the break up four points and soon expanded the margin to double-digits once again as the second half developed. Still, Vanderbilt rallied back, tying the game at 52 with just six minutes to play. Kedren Johnson scored 14 points, all in the second half, while Josh Henderson added 13 more — a career high for the center, who has struggled throughout much of his sophomore campaign.

None of it was enough. After the Commodores tied the game, the Volunteers quickly went back up five. A few possessions later, the lead had been shaved to one. With 19.8 seconds remaining and Tennessee leading 58-57, the Commodores inbounded the ball with one more chance.

That one chance became two. And another potential in-conference win became another difficult loss.

#### VANDERBILT

Next Game: Saturday, Feb. 2 at 3 p.m. CST vs.

**Leading Scorer:** Kedren Johnson

**Leading Rebounder:**Sheldon Jeter

Minutes Leader: Kevin Bright and Rod Odom (Tie)

#### **Leading Scorer:** Jarnell Stokes

**Next Game:** 

Saturday, Feb. 2

at 3 p.m. CST at

**TENNESSEE** 

Leading Rebounder:

Minutes Leader:

### NEXT UP





Vanderbilt

Alabama

Saturday, Feb. 2 Nashville, Tenn. 3 p.m. CST ESPN 4

LAST GAMES: ALABAMA LOST TO TENNESSEE 54-53 VANDERBILT LOST TO TENNESSEE 58-57 STALLINGS'

By STEVE SCHINDLER

The Vanderbilt basketball

**coaching tree** is expanding its

influence, as assistants leave for head

coaching jobs and new talent arrives

Sports reporter

On Jan. 2 Kevin Stallings became the winningest coach in Memorial Gymnasium history and is currently just nine wins away from breaking Roy Skinner's record of 278 all-time program wins. Stallings has brought the Commodores program from the middle of the SEC to national recognition. He has won SEC coach of the year twice, thanks to a slew of talented players, including three SEC Players of the Year in Dan Langhi, Derrick Byars and Shan Foster. Yet lost in the most successful run in the history of Commodore basketball are Stallings' assistant coaches. In his 14 years at the helm, Stallings has had a number of talented assistants working under him, just as Stallings learned from Purdue coaching legend Gene Keady.

"We've had great continuity here, and I'm very fortunate to have an excellent staff that I have a lot of trust and faith in," Stallings said.

Over the years, Stallings has seen his coaching tree take root and expand, with three former assistants gaining head coaching jobs.

Tom Richardson, after working under Stallings for six years at Illinois State, succeeded his mentor at Illinois State after Stallings departed for Vanderbilt. In his four years as head coach (1999-2003), Richardson directed the Redbirds to a 56-64 record, two secondplace finishes in the Missouri Valley Conference and one trip to the National Invitation Tournament. Tim

NICOLE MANDEL / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER Kevin Stallings has watched two key assistants take the top job at other universities in the past two years. Former assistant Dan Muller (left) is in his first year as head coach at Illinois State, and King Rice is in his second season at Monmouth.

Jankovich, an assistant at Vanderbilt from 1999-2002, was Illinois State head coach from 2007-2012 before accepting the associate head coach and coach-inwaiting position at Southern Methodist University. Dan Muller, a player under Stallings at Illinois State from 1995-1998, became an assistant at Vanderbilt from 2001-2012. After reuniting with Stallings for 12 seasons as recruiting coordinator, he accepted a position this past off-season as the Illinois State head coach, replacing Jankovich.

While Jankovich and Muller have moved on, Stallings brought back Richardson in 2003. Despite losing several excellent assistants, Stallings has been quite successful in finding replacements. Including Richardson, Vanderbilt currently boasts three stellar coaching minds in the assistant ranks.

Brad Frederick has been with Stallings throughout his entire 14-year tenure in Nashville. Frederick came to Nashville from Chapel Hill, where he played under legendary coach Dean Smith. In his 3 years as a reserve forward, Frederick was part of two Final Four teams and two ACC Championship teams. He was the recipient of the team's Rick Sharp Award, which goes to the player who contributes the most behind the scenes. Frederick said that although he has had numerous duties over his years at Vanderbilt, teaching is what remains most enjoyable to him. "My favorite part of my job is mentoring these young guys,"

Frederick said. "I'm so blessed as a coach to have such smart, coachable kids that keep out of trouble and strive to get better each day."

After the departure of longtime assistant Muller to Illinois State this past off-season, Stallings selected David Cason as his third assistant coach. Cason, who came to Vanderbilt in April 2011, played guard on Stallings' 1993-1995 Illinois State teams. As a senior, Cason established the school's single-game record for assists with 16 and was named both the team MVP and the Redbirds' Athlete of the Year. Cason, who remains as the Redbirds' all-time leader in career assists per game with 6.0, then moved on to serve as director of basketball operations at North Carolina, before spending two seasons on the TCU coaching staff and helping the 2004-2005 Horned Frogs reach the NIT. Directly prior to his arrival in Nashville, Cason spent six seasons on the University of Tulsa's staff, including the last three as the associate head coach for head coach Doug Wojcik.

Stallings clearly recognizes the basketball knowledge and coaching ability that Frederick, Richardson and Cason bring to his young team.

"I think you're only as good as the people you put around you, and I've always felt like the most important thing a head coach does is hire his staff," he said. "I've been blessed to have a great staff since I've been here and none better than I've had right now."

# **Basketball** lands new commitment

The Commodores recently received a verbal commitment from Murfreesboro guard **Darius Thompson**, whose high school coach believes can be a **perfect fit** for the Vanderbilt basketball program

> **By ALLISON MAST** Sports reporter

On Jan. 19, men's basketball coach Kevin Stallings added a local star to his 2013-2014 roster. Darius Thompson, a point guard from Blackman High School in Murfreesboro, Tenn., issued a verbal commitment and looks forward to signing the papers come April 17. He joins Damian Jones, a four-star power

forward who committed to Vanderbilt in

November.

Like John Jenkins and Kedren Johnson before him, Thompson has earned statewide recognition during his senior season. The Blackman Blaze currently own a 20-0 record and rank second in the state of Tennessee. Thompson's 15.2 points per game and 6.8 assists have played a large role in his team's success, but his real worth originates from his love of the game.

"Darius is a high-character young man who has brought great leadership to our program, along with an intense passion and desire to improve," said Blackman High Coach Barry Wortman. "His willingness to be receptive to coaching and his accountability has inspired our entire program."

Thompson has told reporters that Coach Stallings recruited him as a point guard, and he expects to split time on the court with Kedren Johnson next season. His skill set will give the Commodores more freedom to experiment with different lineups. With not a single player graduating, Thompson will add depth to the guard position. It is likely that he will act as a combo guard and serve as another offensive threat. His height and ball handling ability should bring a dynamism that this young Vanderbilt team desperately

"Darius has a unique skill set. He has the floor vision and mindset of a PG. He has the size 6 (feet) 4 (inches) and shooting ability to play off the ball. He is very clever and plays with nice pace," Coach Wortman said. "I believe his skill set fits Vanderbilt and Coach Stallings' style of play nicely."

In addition to Coach Stallings, several other coaches made offers to Darius Thompson. According to rivals.com, some of these offers hailed from Auburn, Butler, MTSU, NC State and Purdue. The staff at MTSU showed interest very early contacting Thompson during his junior year and making their intentions known. However, Thompson was sold during his official visit. His education is very important to him, and he likes what Vanderbilt has to offer him academically.

"Vanderbilt is a great fit for Darius. He is a mature young man that values education and will thrive on the Vanderbilt campus," Coach Wortman said. "In Coach Stallings, Darius will be playing for one of the top coaches in the country. He and his staff have proven not only to develop players while in their program, but also a system of play that puts players in positions to play to their strengths."

Commitments are nonbinding, so Coach Stallings and the rest of the men's basketball staff eagerly await the April signing date.

#### **Basketball Assistant Coach Profiles**



- Joined Kevin Stallings' staff in April
- Serves as scout and recruiter
- Played for Kevin Stallings from 1993-1995 at Illinois State
- Prior to his arrival at Vanderbilt, was an assistant coach at the University of Tulsa



- In 14th year at Vanderbilt after joining Kevin Stallings' initial staff in 2000
- Responsible for recruiting, scheduling and scouting
- Prior to his arrival at Vanderbilt, played for three years at the University of North Carolina, one of which was under legendary coach Dean Smith



- Has been an assistant coach at Vanderbilt since the 2003-2004 season
- Main work as coach is as a shooting instructor, specializes with guards
- Prior to his arrival Vanderbilt, was the head coach at Illinois State University



By GEORGE BARCLAY Asst. sports editor

Georgina Sellyn, freshman

On beating the No. 3-ranked college player in the U.S., Cristina Sanchez-Quintanar, in the Miami Invitational:

"I was actually quite shocked. I didn't realize that she was ranked so high up. I just went out on the court and just played the match. And then after,

everyone came and told me that she was ranked three. It was a great match. The tennis was really great, and the points were long, and it was good. I'm really happy with that.

On the differences between playing tennis in the U.S. compared to

her native Scotland: "I actually lived in Florida for three years before I came here (Vanderbilt), so I adapted to the different styles. I mean it's not too different. In Scotland, not a lot of people play tennis, so coming to America was just the amount of people playing and traveling to playing ITS (International Tennis Series) internationally. I got to see a lot of players from all over the world, so that was really interesting. College tennis is a little different. I really

like the team atmosphere and the aspect of that." On her coach's comments after the Miami Invitational:

"We actually didn't realize that we'd come short of first place. Nobody was really thinking about that. It was more that we'd beat all the teams individually and everyone was really thrilled with that. And our coaches weren't mad. I don't even think we even talked about that (the second-place finish). We were just more focused on the individual

matches and how hard we were working in each match to play well.

On her goals for her next matches:

"We have indoors next week, so I'm just going to go out there and play really hard. I'm not thinking about the win and everything. That's in the past, and I can't get too confident from that because every match is a new match."

The women's tennis season is just a few weeks old, but the Commodores have already made some waves with a pair of strong team performances and a few individual victories to build off of. The Hustler's George Barclay caught up with freshman Georgina Sellyn and sophomore Marie Casares to help get us ready for the rest of the season ahead of Thursday night's home opener against Northwestern.

Marie Casares, sophomore

On entering the season as Vanderbilt's topranked player:

"It gives me a lot of responsibility to be the first-ranked on the team. I think at least last year I looked up to people who were ranked ahead of me and tried to work hard so one day I could

be that person. Now that I'm there, I'm happy to have achieved that goal, but I'm also willing to drag the team up with me. And hopefully we'll have a lot more people that are ranked, and we'll get the team in better

On the differences between her sophomore and freshman seasons:

"I think I've worked a lot on my mental game recently. I've tried to be more professional in the way I act when I'm on the court because I think that the tennis is there and the practice and the conditioning are there because I've worked at them all the time. I hadn't focused on my mental game as much, so now I'm try-

ing hard to keep my focus as long as I can during matches.

On the advice she gives to her teammates before each match:

"What I always recommend is to expect it to be hard because every match has its difficulties to overcome. And if you're ready for that, then you're willing to fight, and you can't be surprised."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2013 THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER • WWW.INSIDEVANDY.COM

# oorts



COLUMN

# For Stallings, the devil is in the demeanor

By JACK KUHLENSCHMIDT

Sports writer

There is no perfect way for a men's basketball coach to behave on the sidelines while his team performs. Coaches like Phil Jackson, Erik Spoelstra and Rick Carlisle are proponents of exhibiting patience, calmly looking on as the game comes to them. Certain calls will set them off, sure, and they are not immune from receiving technical fouls, but their usually calm demeanor seems to give their rare outbursts more weight. A great example in college right now is Butler University's Brad Stevens, the 36-year-old coaching phenom who has taken a midmajor program to two Final Fours in the past five years while often being mistaken for a statue that has been awkwardly placed next to Butler's bench.

Stevens is on one end of the spectrum, but there are also successful coaches who make no effort to hide their feelings while they watch their teams perform: John Calipari, Bob Knight and Larry Brown are

just a few of the big names that come to mind. These men are as polarizing as can be, but they would probably tell you to "count the rings" if you suggested that they tone their act down; five NCAA Tournament victories and an NBA ring between the three of them is nothing to scoff at.

Our men's basketball coach, Kevin Stallings, is not Phil Jackson, and that's okay. He doesn't have to be the "Zen Master" for his team to be a winner, and we have seen enough demonstrative college coaches like Stallings to know that displaying a certain level of emotion can be a winning recipe for the right team.

But Kevin Stallings has not found the correct recipe. Nobody would blame Stallings for appearing disappointed with our Commodores' uninspiring play this season, and the current Vanderbilt team is a young one that lacks the veteran leadership of years past, but it has become clear that his sideline demeanor is a contributing factor to the team's consistent failures.

Coach Stallings knows basketball as well as or better than anybody. He played for the great Gene Keady at Purdue and then studied under him as an assistant for six years after graduating. In 1988, he was hired as an assistant to Roy Williams at Kansas. Keady and Williams are both competitive, emotional coaches, and these traits are clearly present in Stallings as well. When Stallings flips out on the sidelines with his stomping and whistling, his actions are a result of his intensely competitive nature that has taught him to hate mental errors. If a hustle play goes wrong, fine, but you better not mess up your defensive rotations. You can control those mistakes, and these manageable errors are what tend to unleash Stallings' temper.

Is it possible that his hatred of mental errors is exactly what causes his players to make them so often? It is time to ask why Kevin Stallings' Commodores have never won a meaningful game that they were expected to win? The SEC Championship game against Kentucky was an incredible victory last season, but did anybody outside of Vanderbilt's locker room truly expect the 'Dores to come out on top? It was only when the expectations started to rise, when Vanderbilt became the trendy pick to beat Syracuse and advance to the Final Four, that things went south. And what about the three-point loss to 12th-seeded Richmond in the 2011 tournament, or the heartbreaker against 13th-seeded Murray State in 2010? These were games where Vanderbilt indisputably had the more talented team: Jeff Taylor, John Jenkins and Festus Ezeli have started a combined 65 NBA games this year as rookies. Combine that talent level with Stallings' game-planning ability and one would expect positive results. Well, the whole is smaller than the sum of its parts, and this is because Kevin Stallings has been unable to get the most out of his personnel.

It doesn't matter how brilliant Coach Stallings is at diagramming plays or creating defensive schemes. Stallings asks for a lot from his players in terms of running complicated sets, and his version of holding them accountable is stomping around and screaming next to the bench. Well, Coach, it is time to hold yourself accountable and change your approach. It is time for the whole to equal the sum of its parts.

#### **GUEST COLUMN**

# The time for change has come

**BV DAN WEISMAN** 

Guest columnist, Class of 2012

Kevin Stallings was essential to our SEC championship victory last March against Kentucky.

Two key coaching decisions — switching to a 2-3 zone defense in the second half and giving Kedren Johnson extra minutes in the final stretch — propelled Vanderbilt to their first SEC tournament title since 1951. The zone stunted Kentucky's offense in the last ten minutes, and Johnson's effective play in crunch time gave him much-needed confidence and experience. Without those moves, Vanderbilt doesn't beat the eventual NCAA champions, and perhaps Kedren Johnson doesn't mature into a team leader this

So then why my dislike for coach Kevin Stallings? For starters, there's Stallings' subpar NCAA tournament record. He's led two Vanderbilt squads to the Sweet Sixteen, but not since 2007. In 2008, Vandy lost their first game to a No. 13 seed. Despite having three future NBA players on his roster in 2010 and 2011, Stallings also failed to get out of the first round. Last year, they nearly lost to Harvard before getting bounced by Wisconsin in the Round of 32.

Second, his offensive philosophy, one stubbornly centered on 3-point shooting, has continually



troubled fans. It doesn't matter that we don't have the Shan Fosters or John Jenkins of years past to carry the excessive long-range shooting that Stallings demands. Every season, Vanderbilt lives and dies by the three, regardless of their personnel. This year, they have been mostly dying. Facing Kentucky last month, Vandy missed its first ten 3-point shots, and almost shot themselves out of the game in the first half. Despite Vanderbilt's recent March letdowns and stale offense, Stallings is generally considered to be a good recruiter. Guys like Foster, Jenkins and Jeff Taylor came to Vandy to play for him. His staff has scoured the globe for prospects, like A.J. Ogilvy, and isn't afraid to take on projects, like Festus Ezeli. But recently, Stallings has failed to attract premier talent to Nashville. His top-two assistants, King Rice and Dan Muller, were essential to Vandy's recruiting efforts in the late 2000s, helping draw players like Jenkins, Taylor, Johnson and Brad Tinsley to Vanderbilt. In recent years, Rice and Muller have left the program for head coaching positions at Monmouth and Illinois State, respectively. Gone with them seems to be Stallings' recruiting power, as Vanderbilt's last few classes haven't nearly matched the ones that Rice and Muller helped get.

There are a handful of other reasons why I think Stallings isn't a very good coach. His body language is often over-the-top; he excessively stamps his feet at the officiating, perhaps providing his players with a built-in excuse to blame the refs for their failures. His teams have rarely defended well. His substitution patterns are confusing. I'm not sure he's ever drawn up a good inbounds play.

Stallings is also pretty bad at calling timeouts — he wastes too many during the dwindling seconds of the first half. Since college teams lose a timeout if one goes unused in the first half, calling one right before halftime would be a good way for Stallings to mimic hypothetical "late-game" situations for his team and get them ready for March Madness matches that come down to the wire. However, looking at Stallings' recent track record in the tourney, I'd say this tradition hasn't exactly paid off. And lest we forget how he was too busy asking his assistant coaches if he had a timeout left (he did) to direct his team in the fatal seconds of regulation against Ole Miss.

But perhaps the most perplexing moment of this up-and-down season came during the aforementioned game against Kentucky last month. In the first half, Vandy's performance was a microcosm of the Stallings era, featuring erratic 3-point shooting and poor defense. In the second half, Vanderbilt made a run due to improved shooting and switching to a 2-3 zone that confused the Kentucky offense. Sound familiar? If Stallings had watched Kentucky struggle against Louisville's zone defense earlier this year or even thought back to how he defeated Calipari's squad last March, he could have had Vandy play a zone from the get-go instead of waiting until the game's last 15 minutes. Instead, Vandy lost, and a blown shot clock violation at the end of the game overshadowed a blown coaching decision at the

At a time when James Franklin is pushing Vanderbilt football to unparalleled heights, our basketball program is floundering under Stallings' direction. As an alumnus who recognizes that the SEC is just getting better with the additions of Missouri and Texas A&M, I believe it's time to dismiss the status quo as insufficient. Perhaps Stallings will change his approach, as Vandy nicely pounded the paint in this week's loss to UT. But last year's SEC championship victory was the exception, not the norm.

COLUMN

# Save our savior: An argument in favor of Kevin Stallings

By STEVE SCHINDLER

Sports writer

On the heels of an 8-11 record thus far and despite the anti-Stallings sentiment swirling up and down West End, I hold that the Commodore faithful need to be more patient with Memorial Gym's career wins

Currently, Stallings ranks second behind the legendary Ron Skinner in winning percentage and overall wins at Vanderbilt. Even if the Commodores don't reach postseason play in 2012-2013, Stallings has still led his Vanderbilt squads to six NCAA tournament appearances and four NIT appearances in his 14 seasons at the helm. In fact, Vanderbilt has only missed the NCAA tournament once since the 2005-2006 season, including three straight NCAA appearances. For some perspective, the Commodores had appeared just seven times in the NCAA tournament after their Elite Eight finish in 1964 until Stallings' arrival in Music City.

His seven 20-plus-win seasons are proof of his coaching ability and consistency. However, wins aren't all Stallings has brought the Vanderbilt community. Under the former Illinois State head coach, Vanderbilt has attracted and developed its most talented players in program history, thereby raising the overall national profile of the program.

Since Stallings' arrival in 1999, Vanderbilt has averaged 30th in attendance, with five straight seasons in the top 25 in average attendance. This puts Vanderbilt on the same level as bigger state schools like Michigan State, Texas, Arizona and Connecticut. Vanderbilt has been competitive with the top flight SEC programs, notching victories over Kentucky, Florida and Tennessee when each was ranked #1.

None of this success could be possible without the litany of talent that has donned the Black and Gold under Stallings.

Stallings has not only done a remarkable job recruiting at a school where academic standards rule out several top players. In addition, Stallings has found and developed a number of hidden gems. He helped develop Matt Freije into Vanderbilt's all-time leading scorer while transforming three-star recruits such as Festus Ezeli and Shan Foster into All-SEC performers.

While many may argue that his Jenkins, Taylor and

Ezeli teams should have performed better, you can't take away the fact that Vanderbilt has never had more talent on the floor than when Stallings was on the sidelines. In fact, the 2012 NBA Draft marked the first time in history that three Commodores were taken in the first two rounds of the same draft. From Freije to Foster to Derrick Byars to the big three NBA draft picks, Stallings has reigned over the most talented crop of Commodores in program history. Stallings has coached seven future NBA draft picks (two first round picks and five second round picks), while Vanderbilt basketball has only seen 14 players selected in the first two rounds since 1957.

The 2012-2013 campaign has turned disastrous, but it would serve Vanderbilt fans well to remember the 2008-2009 season. Stallings had four freshmen playing significant minutes on one of the youngest rosters in the nation. Even with a down year in the SEC — the Commodores went just 19-12 and 8-8 in conference play, missing out of both the NCAA Tournament and the NIT — the experience gained by those young freshmen paid off in the form of a 72-31 record over the next three seasons, including an SEC Tournament Championship in 2012 over No. 1 Kentucky.

Stallings' critics often point to inconsistent recruiting and late-season tournament collapses as reasons to get rid of him; however, we must consider that these low valleys wouldn't be possible if Stallings didn't bring us to such remarkable peaks.

It takes a special type of personality and skill set to coach at Vanderbilt, and over 14 years Kevin Stallings has mastered it. Plenty of coaches need time to get over the proverbial hump, and I'd argue that Stallings has done enough for this program, its fans and its players to deserve more patience from Commodore nation. Roy Skinner certainly received his fair share of patience and rewarded us with a Sweet Sixteen and an Elite Eight appearance. In the current environment of impatience toward those in the coaching profession, we have not only failed to recognize the greatest run in the history of Commodore basketball, but also the

Perhaps the only fact that matters is this: Vanderbilt defeated one the greatest teams in Kentucky basketball history to capture its first SEC Tournament Championship since 1951. That kind of accomplishment should buy Stallings all the time he needs to create even more Memorial magic.

# COME TO THE GREATEST PARTY ON EARTH...



FOR THE KIDS

The Big Event Saturday, February 2 at 11 AM to Sunday, February 3 at 12:06 AM

Student Life Center Ballroom \$10 admission - Doors open at 10:00am

Give campus celebrities li e Kristin Shorter and Kerrie Turney a pie in the face!





Other entertainment like the Chris Winward band, acrobats, the Big Bang dueling pianos, and more!

Enjoy delicious food from Krispy Kreme, McDougal's, Chick-Fil-A, and many more!

REGISTER AND

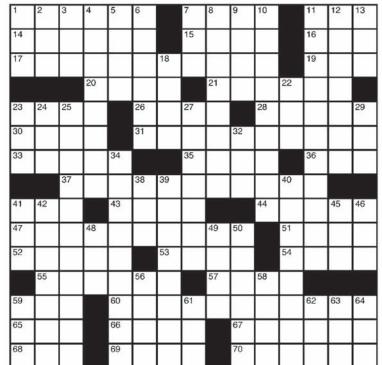


Your Children's **Miracle Network** Hospital

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Treehouse
- feature 7 Matured, as
- cheese
- 11 Some
- condensation
- 14 For one 15 One who's all
- action
- 16 Eggs in a clinic
- 17 Illusionist's effect
- 19 Bushranger Kelly
- 20 Novelist Wiesel 21 "Days of Thunder"
- org. 23 Duck
- 26 Diplomat's forte 28 Feeds without
- needing seconds
- 30 Arrive
- 31 Major bore 33 Pull (for)
- 35 Kicked oneself for 36 BBQ heat rating
- 37 County fair competition 41 Flooring wood
- 43 Busy time for a cuckoo clock
- 44 Italian soccer star Maldini 47 Many towns have
- one 51 "Voulez-\_\_": 1979
- ABBA album
- 52 Big name in foil 53 Make a fine impression
- 54 Outer limit 55 Discipline involving slow,
- steady movement
- 57 Toppled, as a poplar
- 59 Goose egg 60 1967 #1 hit for The
- Buckinghams, which can describe 17-, 31-.
- 37- or 47-Across 65 Traditional London pie-and-
- mash ingredient 66 New newts
- 67 Stereo knob 68 Funny, and a bit
- twisted 69 One way to run 70 Nine-ball feature
- DOWN 1 Slurp (with "up")



- 2 "Who Needs the Kwik-E-Mart?"
- singer 3 "Makes no
- 4 Lawyer, at times 5 Renewable
- energy subj. 6 Equips afresh 7 Nelson, e.g.: Abbr.
- 8 Hit the road, musically
- \_ mouse!" 10 In one's Sunday
- best 11 Make a bank deposit?
- 12 Top of the world 13 Lump
- 18 He played James 22 Half-\_\_: coffee order
- 23 2002 Olympics host, briefly 24 "As if!"
- 25 How shysters practice
- 27 Small crown 29 Onetime Beatles
- bassist Sutcliffe 32 Led : "Stairway to Heaven"
- group, to fans 34 One who turns a place upside down 38 Foldable sleeper

# By Paul Hunsberger 1/31/13

Answers to Jan 24th's puzzle

WHIG

Е	Х	Х	0	Ν		W	1	Р	Е		Е	W	Е	R
R	Е	Υ	0	F	L	1	G	Н	Т		Υ	0	G	1
			Ν	Α	Е		Н	0	G		F	L	Α	Х
Α	D	D	Е	Ν	D	Α		Ν	0	S	Е			
Т	R	Е	Υ	Т	Α	В	L	Е		Α	٧	Α	S	Т
Т	Α	М		S	W	Е	Е		С	L	Е	Ν	С	Н
_	М	U	Р		Α	L	0	Н	Α		R	Α	R	Α
С	Α	R	R	Е	Υ		Ν	0	R	Α		С	Α	Т
Α	S	S	Ε	Т		В	Е	Υ	0	F	Р	1	G	S
			Υ	Α	L	Е		Α	L	F	0	Ν	S	0
J	U	S	Т		Α	Н	S		Е	Α	Т			
0	Р	1	Е		D	Е	Υ	Т	R	1	Р	Р	Е	R
D	0	L	L		L	Α	Ν	Α		R	1	С	С	1
1	Ν	Т	L		Е	D	Е	Ν		S	Е	Т	U	Р

- (c)2013 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 39 Blasted
- 40 Purple hue 41 Org. with an oft-
- quoted journal 42 More racy, as
- humor 45 Tote
- 46 Sugary suffix 48 "Oh, \_\_ won't!" 49 Tunnel effect
- 50 Five-finger discounts, so to

speak

- 56 Audiophile's setup
- 58 Witch costume stick-on
- 59 Wet behind the ears
- 61 "Spring forward" letters
- 62 One of four in a
- one 64 "\_\_ willikers!"
- grand slam 63 Wildspitze, for

#### TODAY'S SUDOKU

9		3		6			5	
	8					6		
				5			4	9
		1	2		4	8		
			7		5	4		
	1			4				6
		5						
	6			8		2		7

Answers to Jan 24th's puzzle

1/31/13

3	9	5	4	7	1	2	8	6	
6	1	4	5	2	8	7	9	3	
2	7	8	3	6	9	4	5	1	
7	4	3	8	1	6	9	2	5	
5	8	1	2	9	3	6	4	7	
9	6	2	7	5	4	1	3	8	
8	3	9	6	4	7	5	1	2	
1	2	7	9	3	5	8	6	4	
4	5	6	1	8	2	3	7	9	
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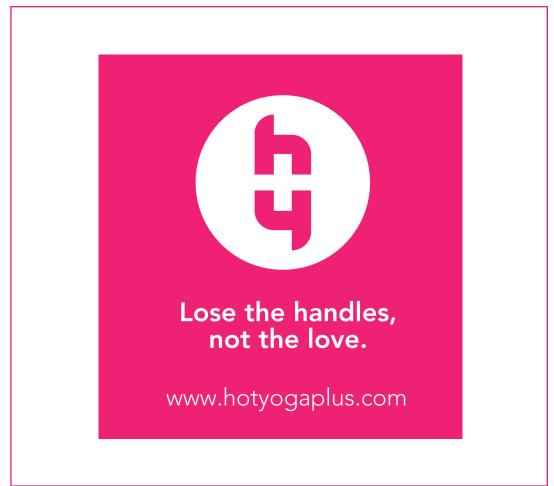
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

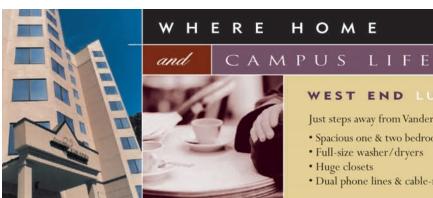
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Wondering what happened to Monday's crossword & sudoku puzzles? We are too. Sorry for the inconvenience, but here are puzzles for Jan. 31 & answers to puzzles from Jan. 24. Enjoy!

# For updates on all campus news: INSIDE\







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