



ZACH WAHLS HAD OUR EAR WEDNESDAY

But so did Oxford philosopher **John Lennox**, who spoke on **the reality of God**. See **page 2** for a pair of speakers that **made us think**.

vanderbilt hustler

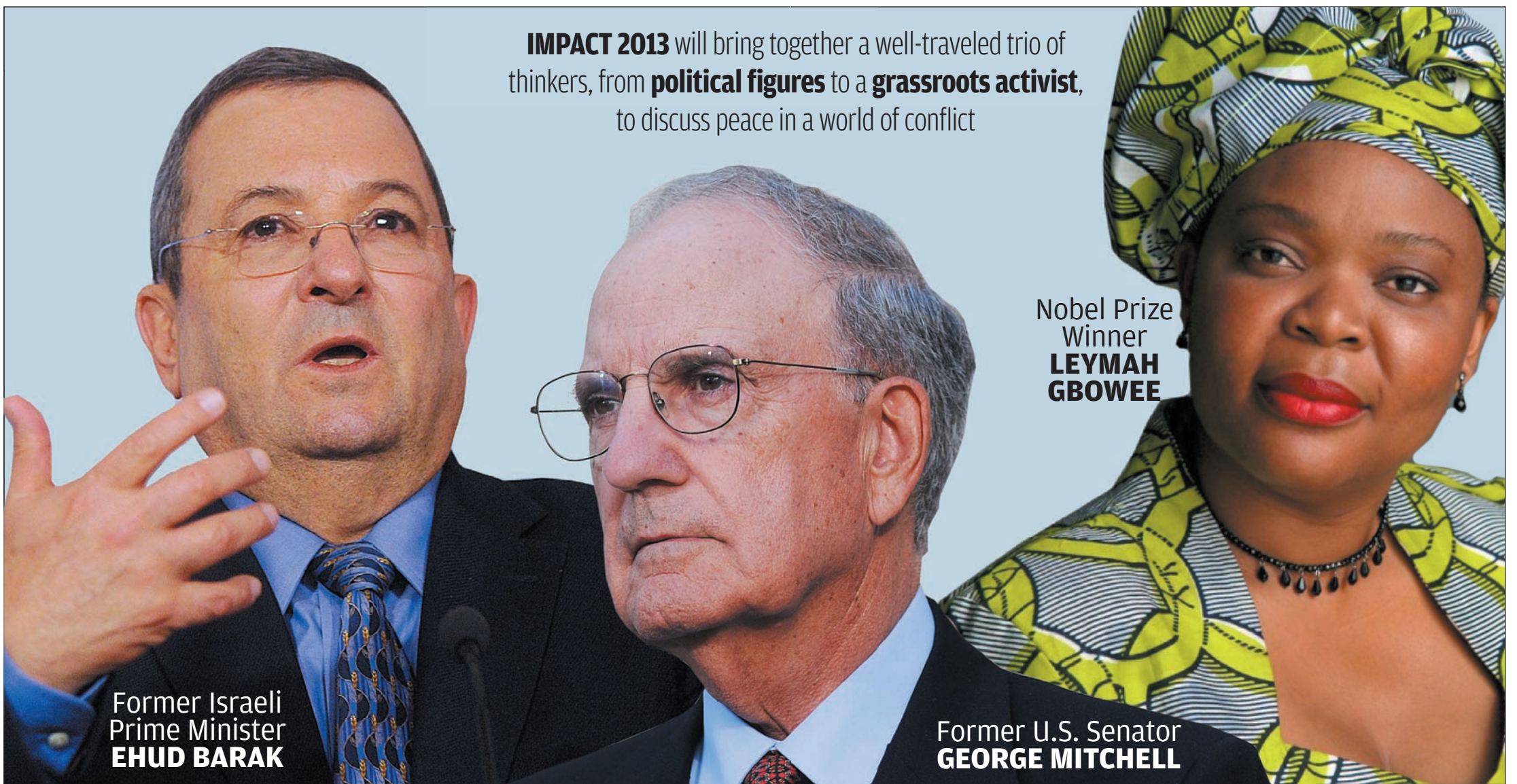
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THE TALKING HEADS

IMPACT 2013 will bring together a well-traveled trio of thinkers, from **political figures** to a **grassroots activist**, to discuss peace in a world of conflict



Former Israeli Prime Minister **EHUD BARAK**

OLIVIER DOULIERY / ABACA PRESS/MCT

Nobel Prize Winner **LEYMAH GBOWEE**

MICHAEL ANGELO / WONDERLAND

Former U.S. Senator **GEORGE MITCHELL**

OLIVIER DOULIERY / ABACA PRESS/MCT

As Prime Minister of Israel from May 1999 to March 2001, **EHUD BARAK** presided over the end of Israel's 22-year-long occupation of Southern Lebanon in 2000 and attended the Camp David 2000 Summit as part of his country's peace negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization. After being elected to serve as the head of Israel's Labor Party in 2007, Barak was appointed deputy prime minister and minister of defense and retained these positions in March 2009 when Benjamin Netanyahu assumed the office of prime minister. Barak has been involved in Israeli defense matters since 1959, serving as a soldier, commander and head of the Israel Defense Forces Intelligence Branch. As lieutenant general, Barak oversaw the IDF's redeployment in the Gaza Strip and Jericho after the signing of the Gaza-Jericho agreement in 1994. From the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

GEORGE MITCHELL served as U.S. special envoy for Middle East peace from January 2009 to May 2011. Prior to that, he was appointed to the United States Senate in 1980 to complete the unexpired term of Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, who resigned to become secretary of state. He left the Senate in 1995 as the Senate majority leader, a position he had held since January 1989. While in the Senate, Mitchell served on the Finance, Veterans Affairs and Environment and Public Works Committees. He was the author of the first national oil spill prevention and cleanup law. Mitchell led the Senate to pass the nation's first childcare bill and was principal author of the low-income housing tax credit program. He was instrumental in the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, landmark legislation extending civil rights protections to the disabled. Mitchell was a leader in opening markets to trade and led the Senate to ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement and creation of the World Trade Organization. From American Programing Bureau

2011 Nobel Peace Laureate **LEYMAH GBOWEE** is a Liberian peace activist, trained social worker and women's rights advocate. She is founder and president of the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa. She is also co-founder and former executive director of Women Peace and Security Network Africa (WIPSEN-A), as well as a founding member and former Liberia coordinator of women in Peacebuilding Network/West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WIPNET/WANEP). Gbowee's leadership of the Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace — which brought together Christian and Muslim women in a nonviolent movement that played a pivotal role in ending Liberia's civil war in 2003 — is chronicled in her memoir, "Mighty Be Our Powers," and in the documentary, "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." In addition, Gbowee is the Newsweek Daily Beast's Africa columnist. She serves on the board of directors of the Gbowee Peace Foundation USA, Nobel Women's Initiative and the PeaceJam Foundation, and she is a member of the African Women Leaders Network for Reproductive Health and Family Planning. From GBOWEEPEACEUSA.ORG

WHO THEY ARE

WHY WE NEED TO LISTEN TO THEM

By **CHELSEA MIHELICH**
Senior news reporter

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak, Senator George Mitchell and Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee were announced as speakers for the **IMPACT 2013** symposium Wednesday evening. The two-day event will feature discussion of issues surrounding peace and conflict resolution on a global scale.

This year's event, entitled "Dimensions of Peace and Conflict," will analyze both international conflict and the people who work to resolve it.

"You just hear about bombings in Syria or ending a war or all these different things happening, but you never really hear the other side of the story," said Speakers Committee co-chair Lisa Lacayo. "We thought that it was interesting to frame our topic this year in terms of not only conflict in the world but people who have

attempted to reach peaceful solutions."

On Monday, March 18, Prime Minister Barak and Senator Mitchell will participate in a discussion moderated by interim Vanderbilt professor and Pulitzer prize-winning biographer David Maraniss. Barak and Mitchell have worked closely in the past towards a peaceful solution to violence in the Middle East under the Clinton administration and have participated in speaking engagements together before.

"What we decided was that it would be interesting to listen to two diplomats that have worked together and worked with other countries' governments to come up with the negotiating part of how world leaders come together to come up with solutions for these huge problems," Lacayo said.

IMPACT 2013 coincides with what many

predict to be an important time for diplomacy in the Middle East, as President Obama plans to make his first trip to Israel in mid-March.

"I feel like it's going to be one of the most intellectual discussions that's ever happened on Vanderbilt's campus."

LISA LACAYO,
Speakers Committee co-chair

naturally, these topics will come up, but our aim isn't to focus on that event. It just happens to be extremely interesting that Obama will be there that week."

Tuesday, March 19, will feature Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee, who led a female resistance movement that ended civil war in Liberia. This talk will focus on the

power of an individual to influence change within a society.

"Leymah Gbowee is really a testimony of how an individual who wasn't involved in politics, just one woman who, along with a huge group of women, brought an end to civil war in a country that had a brutal dictator and thousands of people were being killed every day," Lacayo said. "So to kind of contrast going from a very formal diplomatic relationships to having this one individual empowering thousands of people in her country to end a civil war."

The three speakers may not carry the same star power as some of the illustrious attendees of past symposiums, including Robert Kennedy and Mitt Romney, but Lacayo sees a great deal of value to that:

"We want as many people to come to these events, but at the end of the day, we want the discussion and the stories of these people to be more meaningful than 'I'm just going because I recognize this guy's name.'"

Sorry, Mr. Jackson

Jail is for reeeeeeal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., holding back tears, entered a guilty plea Wednesday in federal court to criminal charges that he engaged in a scheme to spend \$750,000 in campaign funds on personal items. He faces 46 to 57 months in prison under a plea deal with prosecutors.

Jackson, 47, used campaign money to buy items including a \$43,350 gold-plated men's Rolex watch and \$9,587.64 worth of children's furniture, according to court papers filed in the case. His wife spent \$5,150 on fur capes and parkas, the court documents said.

Before entering the plea, Jackson told U.S. District Judge Robert L. Wilkins, "I've never been more clear in my life" in his decision to plead guilty.

Later, when Wilkins asked if Jackson committed the acts outlined in court papers, the former congressman replied, "I did these things."

Jackson's father, civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, watched the proceedings in the front row, hands folded, with no expression and virtually no movements.

Sentencing is scheduled for June 28.

More media options

Vanderbilt Student Communications Inc. (VSC) announced that it is expanding opportunities for Vanderbilt students with the creation of four new student media groups. In addition to its current media offerings, VSC will provide students with the chance to gain experience in creating films and documentaries, recording music, streaming radio from a high-visibility studio on campus and writing for a community-focused newspaper.

Four new divisions were created by VSC and will begin recruiting student leaders and participants this semester. These new branches include the following:

-**VUFinder**, which will facilitate students interested in visual storytelling through short films, features and documentaries.

-**RVU Records**, which will serve as a studio for students and touring groups to participate in all aspects of the recording industry.

-**VandyRadio**, which will allow students to produce streaming and on-demand news, sports, entertainment and opinion audio programming.

-**The Liberator**, which will be a newspaper serving the African-American community at Vanderbilt.

The new divisions' programming is scheduled to begin in the fall. As is the case with current media divisions within VSC, these new groups will likely collaborate on multi-divisional projects.

See page 2 for more details on the newly created branches in *Vanderbilt Student Media*.

Mr. Zeppos goes to Washington

Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos spent Feb. 12-13 in Washington, D.C., meeting with congressional leaders and making the case for federal investments in science and engineering research and education. He also advocated for reforms to Medicare that recognize the important role of academic medical centers in training future health care providers and caring for our region's sickest patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

The visit follows a joint op-ed Zeppos wrote with University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro in November urging Congress to avoid the across-the-board cuts that would "hinder long-term economic growth, security and prosperity."

Zeppos urged Congress to avert the impending across-the-board budget cuts and to address the critical fiscal challenges confronting the nation. He explained that the current state of budget uncertainty is extremely frustrating to university researchers whose work is in limbo as grants are delayed or cut and challenging to university administrators who must make long-term budget plans. While lawmakers were sympathetic and largely understanding of the important role federally supported research plays in the nation's economic growth and national security, the consensus was that cuts are likely to occur over the coming months.

To cap off the trip, Cooper invited Zeppos to attend the State of the Union as his guest.

— From a Vanderbilt University press release

campus

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I've gotten really good at putting down the toilet seat."
ZACH WAHLS, LGBTQI ACTIVIST



VANDERBITS

CRIME LOG: CAMPUS THEFTS

SATURDAY, FEB. 9

Buttrick Hall, 11:49 p.m. — A student reported an iPhone stolen from a backpack.

SUNDAY, FEB. 10

Peabody Administration Building, 3:15 p.m. — An employee reported her purse having been stolen from her office.

Murray Hall, 4:55 p.m. — Students reported their laptops having been stolen from their dorm room.

MONDAY, FEB. 11

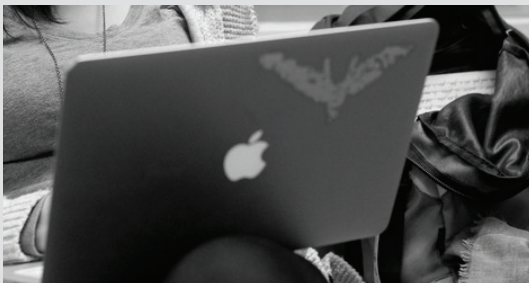
Buttrick Hall, 10:09 a.m. — A student reported a stolen laptop.

FRIDAY, FEB. 15

The Commons Center, 3 p.m. — An employee reported a stolen wallet.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16

Heard Library, 2:30 p.m. — A student reported a stolen laptop.



KEVIN BARNETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Editor's Note: From Feb. 9-16, VUPD filed 15 reports of thefts on campus, including six laptops belonging to students. Stay tuned to The Hustler and InsideVandy.com for further coverage on this campus issue.

VSC EXPANSION

... continued from page 1

Additional information on the newly created Vanderbilt Student Communications branches:

VUFinder

Vanderbilt students interested in visual storytelling through short films, features and documentaries will find new opportunities with the VUFinder division. In VUFinder, teams of students will be assembled to work on aspects of production together, creating a variety of films.

RVU Records

This new recording studio will give students opportunities to participate in all aspects of the recording industry, including sound recording and engineering, artists and repertoire and marketing and distribution. RVU Records will be able to record touring artists who visit the WRVU radio space as live on-air in-studio performers, along with Vanderbilt student performance groups, individuals and bands.

VandyRadio

VandyRadio will allow students to produce streaming and on-demand news, sports, entertainment and opinion audio programming that reflects the Vanderbilt campus community. VandyRadio will be located in VSC's Studio C, which can be seen through large glass walls in a high-traffic area on the first floor of the Sarratt Student Center.

The Liberator

The Liberator, which will be a newspaper serving the African American community at Vanderbilt, became a division of VSC when the VSC Board of Directors approved a proposal from student Kiarra Walden. The staff of The Liberator have been posting articles online at <http://vandyliberator.com>.

vanderbilthustler

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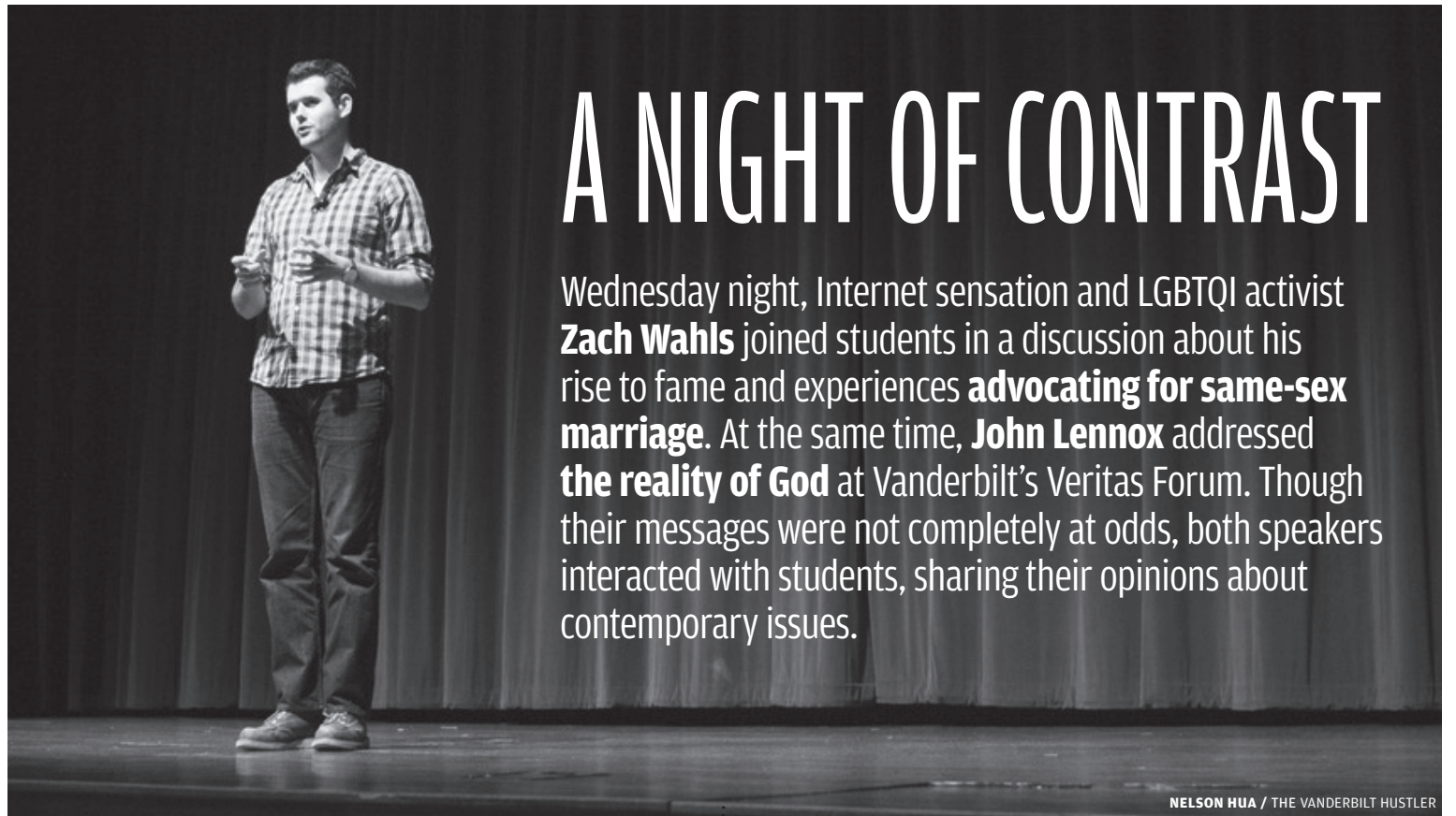
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NELSON HUA / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

A NIGHT OF CONTRAST

Wednesday night, Internet sensation and LGBTQI activist **Zach Wahls** joined students in a discussion about his rise to fame and experiences **advocating for same-sex marriage**. At the same time, **John Lennox** addressed **the reality of God** at Vanderbilt's Veritas Forum. Though their messages were not completely at odds, both speakers interacted with students, sharing their opinions about contemporary issues.

Wahls talks gay

By **TYLER BISHOP**
News editor

Addressing issues ranging from his differences from Rick Santorum and the recent Chick-fil-A controversy all the way to his experiences as a Boy Scout with lesbian parents, Zach Wahls gave his take on the fight for equality.

Wahls opened the event with a personal account of his speech in Iowa and his immediate rise to national fame.

"I had no idea that I was even being filmed when I gave the speech on the floor," Wahls said.

The next day though, he said he had over 500 Facebook notifications and enough "friend requests" to double his number of friends. As the video gained momentum on the Internet, Wahls said it became difficult to handle all of the phone calls and messages — including calls from producers and publishers. He also said he had been contacted by all of his ex-girlfriends within the next few weeks.

"Then I was on the phone with Ellen DeGeneres producers and everything had changed," Wahls said.

Wahls also focused on the views of former presidential candidate and U.S. Senator Rick Santorum. He said that Santorum and many others are simply afraid of what they cannot understand.

"Santorum is right when he says that there is a problem with same-sex marriage," Wahls said. "What he doesn't understand is that he is

the problem."

Wahls also spent some of his time in front of Vanderbilt students talking about what it means to advocate for the LGBTQI community. He said the main point he wanted to get across is that we all have the potential to have an influence.

"I hope that you will consider the influence that you have on other people. We now have more communicable power in our pockets than NASA did when they put a man on the moon," Wahls said. "You need to be your argument."

Wahls spent over an hour fielding questions from Vanderbilt students. The questions addressed topics from his relationship with Boys Scouts of America and his personal experiences with his moms all the way to Tennessee's "Don't Say Gay" legislation. "My producer didn't like the idea of me telling about all I had learned about homosexuality when I was a Boy Scout," Wahls jokingly said during the question-and-answer segment.

Check out InsideVandy.com for Wahls' responses to questions from Vanderbilt students and other notable comments from Wednesday's dialogue.

The Vanderbilt Office of LGBTQI Life hosted the event. Nora Spencer, the office's director, said Wahls was the perfect "ally" to bring to Vanderbilt.

"We are hoping to inspire others to take the kind of action Zach took in Iowa," Spencer said. "We are all allies."

Lennox talks God

By **CHARLOTTE GILL**
News staff reporter

Oxford mathematician and philosopher John Lennox discussed the existence of God, including his own personal experiences, with Associate Professor of the History of Christianity Paul Lim and an audience in Langford Auditorium.

Vanderbilt hosted a Veritas Forum to, in the words of Lim, "provoke conversation" among students about the questions that really matter and shed some light on the perceived divide between science and faith. Discussion is important because, according to Lim, "Celebration without conversation breeds conformity without critical thinking."

In response to Lim's question about the meaning of faith in God for this generation, Lennox said, "For me, the ultimate question is the truth question."

He explained that he did indeed grow up with a Christian upbringing, but he described his parents as unusual for Northern Ireland.

"They were Christian without being sectarian — they allowed me to think," Lennox said.

However, this faith was brought into question when he first arrived at Cambridge University, as his theism was assumed to be simply the default of a Northern Irishman. His quest for the truth was

not devoid of doubt; he said that he "spent (his) life playing Socrates — constantly calling into question (his) faith."

Lennox fielded questions ranging from justice in the Old Testament to the efficacy of Jesus' ministry.

"Many people believe God to be a bit like Vanderbilt. You take exams to get in, you study, then there's the final judgment," Lennox said. "Along the way, you get nice mentors like Professor Lim. The basic principle in our society is merit. People think it's like that with God. But would you base your relationship with a human like that?"

Lennox also addressed Christianity's ties to gun rights in contemporary America. He said that a lot of hypocrisy is derived from their connection. "I am ashamed that the name of Christ has ever been associated with an AK-47. People who take guns to defend Christ aren't following Him," Lennox said.

Check out InsideVandy.com for more of Lennox's dialogue with Professor Lim and Vanderbilt students.

Lennox has debated Richard Dawkins and written a number of works on the intersection of science, philosophy and theology. Vanderbilt was Lennox's third stop on his speaking tour. He will be heading next to Washington University in St. Louis, Brown University and other schools.

Being 'GDI' at Vanderbilt: First-year perspectives

From a three-day fraternity pledge suspension to the usual excitement surrounding "big" and "littles," the Vanderbilt Greek Life new member education process this year has been especially lively. Yet through all the chatter, a majority of Vanderbilt students remain unaffiliated with any Greek organization. As the spring new member process comes to a close, The Hustler gets the outside perspective on the Greek system from two first-years who decided to remain "independent."



Emily Dinino is a freshman in Peabody College from Westlake Village, Calif.



Owen Akeley is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science from Walpole, Mass.

By **MEG O'LEARY**
News reporter

The Vanderbilt Hustler: Do you feel you are less involved on campus by not being in a Greek organization?

Emily Dinino: Greek Life is certainly a great way to get involved at Vanderbilt; however, there are a lot of other options across campus. So no, I don't feel I am less involved on campus.

Owen Akeley: Absolutely not. I do a lot of stuff that I really enjoy, and I almost feel that going Greek would prevent me from doing the amount of stuff that I do. Right now, I get to sing, play sports and have a job — I feel like if I went Greek, I wouldn't have the opportunity to branch out as much.

VH: Have you found that your social life has been affected by your "independent" status? If so, how?

ED: My social life really hasn't been affected by being an independent. I've stayed close with all my friends who joined sororities and still managed to meet a lot of new people.

OA: Well, yes. Obviously Greek life is such a big part of most people's social lives, and because I wasn't rushing, I felt a little isolated, but that didn't prevent me from enjoying the Greek scene and developing a social life that I'm happy with.

VH: In your experience, is it difficult to maintain or form relationships with people who have joined Greek organizations?

ED: I'd say that it is definitely challenging, especially now because it's such a big time commitment. I don't know, it's difficult, but definitely possible to maintain the same relationships.

OA: Absolutely not. That's the best thing about Vanderbilt Greek Life. It's not elitist — at least for guys it isn't. I have a lot of friends in frats and a lot of friends outside of frats. Everyone has their own reasons for whether they are or are not Greek, and everyone else is understanding of that. It might have been different if freshmen could pledge first semester, but as it is, Greek Life really didn't make a difference. At least for me.

VH: Would you say there is a difference between the social scene of an independent girl and that of an independent guy on campus?

ED: It's definitely easier to be an independent girl than an independent guy. Sorority girls and independent girls have the same social opportunities, whereas independent guys don't always get the same social opportunities as guys in fraternities.

OA: It's really what you make of it. Whether you're a guy or a girl, there are lots of options socially. I think because there are a higher percentage of girls in sororities than guys in frats, it might affect (girls) more. But really, there's so much going on here, anyone can find their place.

VH: How have you become involved on campus without being in a Greek organization?

ED: I'm part of the Commons Community Coalition, I've played intramural sports and I've participated in volunteer activities.

OA: I play for the club water polo team. I'm also in the Dodecaphonics (a student singing group). I also take a lot of naps.

VH: Do you hope to become involved with a Greek organization in the future?

ED: I'm not positive. I may rush in the fall, but we'll see what happens!

OA: It all depends. If things fall in line where I have a lot of friends in one house, then I might consider it. But as of now, I'm really content with being independent.

VH: Do you have any advice for someone deciding whether or not to join a Greek organization at Vanderbilt?

ED: I have a lot of friends in sororities who love it and a lot of independent friends who are loving their experience as well ... I would say that it is a personal decision for everybody.

OA: Make sure you really take time to think about it by yourself. Each person has to make the decision for themselves, and if you don't think it's right for you, don't do it. There will obviously be some pressure to go Greek, and for a lot of people that is the right decision. But don't rush into things, and try to make the best decision for you.

opinion

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The only things we are capable of directly perceiving (and therefore assessing) are how others look, act and talk. It's not right, it's not wrong; it's just fact."
KARA SHERRER

TWITTER ROUNDUP

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

Europe and Burger King's recent horsemeat scandal

Elizabeth Windsor — @Queen_UK

Mr Clegg on the phone. Bit upset that the horse meat scandal has reached Nestlé. Says he can't believe there's horse meat in Milkybars.

PETA — @peta

Question of the Week: Why is everyone so horrified by horsemeat?

Rove McManus — @Rove

At least this horse meat is hiding the taste of all the pink slime I'm eating.

Mike Bodge — @mikebodge

Why is eating horse meat worse than eating ammonia soaked ground beef parts in the US?

ThinkProgress — @thinkprogress

Horsemeat is a public health crisis in the UK, but might be a step up from the burgers Americans are eating

Jay McGuinness — @JayTheWanted

Why are some people wild about the horse-meat fiasco. Pigs are smarter than horses, put your bacon sandwich down! Then weep for the ponies.

chicken nugget — @lOrdfranklin

if I found out that McDonalds was really ground up horse meat I would applaud them for making ground up horse meat taste so good

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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.

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GUEST COLUMN

More bang for your buck

Why massively open online courses are the future of education, both at and after Vanderbilt

DOUGLAS FISHER

is an associate professor of computer science and computer engineering and director of undergraduate studies for the Computer Science Department at Vanderbilt University. He is also the faculty member in residence in McGill Hall. He can be reached at douglas.h.fisher@vanderbilt.edu.

I expect that most students know about the boom in online education, particularly massively open online courses (MOOCs). An informal survey of students attending the McGill Hour I recently led suggests that quite a few have actually taken or "audited" some of these courses. I opened the McGill Hour with a story of a graduating Vanderbilt senior, in a non-computer science field, who was wandering the halls of the computer science offices looking at bulletin boards the week before last May's graduation. The long hallway was completely empty except for him and me, and he was clearly looking for something; I asked if I could help. As best as he could articulate, he was looking for some opportunity to learn computer programming in the very near future. I hesitated a little and then suggested that he take one of the excellent and free computer programming courses that were springing up online, offered by other universities. I wanted to tell him, a soon-to-be alum, that such a course was being offered by Vanderbilt, and moreover, that as an alum he could have access to Vanderbilt-produced material throughout his lifetime, perhaps with affordances that others taking Vanderbilt-produced content would not have.

There is much talk of how MOOCs and their descendants will lower the cost of higher education, and that is vitally important, but I am not expecting to see that change in the near future. Nonetheless, there are other ways of increasing "bang-for-the-buck" rather than lowering the buck — and that is by increasing the bang.

I sincerely hope that increasing the "bang" will include the establishment of online, lifelong learning opportunities for our alums, changing the very nature of what it is to be an alum. When I hear from my alma mater, it is with news of their latest and greatest, accompanied by a request for money, which is relatively easy for me to swallow because I paid a few hundred dollars a year for a first-rate education. But if my alma mater doesn't start approaching me soon

with low-cost learning opportunities, I'll be surprised and disappointed. Moreover, a great treat as a faculty member is hearing from my former students regarding what they are doing professionally, as well as hearing about their families — and I happily reciprocate. However, I would absolutely love to engage in lifelong learning with "former" students, and not just in my offering online courses to them. I recently turned to a former Vanderbilt student and current doctoral candidate with whom I was sharing a stage and told her and the audience that in five years I wanted to take a MOOC from her!

"I sincerely hope that increasing the 'bang' will include the establishment of online, lifelong learning opportunities for our alums, changing the very nature of what it is to be an alum."

There are other ways of increasing "bang" that I can provide, even at my station. For example, I can tell a student, "Yes, I will allow you to take the graduate course in artificial intelligence, even without the undergrad course, because you did well in that free online artificial intelligence course over the summer." In general, I feel comfortable allowing some of these online courses to stand in place of selected prerequisites of courses that I teach, even if I have no power to grant formal university credit for such courses (that latter decision is certainly above my pay grade) but the question of satisfaction of prerequisites is often at my discretion.

Another opportunity for increasing bang is about to begin, as Vanderbilt's course offerings come online through Coursera. Courses by Douglas Schmidt and David Owens start March 4, with others to follow. Vanderbilt's Center for

Teaching hopes to facilitate local learning communities around these online offerings, to include Vanderbilt students, staff and faculty. While I'll see my colleagues on the big screen, I will be in the audience, learning new material side by side with students. Most faculty members are learning new things all the time of course, most obviously through their research and through teaching courses for the first time, but I am excited about being embedded in the learning community, modeling lifelong learning — or so I hope. Online learning may bring a sea of change to on-campus education culture, again increasing bang for the buck.

There is a final "bang for the buck" possibility that I raise here. I've asked myself what I might contribute to dialogue and action on the challenges faced by furloughed dining workers, and I imagined that during their summer furlough, I could teach those who were interested new skills, such as computer programming. I thought this a bit too out of the box to talk about openly, but during a MLK Day faculty panel at The Commons on issues surrounding dining workers, faculty panelists and audience members independently proposed exactly this idea. In my area of expertise, I'd like to leverage online courses to do this. I hope to do this with retired adults soon anyway, so why not furloughed dining workers too, again to increase the bang for the buck that they get from their employer?

I think much creativity stems from dealing with discomfort, and higher education costs must be contributing to the substantial discomfort of many students and families, in spite of some commendable efforts made in good faith by Vanderbilt to ease financial burdens. Still, I hope that students, alums and their families are all active in ideating on what Vanderbilt can do in the way of increasing the educational bang for the buck, both by leveraging online learning and in other ways.

— Douglas Fisher

Perception is reality

How our image determines other peoples' perceptions of us, and what we should do about it



KARA SHERRER

is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science. She can be reached at kara.n.sherrer@vanderbilt.edu.

I have a note pinned to my whiteboard that says, "Perception is just as important as reality." I think I picked up this strange gem of wisdom somewhere in high school psych, but I can't really recall. What I do remember is writing it down to encourage myself the night before I gave my first speech for my public speaking class. I hate speaking in public, especially when the speech is planned. I feel fine until the second I stand up, and then my heart falls through my stomach. No matter how much I have prepared, I have to put my mouth on autopilot, or there's a good chance I won't be able to say anything at all.

But no one can see this happening. In fact, I got great marks on my speech delivery from both my classmates and my professor. They said I seemed completely relaxed and in control. It didn't matter that I had been flipping out internally because my appearance didn't communicate this, and thus my audience perceived me as being very calm ... even though I wasn't. My speech left me wondering why appearance is so important to our understanding of others. It feels like it shouldn't be that significant — like we shouldn't be that shallow. We've all heard the adage "Don't judge a book by its cover," and we'd like to believe that "the outside" doesn't truly matter. But it does.

Now, making assumptions about others based solely on how they look and act certainly does them a disservice. Kelly Halom actually touched on this in her Feb. 18 column "Looking beyond the letters." In fact, this truth pertains not only to those who participate in Greek Life but to everyone who has ever tried to communicate any specific image whatsoever. However, as I learned in my Interpersonal Communications class last semester, we can only directly evaluate others' outward appearance and behavior. You may initially resist this statement — I know that I did when I first heard it. After all, each of us knows that our appearance and behaviors don't represent even a sliver of our emotions, our thoughts or our past experiences. But consider this line, which I took straight from my Inter Com notes: "Our five senses are our only way of receiving information." If you think about this for a moment, you'll realize that it's true, at least in a strict sense.

The only things we are capable of directly perceiving (and therefore assessing) are how others look, act and talk. It's not right, it's not wrong; it's just fact. Yet it's all too easy for this phenomenon to lead us to inaccurate assessments of others. This problem is particularly relevant at Vanderbilt, since the school — and by "the school" I mean we, the students — places such a high premium on image. Case in point: Consider the infamous "Vandy Girl" stereotype. Tan. Blond. Rich. Skinny. Wears cowgirl boots. If you see an actual person with this combination of physical attributes, you will probably make some assumptions about her character as well. High-maintenance. Self-centered. Ungrateful. Superficial. (Again, this is taken from a list we compiled in Inter Com.) Similarly, Halom mentions that sometimes she is automatically "discredited" as an individual because of her association with her sorority's image. However, whenever you choose to associate yourself with such an image, you also choose to incur the character assumptions (positive and negative) that accompany that image. If you look and act like the above-mentioned Vandy Girl, others will conclude that you have or desire the accompanying personal qualities. When you join a particular fraternity or sorority, you know its reputation — and also what others will think about you for choosing to identify with that reputation. Should people make these assumptions about you merely based on image? Probably not. Does making such assumptions prevent them from getting to know the "real you"? Yes, it does, as Halom points out. But do people still do this? They most certainly do — and that's the harsh reality.

Making such assumptions is actually a completely natural inclination: Our brains are literally incapable of processing every detail they take in. If our minds tried to, we would go crazy. So instead they take in a only few details, and then infer conclusions from them based on past experience. You have probably met plenty of girls at Vanderbilt who are in fact tan, blond, skinny, and also high-maintenance, self-centered and superficial. If you see someone new who is tan, blond and skinny, your brain's cognitive shortcuts will lead you to assume that she is probably high-maintenance, self-

centered and superficial, due to your past experience. But what if she's not high-maintenance or superficial? It might not matter, because the assumptions you make from her appearance will lead you to treat her as if she is, regardless of her actual personality. In other words, your perceptions could matter more than her reality.

I am certainly not arguing that a person's image should hold so much sway over others' perceptions — only that, in reality, it does. But this is not to say that your real self is fighting a losing battle with such perceptions. In fact, it is possible to become more accurate in perceiving others. All too often, we treat our perceptions as if they are objective, impartial reflections of reality. Yet, they are actually interpretative, representing our personal, subjective understanding of the people around us. Indeed, our perceptions of others are rather similar to a fun-house mirror, giving a distorted reflection in place of an exact likeness. However, we can make that mirror less distorted simply by realizing that it is an interpretation — and then moving forward with that understanding.

Additionally, because others can only directly perceive your appearance and behavior, you can change their perceptions of you by adjusting how you look and act. If you want to appear more professional, wear a suit or a pencil skirt. If you want to be perceived as cheerful, smile more. Furthermore, looking and acting like you have a certain personal quality can lead you to develop it "for real" ("Fake it till you make it"), thereby bringing your image and others' perceptions more in line with your actual self.

It is certainly difficult to try to bring your perceptions into greater harmony with reality and for others to do the same for you. People are complex, and that makes this a complex issue. However, if we choose to ignore this dilemma because of its complexity, then we run the risk of oversimplifying others and believing that someone's appearance is all there is to him or her. And no one, no matter how superficial they may actually be, can be (justly) flattened into a couple physical characteristics or behaviors.

— Kara Sherrer

Life



GO DO THIS!

PLAN YOUR WEEKEND

Whether you're looking to travel off campus or stick around the Vandy Bubble, here's a guide to movies, concerts and other events happening near you. Read on to find out the **hottest things to do this weekend.**

IN THEATERS

'Snitch'

Opens Friday, Feb. 22
Dwayne Johnson stars as a father who makes a deal with the U.S. attorney after his son is set up in a drug deal. In return for his son's freedom, he has to infiltrate a drug cartel. Summit Entertainment made a serious mistake when they decided to release this film at the same time as the opening of "A Good Day to Die Hard." They're pretty much the same film, but "Snitch" has none of the hype that "Die Hard" does. Inevitably, "Snitch" doesn't look like it will see the same kind of success at the box office.

'Dark Skies'

Opens Friday, Feb. 22
"Dark Skies" is a psychological thriller that follows a suburban couple as an alien presence invades their home and preys upon their children. As they become increasingly isolated from their skeptical friends and neighbors, they're forced to deal with the situation on their own. The movie stars Keri Russell.

IN CONCERT

Acquire The Fire

Nashville Municipal Auditorium
Friday, Feb. 22 and Saturday, Feb. 23
Acquire The Fire is a two-day event showcasing Christian bands and speakers. Bands include Disciple, Rapture Ruckus, Satellite & Sirens and Hyland. Speakers are Ron Luce and Kemtal Glasgow, among others. Find out more at <http://acquirethefire.com>.

The Chieftains

Schermerhorn Symphony Center
Thursday, Feb. 21 through Saturday, Feb. 23
The Chieftains are one of the most famous Irish bands in the world, and they're making their way to Nashville this Thursday through Saturday. This week they're celebrating their 50th anniversary with the Nashville Symphony – and they're still rockin' as hard as they were 50 years ago. Thursday's performance starts at 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday's performances start at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at <http://nashvillesymphony.org>.

ON CAMPUS

International Lens Film Series: 'Last Train Home'

Sarratt Cinema
Thursday, Feb. 21
The Vanderbilt Undergraduate Chinese Association presents "Last Train Home," the latest in the International Lens Film Series. "Last Train Home" depicts the journey home of 130-million-plus Chinese workers for the Lunar New Year – the world's largest migration. The movie is in Mandarin with English subtitles. The film starts at 7:30 p.m. in Sarratt Cinema.

Vanderbilt University Orchestra and Vanderbilt Wind Symphony Concert

Ingram Hall
Friday, Feb. 22
The Vanderbilt Orchestra performs Bela Bartok's "Concerto for Orchestra," and the Vanderbilt Wind Ensemble performs a program titled "Made in America," spotlighting original works for wind instruments. The concert starts at 8 p.m. in Ingram Hall.

Actors From The London Stage performance: 'Hamlet'

Neely Auditorium 106
Saturday, Feb. 23
Vanderbilt hosts Actors From The London Stage again, as they perform the classic Shakespearean tragedy "Hamlet." The five-person troupe performed "Twelfth Night" last season. There will be two performances beginning at 2 and 8 p.m. The performance is free for undergraduates with their Commodore Cards and \$7 for graduate students.

OFF CAMPUS

4th Annual Nashville Blues Festival

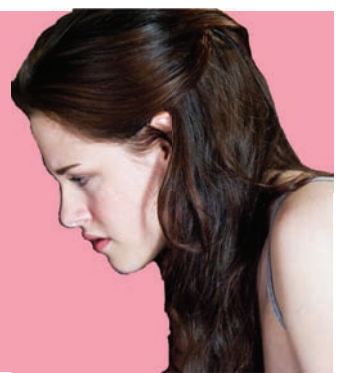
Nashville Municipal Auditorium
Sunday, Feb. 24
The 4th Annual Nashville Blues Festival is this Sunday at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium. It features blues artists Mel Waiters, Shirley Brown, Denise LaSalle and Latimore, among others. The festival starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are available at <http://nashvilleauditorium.com>.

Oscar Experience: Nashville

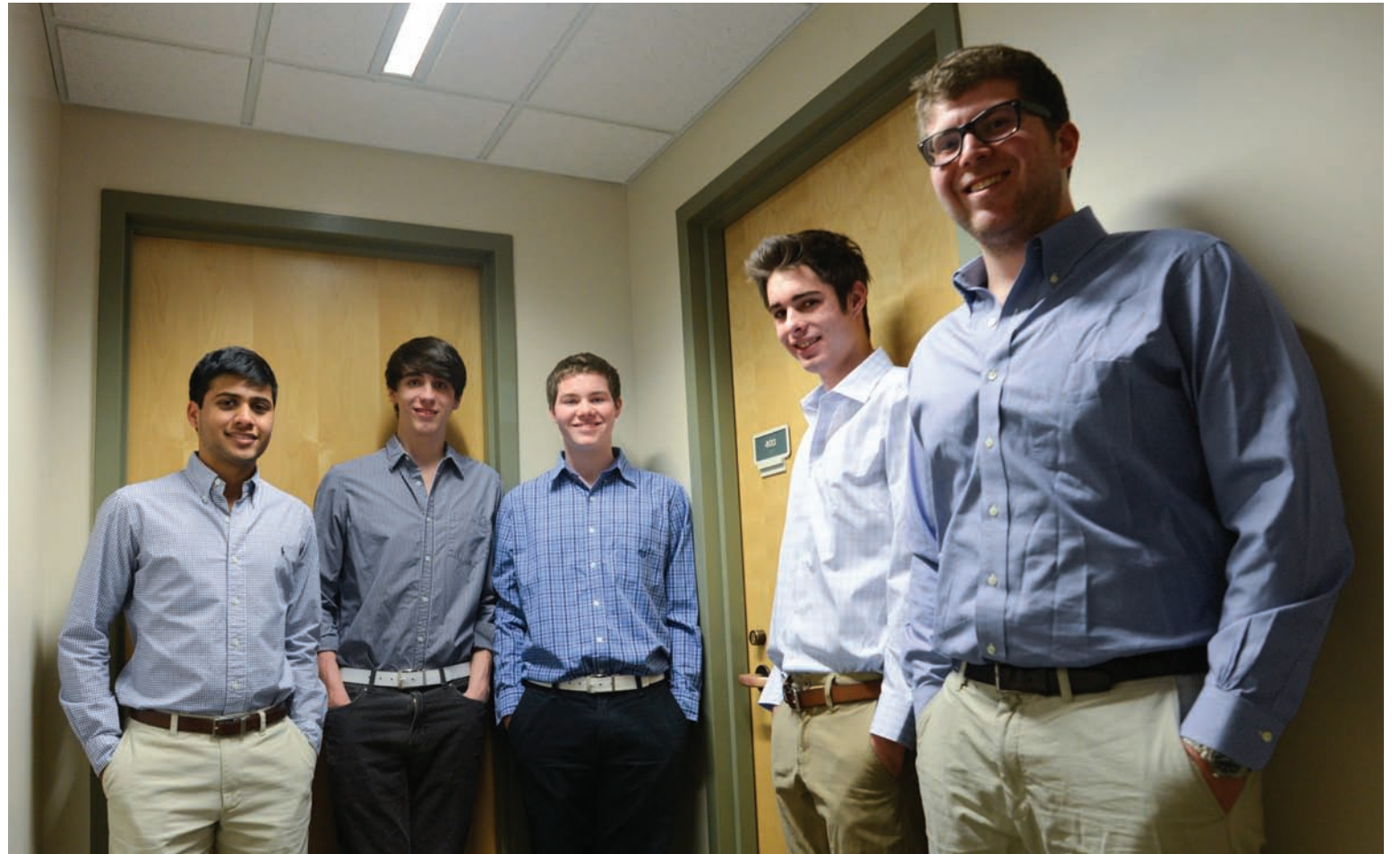
Belcourt Theatre
Sunday, Feb. 24
For the 12th year in a row, the Belcourt hosts the Academy Awards on the big screen. In addition to the show, there will be a red carpet party and a silent auction to enhance the experience. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. for people who buy tickets at the Patron level and 7 p.m. for general tickets. Tickets support the Belcourt Theatre.

CELEB STATUS

On Wednesday, Perez Hilton reported on a recent poll conducted among males in the UK, which rated Kristen Stewart the ugliest female star in Hollywood. Other notable actresses on the list of ugliest actresses included Sara Jessica Parker, Denise Richards and Lindsey Lohan.



THE MEN OF 403 RECORDS



MURPHY BYRNE / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

From left to right, Kunal Patel, Frederick Lanier, Jr., Sean Doherty, Tyler Needham and Jacob Weiss stand outside their dorm room, Hank Ingram 403, which eventually went on to inspire the name 403 Records.

Freshmen Tyler Needham, Kunal Patel, Jacob Weiss, Sean Doherty and Frederick Lanier, Jr. speak about the formation of their record label, the bands they represent, and what it's like to be full-time students managing a label.

By **MAGGIE KNOX**
Life reporter

Upon arriving at Vanderbilt last fall, freshmen Tyler Needham, Kunal Patel, Jacob Weiss, Sean Doherty and Frederick Lanier, Jr. formed the record label 403 Records. The label has since expanded its team to eight and seeks to use social media, advertising and a strong online presence to nationalize the fan base of their clients.

What inspired a group of freshman guys to try something as ambitious as starting a record label? "To be honest, the start of 403 is not that glorious," Weiss said. "We were just hanging out one night, and we realized that we all have a shared interest in business and entrepreneurship. We figured that, we're in Music City, why not try music?"

"The idea at first wasn't just to make a record label but to simply create a business," Lanier

said. "After a short brainstorming session, we decided to make this start-up business a record label for one main reason: Living in Nashville, we would have numerous and incredible resources at our disposal. It seemed like this would be the most fun and interesting business."

A friend of Weiss's at Belmont University introduced the group to some of her friends, and after a few weeks of interviews, 403 Records found the three artists they are still promoting today: Foley, Ryan Morris and Keeps, all freshmen at Belmont University. The group is very pleased with the artists they found, as each artist has a very different sound.

"A lot of our efforts have gone towards Foley," said Weiss. "He's originally from Southern California and has a pop-rock, alternative sound. He has the most top 40 sound of all of our artists." Foley currently has two EPs available on iTunes, "Memories" and "Tonight." He is currently at work on his first full-length album with a producer from Los Angeles, which can be expected at the beginning of April.

"Ryan Morris is a singer-songwriter with a more acoustical sound," Lanier said. Morris has a sound similar to Jack Johnson or Jason Mraz. His first album, "Mandala of the Sky," is currently available on iTunes.

"Ryan Morris is really popular in live venues here in Nashville," Needham said.

"Our approach for Foley and Ryan Morris was

focused on online presence. We felt it would be more effective to sell their names and their music through various social media outlets. This approach has been quite beneficial. We can already claim that we've begun to 'nationalize' Foley and Ryan Morris," Lanier said. "We have also utilized the various open mic nights at venues in Nashville, such as the illustrious Bluebird Cafe."

The group described Keeps as a dream-pop rock band that has a unique, dynamic style. Keeps has a large following in Nashville after performing various live shows in the area.

"Our goal for Keeps is to further expand their fan base to include non-students and other age demographics," Lanier said.

When asked about how the guys balance 403 with a full course load and other activities, Doherty laughed. "Not well," he said. "It's hard being a full-time student and working. We stay up late. We all live about two doors from each other, so that's made it a lot easier."

403 Records looks to expand even further. "We're trying to put together a tour in California, Oregon and Washington over the summer," Needham said. "We're hoping that will produce revenue and provide us with more opportunities to expand."

For more information on 403 Records and the artists they represent, like 403 Records on Facebook or visit <http://403records.com>.

How to love the body you're in

Whitney Thompson, the first plus-sized model to win 'America's Next Top Model,' came to campus Sunday to speak about maintaining a positive body image. Read on for a summary of her key points and how you can apply them to your life.

By **ALEXIS MEYERS**
Life reporter

'Beautiful is not a size, an age or a procedure.'

This was the main focus of Thompson's speech. Thompson discussed her eye-opening experience in the modeling industry, sharing how a profession thought to be beautiful actually masks many flaws that cannot be seen from the outside. While many women look to models as the embodiment of beauty, Thompson noted that runway models are usually size 0 teenagers, often not for their beauty but for economic reasons. Thompson informed the crowd that the majority of runway models are under the age of 16, as designers often prefer thin, undeveloped teenagers who have not yet gone through puberty. Thompson noted that designers often desire these size 0 models because a smaller size results in less fabric and therefore fewer expenses. Her words showed that designers are now looking for models to fit certain dresses instead of looking for certain dresses to fit the models. When women look at these models, they begin to think that these are the standards of beauty, but Thompson informed the crowd that there are multiple reasons that these selections exist.

'Anorexia is not a lifestyle choice; it's a disease.'

Thompson educated the crowd about anorexia, sharing an anecdote of a friend that she says is often typical of women. When her college friend was called "anorexic," she thought she was being complimented and was flattered to be considered "skinny." Thompson emphasized that anorexia is a disease, not

something to strive for. Thompson noted that often the media plays a heavy role in glamorizing anorexia, as its showcasing rail-thin girls can cause females to feel insecure about their own bodies and looks. As a model spokesperson for the National Eating Disorders Association, Thompson urged people to get help and to help others who need it. She also commented on how she thought many of the girls in the Top Model house showed many signs of eating disorders.

'I eat what I want; I try to listen to my body.'

When asked what Thompson considers "healthy" and what "balance" means to her, Thompson said it was simply a matter of listening to your body. She explained, "If I'm craving a Snickers, I eat a Snickers. If I want a fruit I will eat a fruit. Anything my body is telling me I will listen." Thompson also noted that sometimes over-exercise can be just as unhealthy as starving yourself. She said that exercise is meant to be a way to stay healthy, not a way to put too much stress on your body. As cardio exercise will get endorphins out, Thompson often runs to release stress and says that such behavior is totally normal and encouraged. Regardless of what you look like or what you think you should look like, Thompson said there is no reason to limit yourself in any way.

'Everyone has self-esteem issues; watch what you say.'

Thompson's speech often emphasized the power of words, as self-confidence is often the byproduct of how we feel perceived by others. Thompson said that a lot of body issues can come from those who are closest to us, sharing an anecdote about a mom who commented to her eight-year-old daughter, "You're going to wear those jeans that make you look like



TINA TIAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Go Figure brought Whitney Thompson to campus on Sunday to promote positive eating and health habits. Thompson spoke about her modeling experience and relationship with her own body in the Rand Lounge.

that?" Such comments can often come out of our mouths without a second thought, but they can stick with the people who hear them for much longer. Thompson stressed that one can never be sure what kind of impact one's words will have on another, instructing everyone to be careful about word choice and to not bring others down.

WHAT THE **BEYONCE** DOCUMENTARY TAUGHT US

By **PRIYANKA ARIBINDI**
Life reporter

Though Beyonce has been nothing short of a pop icon for the past decade, with her showstopping performance at the Superbowl and her upcoming world tour, she has arguably reached new heights in popularity. Is it a coincidence, then, that her highly anticipated HBO documentary "Beyonce: Life Is But A Dream" premiered this past weekend? Probably not. The woman is perfection personified, and the timing of this documentary's release couldn't be any more convenient.

Though "Life Is But A Dream" wasn't the tell-all some had been hoping for, fans should be glad to even catch a glimpse of Bey, a generally camera-shy public figure, let alone have the intimate view she gives us into her grueling schedule, personal thoughts and private time with another one of the 21st century's greatest superstars. The film was artfully done and manages to personify a woman who, up until this point, had seemed larger than life itself. Here's what you missed for everyone who didn't catch it:



ROBERT GAUTNER / LA TIMES / MCT

Beyonce is weird.

1 Okay, she's not "Lady-Gaga-wearing-a-dress-made-of-meat" weird, but Beyonce's definitely not an exceedingly normal person. A significant portion of the film is spent two inches away from her face as we watch her talking to herself on Photobooth (while looking perfect), which brings us to point No. 2.

Beyonce loves her computer.

2 "Thank God for my computer," she proclaims, while holding it up to face her on a New York City balcony. "Sometimes when there's no one to talk to, I talk out loud so I can get all of my thoughts out." Throughout the film, her MacBook makes cameos, catching her singing bars to herself in the back of a car and recording the very first time she feels daughter Blue Ivy kicking during her pregnancy.



ROBERT GANTHER / LA TIMES / MCT



BRIAN CASSELLA / CHICAGO TRIBUNE / MCT

Beyonce listens to her own music.

3 There are no real norms for what artists listen to when they're not writing and recording their own songs, but Beyonce confirms a long time suspicion: Artists love getting down to their own stuff. Literally. At one point, after leaving us a particularly emotional Photobooth diary, she thinks aloud a cure to her stress: "(listening) to 'Make Love to Me' and (making) love to (her) husband."

4 Beyonce and Jay-Z are cuter than you thought.

We see Bey at her happiest during home videos shot with or by her husband, rap superstar Jay-Z. Who knew the world's biggest power couple were such budding filmmakers? During one shot at dinner, the two sing lines from Coldplay's "Yellow" to each other, and Beyonce replaces the final lyrics with "Jay Jay, I love you so." Yes, she calls him "Jay Jay."



ABACA PRESS

5 Beyonce has real problems.

Though she manages to not give too much away, we do learn pretty early on that Beyonce's whole life isn't kicking it with Jay by day and killing it at shows by night. Her relationship with her father and one-time manager, Mathew Knowles, was pushed beyond repair as the result of her career, and according to Beyonce, it had to be sacrificed.

6 Beyonce's problems don't include worrying about how she looks.

Aside from the ample amount of footage we see of Bey rocking it out on stage at various awards shows and concerts, she spends the vast majority of the film dressed down. The entire interview the movie hinges on shows the superstar lounging on a couch clad in jeans sans makeup and shoes. There's not a single blemish or hair out of place, though, which really does nothing for the self-confidence of viewers at home.

7 Beyonce is very into her faith.

This revelation was more surprising than the rest. Throughout the film Beyonce speaks about everything — life, art, love — in a very deep, philosophical way. Towards the tail end, she asserts her views on spirituality in what is perhaps the most emotional segment of the interview, saying "God lives inside of me ... I know that and I feel it."



DAVID M. WARREN / PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER / MCT



MARK CORNELISON / LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER / MCT

8 Beyonce's daughter, Blue Ivy, doesn't look like her at all.

In true diva fashion, Blue makes an appearance in the film for a whopping 15 seconds, but what did you expect — she learned from the best. She's the spitting image of her dad and somehow she manages to make that look more adorable than we ever imagined.

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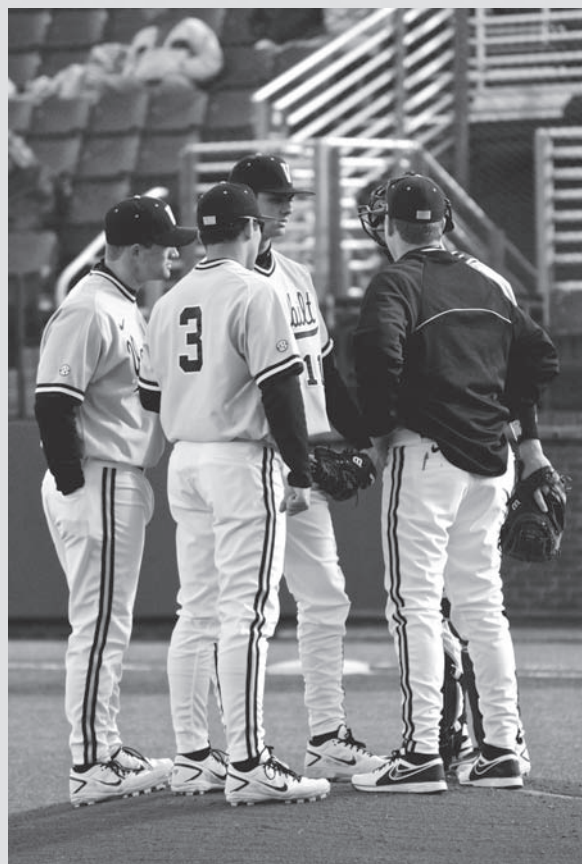
Points for Kentucky freshman center Willie Cauley-Stein in Vanderbilt's 74-70 loss on Wednesday night, a career high

20



MINUTE DRILL

Baseball picks up two midweek wins



KRISTIN DAVIS / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

The Vanderbilt baseball team looks to build on its 4-1 start with a three-game series this weekend against Monmouth. The Commodores have scored at least nines runs in every game this season.

By ANTHONY TRIPODORO
Sports reporter

Vanderbilt handled its first set of midweek games in convincing fashion, beating Belmont 9-3 at Rose Park on Tuesday night and Central Arkansas at home on Wednesday, 10-2.

The Commodores scored 10 unanswered runs against the Central Arkansas Bears on Wednesday at Hawkins Field after falling behind by a run in the first inning. Conrad Gregor, Connor Harrell and Xavier Turner each drove in a pair of runs, and starting pitcher Walker Buehler went four innings, allowing just one run on two hits but surrendering eight walks. Steven Rice earned the win in relief, allowing one hit in three innings of work.

Vanderbilt may share the city of Nashville with Belmont, but the Commodores had no intention of sharing the baseball diamond on Tuesday. A great pitching performance by sophomore starter Phil Pfeifer held the Bruins in check. Pfeifer's sole mistake of the day came when he served up a fifth-inning solo shot to outfielder Drew Turner. The lefty tossed 6.2 innings in total, allowing just that one run and striking out 10 batters along the way.

Offensively, the Commodores were hot at the top of the order. Second baseman Tony Kemp had his second career five-hit day on Tuesday. Kemp led off the game with a double and later came around to score. Just behind him in the order, freshman designated hitter Xavier Turner had three hits to round out another strong day behind the plate.

Vanderbilt's starting rotation of Kevin Ziomek, Tyler Beede and T.J. Pecoraro is expected to get the ball in order this weekend, with Beede and Pecoraro looking to put in more balanced performances than they did last weekend against Long Beach State.

Monmouth enters this weekend's series with an unblemished 1-0 record after beating Villanova 7-6 last Friday in Cary, N.C. in the Ron Fraser Classic. The Hawks were able to escape with a win in their season-opener, but just barely. Reliever Neil Harm entered the ninth with a 7-3 lead but ultimately needed to be removed in favor of Stephen Frey to secure the victory by the narrowest of margins. The Hawks had four other games scheduled for Saturday and Sunday against Villanova, Temple, Canisius and La Salle, but they were cancelled due to inclement weather in the Cary area.

Lacrosse falls at Boston College

The women's lacrosse team dropped to 1-3 on the season with a 13-8 loss on the road to Boston College on Wednesday night.

Freshman Mallory Schonk led the Commodores with four goals, getting herself on the board for the first time with 1:54 to play in the first half to cut an early deficit to 7-3 after the break. She scored her third of the game unassisted with 13:55 to play to bring the Eagles' lead to 10-7, but that was the closest Vanderbilt would get the rest of the way.

Freshman Sarah Mannely recorded her second consecutive four-goal game for the Eagles, who improved to 2-0 on the season after a win at Holy Cross on Saturday.

The Commodores were outshot 29-12, but 16 saves from senior goalkeeper Chelsea Pasfield kept the visitors within range.

Vanderbilt welcomes traditional lacrosse powerhouse Northwestern to Nashville on Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m.

Not so lucky in Kentucky

Vanderbilt nearly ground out a **second-half comeback** in a hostile environment, but overcoming a big night from center **Willie Cauley-Stein** proved **too tall a task** in the Wildcats' 74-70 win.

By BEN WEINRIB
Sports reporter

Another second-half comeback was foiled by the standout performance of another Kentucky center, as Vanderbilt could not flip the script of their Jan. 12 meeting with the Wildcats in Wednesday night's 74-70 loss.

Rod Odom opened the Commodores' second matchup of the year against Kentucky with a 3-point shot — what would be his first of four triples in the first half. That lead, though, would only last one minute and 52 seconds, and Vanderbilt would not lead again the rest of the way en route to its sixth straight loss in Lexington.

When Kentucky visited Vanderbilt over a month ago, the Commodores needed a big second-half comeback to make the game competitive down the stretch. Vandy trailed by 12 at halftime and as much as 16 with 13:19 to go in the second half. Round Two was much of the same.

Vanderbilt fell in a hole early, when they allowed Kentucky to go on a 13-0 run after Kedren Johnson's 3-pointer brought the Commodores within a point. They would whittle the deficit down to eight points by halftime, but the Wildcats expanded their lead to 12 points with 7:53 left in the game.

The big difference for Kentucky between the two games was the absence of star freshman center Nerlens Noel, who tore his ACL on Feb. 12 in a loss to Florida. Noel finished with 13 points, seven rebounds and three blocks in the first meeting between the two teams, and the Wildcats had to

depend on fellow freshman Willie Cauley-Stein to pick up the slack at home on Wednesday.

And pick up the slack, he did. Cauley-Stein, who only averages 7.5 points and 5.3 rebounds per game, dropped 20 points and eight boards, shooting an efficient 8-for-10 from the field. Defensively, Josh Henderson and Shelby Moats could not handle the 7-footer, especially since the rest of the defense didn't guard the ball well, allowing the Wildcats to create off the dribble and get into the paint.

"He kind of just did it however he wanted to," said Vanderbilt head coach Kevin Stallings. "We should have just asked him what his preference was. Did he prefer to dunk or did he prefer to get it and back us in and jump hook? Other than asking him, we couldn't have been any more accommodating, I didn't think."

The Commodores rallied in the second half on the backs of Johnson, who had baskets on three straight possessions, and Henderson, whose consecutive layups brought the score to 61-59 in favor of Kentucky.

Following a Julius Mays 3-pointer, tempers flared as Henderson came down with an offensive rebound and fell to the floor, while Ryan Harrow stood over the Vanderbilt big man. Stallings rushed over to separate the players before things got out of hand, and freshmen Kevin Bright and Carter Josephs followed the coach onto the floor before being promptly ejected for leaving the bench.

"They threw two of our biggest criminals out of the game," said Stallings sarcastically. "We've got



KIRSTEN HOLLIDAY / THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Junior forward Rod Odom (0) came up with several big shots once again on his way to another solid night on offense, but Kentucky freshman Willie Cauley-Stein (15) stepped up to lift the Wildcats to a 74-70 victory and a season sweep.

gangsters over here."

Trailing by five points following the small altercation, the Commodores shot just 3-for-8 the rest of the way, including two big blocked shots by Cauley-Stein with less than 40 seconds left in the game. Mays' pair of free throws to put the Wildcats up by six with 23 seconds remaining would all but seal the game for Big Blue.

Sheldon Jeter hit one last 3-pointer with six seconds to go, and the Commodores stole the following inbound pass, but it would be too little too late, as that only gave them 1.1 seconds to score four points.

Vanderbilt falls to 10-15 (4-9 SEC) and will travel to play Mississippi State (7-18, 2-11 SEC) on Saturday for their next game.



BOSLEY JARRETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Rod Odom rises up for a shot against Alabama on Feb. 2 in Memorial Gymnasium. Odom has been the Commodores' leading scorer in three of the last five games.

After struggling to begin his junior season, forward Rod Odom is coming into his own and living up to his potential as a scorer for the Commodores

By GEORGE BARCLAY
Asst. sports editor

Back in November, in his first press conference of the season, Vanderbilt basketball head coach Kevin Stallings referred to junior Rod Odom as the team's "go-to guy." Given his title of team captain and the departures of Commodore cornerstones John Jenkins, Jeff Taylor and Festus Ezeli, high expectations rested on the 6-foot-9-inch forward. Once a reserve player, Odom — now a junior — finally found himself in the starting lineup, albeit with a host of first-years and sophomores surrounding him.

After spending much of the offseason working on his post moves and ball-handling skills, Odom tried to assert himself down low. Initially, baskets were hard to come by. Until the fifth game of the season on Nov. 25 against UTEP, Odom failed to score in double figures. Additionally, he committed nine turnovers during the first four games, most of which came as a result of trying to get past bigger and stronger

defenders. Worst of all, Odom struggled with his 3-point shot, the staple of his versatile game. After shooting over 37 percent from beyond the arc in his first two seasons, Odom entered January shooting just 34 percent.

However, something clicked for Odom in the month of February. After managing to score 10 points in only three of eight January contests, Odom has dropped 15 points or more in four of his last five games. Strong efforts of 20, 15 and 19 points against LSU, Arkansas and Texas A&M, stand out, respectively.

Against the Aggies on Saturday evening, Odom drilled four 3-pointers in the second half and was second on the team in free-throw attempts with four. On Wednesday night against Kentucky, he hit another four 3-pointers and had 14 points by halftime.

"I really just try to go out and attack," Odom said on Monday. "Attack the game and try to create as many opportunities as I can and make the most out of all the opportunities that my teammates have been creating for me."

Odom's scoring tear continued against Kentucky in Rupp Arena on Wednesday night. Drilling a three-pointer on his first shot attempt of the night, Odom broke out for 16 points on 6-of-13 shooting against the Wildcats. Of Odom's points, 12 came from beyond the arc, where he shot 4-of-6 to the dismay of a fired-up Kentucky home crowd.

But there is more to it than the 3-point

shooting. Odom has derived success from his ability to see openings in the defense and avoid forcing the issue after catching the ball. The fruits of his labors have shown especially from mid-range jump shots.

"I don't really think about it too much in terms of where I'm scoring," Odom said. "I just try to take the opportunities as they come."

"I had a good talk with one of our coaches, and he told me that if you're thinking in-between drive and shoot or anything, just shoot. That made things really clear for me and gave me a lot of confidence as to what I'm supposed to be doing on the floor."

Stallings has taken particular notice of Odom's improved scoring.

"I think that he (Odom) just has more confidence right now as a player and feels like those are shots that not only he's supposed to take, but that he's very capable of making them," Stallings said. "We're a better team when he plays well."

With well-calculated drives to the basket, the occasional post-up and a herky-jerky jumper, Rod Odom has worked himself back into the Commodore offense. Now that sophomore point guard Kedren Johnson is battling an ailing shoulder, Odom could not have stepped up at a better time.

It took about three months, but the "go-to guy" is finally on the floor of Memorial Gymnasium.

Fann moves from behind the plate to behind the desk



BOSLEY JARRETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Former Vanderbilt Commodore Drew Fann (pictured left) sits at his desk as the new head of baseball operations at Vanderbilt University. Fann is one year removed from his time as a catcher for the Commodores (pictured right).

By **ALLISON MAST**
Sports reporter

Nine months ago, Drew Fann was on the field, equipped with a glove, a pair of cleats and a Vanderbilt cap. Now, he sits in an office at Hawkins Field, wearing business attire and looking just as comfortable as he did in a Vanderbilt uniform.

Shortly after completing his final season of eligibility, the former Commodore catcher was hired as the head of baseball operations. As the season begins, Fann handles a new set of responsibilities: scheduling bat boys, setting up the press box, checking on the weather and ensuring everything is ready for a successful day at the Hawk.

In the fall, his efforts were focused on the future Vandy Boys.

"I set up the recruiting weekends, which is probably my biggest responsibility in the fall," Fann said. "I make sure their visits are approved, I make sure they have tickets to the football games. We make sure they get accepted to the school

and they fill out the proper paperwork."

In addition to his role on the staff, Fann is a graduate student at the Peabody School of Education. He is working towards a Master's Degree in Education in Leadership and Organizational Performance, a program he entered last year, and plans to graduate in December.

"I've got a lot of good friends on the team, which is good to still see them play and be there as a fan of them," he said. "It's been tough sometimes with school as far as time management, but I'm really blessed to be able to be here and stay around the people that I care about. It's such a great program, and it's a really good entry-level job."

Just as Fann splits his time between the classroom and the baseball field, he must also balance his roles as an authority figure and a friend to the members of the Vanderbilt squad. He admits that his former teammates like to mess with him, but this is something he grew accustomed to before acquiring the new position.

"They gave me a tough time when I

was here, but that's just part of it," Fann said. "When we pick on each other, we do it out of love."

Fann allows the harsh criticism and sarcastic remarks of the team members to motivate him, although he knows they are not meant to be taken too seriously. When he sees an opportunity to take the heat off of himself, he eagerly takes it.

"I try to make sure if I'm ordering food for the night, or if I'm ordering cleats for them, I know they've got to be perfect because if they're not or something, they're going to come at me about it," he said. "I'm lucky to say they are my teammates. They will always be my teammates. I had such a good experience here as a player and as a student athlete. My goal for the job is just to make sure that these guys have everything they need, so they can have as good an experience as I had here."

He may no longer be in uniform, but Fann hopes he can contribute in a new way to another successful season that ends in Omaha.

Not just a rapper

Sophomore pitcher Tyler Beede's rap videos may be filled with beats and rhymes, but his abilities on the mound are even more dynamic

By **BEN WEINRIB**
Sports reporter

Tyler Beede's talent on the field is impossible to deny. The most highly-recruited player to come to Vanderbilt in over a decade, Beede nearly led the Commodores in innings pitched in his first year on campus.

On the field, the 6-foot-4-inch righty is poised and composed, even when he cranks his fastball up to 95 mph and unleashes a very solid circle changeup and curveball.

Despite his quiet, laid-back personality, Beede has a hidden talent: rapping. When he steps away from the mound and picks up a mic, Beede's reserved personality is left by the wayside, replaced by his swagger-filled alter ego, Young Beedah.

"Writing was always a passion I had," said Beede. "And I guess just last year I kind of went all for it and went all in and decided to make a couple songs."

Last winter, Beede uploaded two songs on YouTube — "Forever 21" and "508 to the Ville." Both are about his decision to go to Vanderbilt instead of signing with the Toronto Blue Jays.

In June 2011, Beede was selected 21st overall in the MLB draft, but ultimately turned down a \$2.5 million offer, partially because the Blue Jays balked at his \$3.5 million request. He was the only one of 60 first-round picks not to sign.

Beede has released three new songs in the past six months. Each, again, are largely about his decision to choose an education over a payday.

The proliferation of content makes one wonder: Is money the motive for the sophomore righty?

"I wouldn't say the decision (to return) is what drives me," Beede said. "I always knew I was going to find myself here. That was an easier decision than people made it out to be."

"People read a lot into what I say in my songs, but they really shouldn't. I just write whatever's on my mind, and if it comes out sounding a little awkward, then that's just the way it is. But my motivation is just this team and getting to Omaha, and that's just how it's going to be every day."

For Beede, rapping represents another outlet for him and his creativity, a way to express his feelings. It also gives him an opportunity to let out whatever is hiding behind his game-day poker face.

Beede is not the only one in the Vandy locker room with an odd off-the-field talent, though. Redshirt freshman Zander Wiel beatboxes. A few of his teammates can do backflips. Famously, the team has made a dance-off video each of the past three seasons. This year's iteration features team captains Spencer Navin and Tony Kemp.

"You'll hear people getting in a group of four and rapping to each other (in the locker room)," Beede said. "Just kind of things that keep it fun, keep it loose because once we step on the field, it's all competition. In the locker room is where we create those memories and have fun with it."

Young Beedah doesn't care what other people say about his decision to come to college. He doesn't care what you think about his music. Young Beedah only seems to care about following his passions. To take a line from his newest song, "Fallin'":

"What you dream is more important than hundreds of G's."

On the mound, however, you won't see that same fire from Beede. His fire comes in the form of a blazing fastball, a pitching prowess that ranks him atop the SEC. Couple that with a steady demeanor, and Beede will be an important stabilizing force for a team with high expectations.

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backpage

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 It's taken in court
 - 6 City founded by King Harald III
 - 10 Silences, gang-style
 - 14 Skateboarder's leap
 - 15 Pringle, e.g.
 - 16 Brother of Fidel
 - 17 "Squeaker"
 - 19 Fanboy's mag
 - 20 ___ of Reason
 - 21 Exhort
 - 22 Make a fake of
 - 23 "Fall in with the wrong crowd, say
 - 27 Nurse
 - 28 KOA parkers
 - 29 Hopeful opening
 - 31 Up on, with "of"
 - 34 Trim
 - 36 Word with median or minimum
 - 39 "Kobe, notably
 - 42 Related
 - 43 Redding who sang "These Arms of Mine"
 - 44 Agenda bullets
 - 45 Old saw
 - 47 "Mad Men" channel
 - 48 Tach meas.
 - 50 "Voilà!"
 - 56 Daughter of King Triton
 - 58 Composed
 - 59 Yokohama yes
 - 60 Kooky
 - 61 "Cantique de Noël," in the States
 - 64 Cause of a sniff
 - 65 Three-piece piece
 - 66 Big name in paper
 - 67 Like many collectibles
 - 68 War god
 - 69 A/V component
- DOWN**
- 1 ___ point
 - 2 "Ooh, send me!"
 - 3 Northern sheets
 - 4 McCourt memoir
 - 5 Texter's giggle
 - 6 Yellowish shade

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17				18					19				
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23		24	25				26		27				
28									30				
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45									47				
48	49				50			51	52		53	54	55
56		57			58						59		
60									62	63			
64					65				66				
67					68				69				

By Ian Livengood and Jeff Chen 2/21/13

Answers to Monday's puzzle

A	R	K	S	M	A	L	E	S	S	E	W	S	
W	I	N	O	O	S	A	G	E	A	L	A	W	
L	O	O	P	M	I	D	G	E	L	E	V	I	
T	H	O	M	A	S	O	R	D	A	V	I	S	
A	S	H	R	I	G	O	M	E	N	S			
G	E	O	R	G	E	O	R	I	R	V	I	N	G
R	E	L	A	Y	E	D	I	E					
A	M	E	N	O	N	T	O	P	C	L	A	W	
A	P	E	R	O	H	A	R	E					
A	N	D	R	E	W	O	R	B	R	O	W	N	E
C	R	E	A	M	E	Y	E	R	O	D			
H	A	R	R	Y	O	R	C	A	P	O	T	E	
A	B	U	T	T	I	A	R	A	U	N	D	O	
T	I	D	E	I	S	L	E	S	S	C	A	N	
S	C	A	D	S	E	E	D	S	K	E	N	O	

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- 7 Chases flies
- 8 Energetic types
- 9 Unlock'd
- 10 Small pasta used in soups
- 11 Equal chance
- 12 Mold, mildew, etc.
- 13 "No ___ Till Brooklyn": Beastie Boys song
- 18 Enjoys the beach
- 22 "I feel I should tell you," briefly
- 24 Trip to the dry cleaners, e.g.
- 25 Pizza place
- 26 Commands reverence from
- 30 Certain sample
- 31 Arroz ___ Cubana: Spanish dish
- 32 Restaurant pan
- 33 Area conquered by Alexander the Great
- 34 Sch. whistle blower
- 35 1996 Olympic torch lighter
- 37 Ruby or topaz
- 38 Hesitant utterances
- 40 Energetic
- 41 Wedge in a mojito
- 46 100%
- 47 With great skill
- 48 Tool used to give the starts of the starred answers a 17-Across?
- 49 Big name in small bags
- 51 Western loop
- 52 Nimrods
- 53 "That sounds bad!"
- 54 "Chicago Hope" Emmy winner
- 55 "Me, too"
- 57 Rochester's love
- 61 Eggs in a lab
- 62 Cloak-and-dagger org.
- 63 Post-ER area

TODAY'S SUDOKU

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

2/21/13

Answers to Monday's puzzle

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

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

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MURPHY BYRNE / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

A view of the steam tunnels that run underneath Vanderbilt's campus. Certain tunnels stretch as far as one mile, or 13 stories deep. For a more detailed account of the journey into the underbelly of Vanderbilt's campus, see the front page next Monday.

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