



MELODORES SING AN 'ENCORE'

For a review of the Melodores newly-released album, see [page 4](#).

vanderbilt hustler

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SHOWING OFF NASHVILLE THE RITES WAY

BOSLEY JARRETT / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

We had trouble getting a consensus on what the best act was from this weekend – and that’s probably a good thing. Rites went local to deliver a memorable weekend of music on Alumni Lawn

By **MAGGIE KNOX**
Life reporter

Its headline acts represented a significant departure in genre from past years, but Rites of Spring 2013 found warm reception during a chilly weekend on campus due to its focus on local performers, leading to an event that was truly, quintessentially Nashville.

Between headliners Rusko and NEEDTOBREATHE and secondary acts with significant name recognition such as hit-laden solo artist Mat Kearney, the most hotly anticipated shows largely delivered on their promises. Enthusiastic crowds poured onto Alumni Lawn Friday night as Rusko took the stage and turned up the volume for a set that may or may not have caused permanent hearing damage among many members of the student body. Rusko refused to take a break throughout his performance, as the crowd went wild to mash-ups of 2 Chainz, Rihanna and others. Rusko provided a high-energy performance, closing Friday night with a much-needed energy surge after Miguel treated the audience to his rhythm-and-blues croonings in the night’s penultimate act.

The most well-attended show of the weekend may have been Nashville native Mat Kearney’s performance. Kearney made frequent Nashville references, including telling the audience that he had been banned from Vanderbilt’s campus long ago for playing his guitar. “I’m breaking the law by being here with you!” Kearney said, drawing an enthusiastic response from the crowd.

Kearney performed an acoustic rendition of Macklemore’s “Thrift Shop,” as well as other favorites, such as “Nothing Left to Lose.” Despite the large crowd, Kearney got intimate with the audience throughout his performance. One of the night’s most memorable moments came when Kearney asked where the drummers were in the crowd, calling one fan onstage with him to “play his suitcase.” Later in the show, Kearney left the stage to crowd surf, claiming that he almost died in the process. Kearney closed the show with a cover of Bruce Springsteen’s “Dancing in the Dark” and hits “Ships in the Night” and “Hey Mama.”

Following Kearney’s performance, fans anxiously awaited Saturday night headliner NEEDTOBREATHE. After a dramatic entrance, singer Bear Rinehart praised the other Rites performers, claiming that he could not have put together a more perfect concert. The band performed hits such as “Girl Named Tennessee” and “Drive All Night.” One of the night’s most exciting moments came toward the end, when Drew and Ellie Holcomb joined NEEDTOBREATHE onstage for a performance of “Stand by Me.” NEEDTOBREATHE kicked off its encore with “The Outsiders” and closed Rites of Spring 2013 for good with a new song, “Difference Maker.”

Aside from this year’s headliners, a strong emphasis on local music dominated the atmosphere of this year’s festival. In addition to Kearney, Nashville performers Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors, The Apache Relay, Humming House and The Kicks all

showcased the local music scene.

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors took their soulful Americana rock sound to the stage on Saturday afternoon, playing to a diverse crowd that included both Vanderbilt students and community members. Born in Memphis, raised in Knoxville and currently residing in East Nashville, Holcomb spoke about the deep connection he felt to his home state to a wild response from the crowd. In his hit “Tennessee”, Holcomb sang “I was born here and raised here, I’ll make my grave here — It’s home.”

Another Nashville-formed band, The Apache Relay rose to stardom after touring with Grammy-award winners Mumford & Sons and a breakout performance at last year’s Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival. The Apache Relay’s laid-back indie rock set was hit for the relaxed, late-afternoon crowd, as they played hits such as “American Nomad.”

While not based in Nashville, standout performer Delta Spirit also acknowledged their love for Music City just before launching into “Bushwick Blues.” Delta Spirit performed one of the highest-energy sets of the weekend, taking the stage following a strange, NASCAR-themed introduction. The band performed soulful hits that kept crowds singing along, including “People C’m on” and “California.”

Rites of Spring proved that a deviation from typical headliners is not necessarily a bad thing, instead providing students with a more local feel and ultimately assigning Nashville’s renowned music scene top billing.



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campus

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I think that we're all of the same mind about this. Where a kid lives and grows up should not determine his or her educational opportunity."

MARCY SINGER-GABELLA, PROFESSOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING



VANDERBITS

Vanderbilt to switch from coal to natural gas power plant

Vanderbilt University will replace its coal-fired cogeneration facility, converting it to burn natural gas to meet the power needs of the university and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Vanderbilt's Board of Trust voted to approve the project April 19 during its annual spring meeting.

Currently, coal produces about 210,000 pounds of the steam and electrical power generated at the university's power plant. A natural gas boiler installed in 2002 has the capability to produce the remainder of the plant's power, about 200,000 pounds.

"The decision to convert this facility to natural gas reflects the priority we place on conserving our environment and energy. The overall welfare and future of our community are very important, and responsible stewardship of our environmental resources is a lodestar in ensuring those efforts," Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos said.

The conversion from coal to natural gas is expected to cost around \$29 million and will be funded by university investment. Construction of the new natural gas facility will last approximately two years and include the installation of two natural gas-fired boilers and one natural gas-combustion turbine, which will cogenerate steam and electricity. All of the coal infrastructure will also be removed, including the three-story bag house, which serves as a filtering system, and the smoke stack, coal hoppers and coal silo.

The project is expected to get underway in fall 2013. There are no plans for disruptions to the campus power supply during construction.

—From a Vanderbilt University press release

Faculty Heads named for College Halls



Jim Lovensheimer
— Moore College

Lovensheimer is an associate professor of musicology and was awarded the 2008 Ingalls Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching and the 2008 Chancellor's Cup.



Doug Fisher — Warren College

Fisher is an associate professor of computer science and computer and electrical engineering and was awarded the 2006 Chancellor's Cup and the 2012 K.C. Potter Award.

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TINA TIAN — LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER



Wyatt Smith ('10) is an alumnus in the Teach for America program. He is currently teaching social studies at G.W. Carver High School in Birmingham, Ala.

By **CHELSEA MIHELICH**
Senior news reporter

This year, Vanderbilt's Peabody College of Education and Human Development was ranked first in its field for the fifth year in a row. Peabody is renowned for its commitment to graduating successful teachers and its award-winning programs in school administration, special education and education policy.

This same year, close to 12 percent of Vanderbilt's senior class applied to Teach For America, a program that has faced some criticism from educators who question the efficacy of this two-year teaching program. TFA corps members earn a teaching degree after 5-7 weeks of intense training, and most participants leave their schools after the required two years in the classroom. Still, interest in TFA at Vanderbilt has been significant in the past few years, with just under 1,000 seniors having applied to the program since 2008.

"These are seniors who have demonstrated strong academic achievement, also seniors who have demonstrated strong leadership — whether that's with their fraternity or sorority, or their sports team, church group, whatever it may be," said Kyle Ali, recruitment manager for the Nashville chapter of Teach For America.

TFA: the program

Teach For America is a competitive program that guarantees placement in a low-income school for a two-year commitment to teaching from their corps members. The organization was founded in 1990 in an effort to address the growing achievement gap between low-income students and affluent children across the country.

Ali says the teachers who have the most success in the classroom are those with both high academic achievement and leadership skills, but he looks for a lot more than those qualities in prospective members.

"People who can persevere through challenges, who can critically think," Ali said. "People who have a respect for diversity. People who understand that educational inequity is the greatest challenge that is facing our country right now and have a desire to work relentlessly towards ending that within our lifetime. I think when we go through and we're looking at all of the great candidates we're meeting at Vanderbilt and all the other places we try to recruit, those tend to be the indicators of the teachers who are truly going to be transformative with their kids."

TFA at Vanderbilt

Wyatt Smith, a TFA participant and Vanderbilt graduate who now teaches high school history in

Birmingham, Ala., said that although he would not want to diminish the work of students in traditional training programs, he does not feel that he has been at a disadvantage coming into teaching through TFA.

"Even though it's difficult to become a successful teacher quickly, these are people who are very resourceful," Smith said about TFA participants. "Everyone has different challenges, but the people who struggle the most are the ones who are trying to do it alone without collaborating with other teachers and parents."

For a school of its size, Vanderbilt has been a top contributor to the TFA program for a few years, and interest is still growing. In 2012, Vanderbilt contributed 37 graduating seniors to the teaching corps. In 2011, that number was 47.

"Vanderbilt has always been one of the top schools," said Elin Bunch, a Vanderbilt senior and TFA recruitment intern. "A lot of Vanderbilt students really understand the inequality of our education system and really have a grasp of what needs to be done." Marcy Singer-Gabella, professor of the practice in the Department of Teaching and Learning at Peabody, said that she has seen the same quality in Vanderbilt students in her program.

"We have the luxury of working with highly talented, highly motivated students when they come in," Singer-Gabella said. "They are folks that have tended to be very successful in school, either because they started out loving school or because they came to love school. And some of them have overcome significant academic challenges — but in the course of doing so have really come to understand learning and kids, and what it is that kids struggle with."

She says TFA as a whole does a lot of things right, even though she does not support every aspect of the program.

"I think TFA has done a remarkable job of putting (teaching) on the radar of young and talented folks who are graduating from college," Singer-Gabella said. "They have made it sexy — they have made it something that has prestige and panache to do, and I think that's fabulous. The more people, and the more talent that we have who are interested in education and the futures of youth, I think that's phenomenal."

Concerns with TFA

Singer-Gabella's primary concern with the TFA program is the tendency for participants to stay at their schools for such a short period of time — a concept she calls "churn."

"It's that things turn over, and things are unstable," she said. "And I think that on the one hand, while I want all of the talent that I can get, and the energy and the excitement about working with youth — and I really think TFA corps members possess that — I worry about creating a system in which there is going

to be a turnover."

Another common grievance with the TFA program is its tendency to take positions away from traditionally educated teachers.

"I think that there are cities around the country where I've talked to superintendents ... where there is a commitment to hire Teach for America teachers," Singer-Gabella said. "There is a certain number that need to be hired, and again I think that these folks come in, they provide talent — short-term talent — and I don't think that provides a long term solution for these cities."

Singer-Gabella taught in New York City and the suburbs of New York before she came to Vanderbilt, where she has worked as a professor and researcher for the past 22 years.

"I think that we're all of the same mind about this," she said. "Where a kid lives and grows up should not determine his or her educational opportunity."

Still, she says in a lot of ways even traditional teaching programs aren't long enough to provide teachers with all of the knowledge they need to do their job well.

"That process that I mentioned before — that you have to learn how to get inside kids' heads, and unpack their thinking, and unpack the discipline that you're teaching — I think that takes time to learn how to do well. I actually think we don't have enough time as it is in our preparation for teachers," she said. "I think any teacher who is just starting out should not be teaching the full load that we expect of a fifth, 10th- or 15th-year teacher."

Singer-Gabella explains that it's becoming more and more complicated to draw a line between TFA and non-TFA teachers. She says a lot of TFA participants are beginning to join traditional graduate programs in education after their time as a teacher with TFA in order to remain in the field of education.

Ali echoed this same sentiment — more than 50 percent of TFA participants remain in the field of education in some capacity, either as teachers, school directors or working in education policy. And, Ali said, that really is the point of TFA.

"What we know about educational inequity is that when we talk about reform, we're not simply talking about schools," she said. "We're talking about communities, we're talking about reforming our national priorities, we're talking about rethinking who we are and what we represent within the broader global community — and that is going to take more than teachers. It begins with a great teacher in front of every child in every classroom in this country."

For the full story, including information on the experience of Wyatt Smith ('10), visit InsideVandy.com.

Spoken word class builds community

Along with housing some of the brightest minds in education research, the Wyatt Center on Peabody campus is also home to a one-of-a-kind class that uses spoken word as a tool to teach literature

By **JR MAHUNG**
News reporter

Every Monday this semester from 6-9 p.m., a small group of students met for "Mentoring Literacy Through Spoken Word," an English education class organized by a youth services organization, Southern Word, and taught by Stephanie Pruitt, an alumna of Vanderbilt's prestigious MFA program.

Students in this class use a variety of media to learn how to use spoken word — an art form that combines elements of written poetry and onstage performance — to help youth improve their reading, writing, communication and leadership skills.

"It's a way of getting arts into schools. It's great because it ties

to English curriculum standards," said Benjamin Smith, director of Southern Word. "It is incredibly empowering when you get someone to overcome their fear of public speaking ... when someone is speaking, they are 100 percent engaged."

The class consists of two segments: a classroom learning experience and a practicum where class participants run their own writing and performance workshops for elementary, high school and sometimes college students with the assistance of Southern Word's poet mentors.

Pruitt credits Peabody College's progressive approach towards education for making the class a possibility.

"Peabody is absolutely at the forefront of education ... there are a number of faculty members who completely get the dynamic state of the classroom setting," she said.

The class mirrors the spoken word art in its focus on diverse perspectives and experiences along with building community among the students.

"We knew we wanted to engage college students in helping to mentor youth and in building a young writer community," Smith said.



MURPHY BYRNE | THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

Stephanie Pruitt teaches "Mentoring Literacy Through Spoken Word" (ENED 2690), a class which teaches future artists and/or educators how to use the spoken word art form to teach kids how to read and write.

"The ultimate potential for

Middle Tennessee is not that Vandy has a group, Belmont has a group, MTSU has a group. The potential is that we have groups at Belmont, MTSU and Vandy and they all come together as a community."

Sophomore Harrison Larkins, a class member, said he especially appreciates the diversity within the class.

"The students from other schools bring writing styles and perspectives from the standard Vandy-only classes," Larkins said.

Six students are enrolled in the class: three Vanderbilt undergraduates, one Vanderbilt graduate student, one student from Belmont and one from MTSU.

The benefits of doubling up

A conversation about **double majors** at Vanderbilt with sociology professors Richard Pitt and Stephen J. Tepper

By **LAWRENCE WALLER**
News staff reporter

The number of undergraduate students who choose to double major is on the rise, both nationwide and at Vanderbilt.

According to a five-year study conducted by Vanderbilt sociology professors Richard Pitt and Stephen J. Tepper, approximately 10 percent of students nationwide are now graduating with more than one major. At Vanderbilt, the number is around 40 percent. The report, "Double Majors: Influences, Identities, & Impacts," studied 1,760 undergraduate students at nine colleges and universities.

The Vanderbilt Hustler recently caught up with Pitt and Tepper to learn more about how these double majoring trends may affect campus life, educational experience and future job opportunities for Vanderbilt students.

WHY ARE MORE STUDENTS DOUBLE MAJORING AT VANDERBILT?

Pitt, associate professor of sociology and co-author of the study, believes that by admitting only the most qualified students, Vanderbilt creates a student body more likely to double major.

"Very selective schools, very expensive schools, schools where people graduate in four years ... actually recruit the kinds of students who are likely to double major," he said.

Additionally, the high amount of Advanced Placement credit that many Vanderbilt students

earn in high school facilitates double majoring by giving them more free hours to devote to another major.

"Some of it is about the structural dynamics of having lots of AP credits," Pitt said. "Based on our data, we believe that students here double major so much ... because they are able to come in ... owing Vanderbilt three, three and a half years of school, so what do you do for that other half a year? Do you (graduate early) and go into the workforce that doesn't know what to do with people in December? Do you (graduate early) and leave your friends prematurely?"

The solution to this scenario is to earn a second major with that extra semester to year of class time. According to Pitt, Vanderbilt in particular has made it easier for students to earn two majors by lowering traditional barriers between disciplines that keep students focused on a single area of study.

"Those barriers don't even exist across whole colleges in the university (anymore). So Vanderbilt doesn't have that many professional, undergraduate ... degrees," Tepper, who is also the associate director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy, said. "We have a strong College of Arts and Science, and it occupies a pretty large space in the undergraduate experience ... (that may) increase the number of double majors," he said.

"Double majoring is also highly related to foreign languages," Tepper said. "More prestigious universities like Vanderbilt have more study-abroad students because study abroad is not free. That may be another reason why Vanderbilt might have more."

DO DOUBLE MAJORS HELP VANDERBILT STUDENTS BECOME MORE SUCCESSFUL?

"Many students suggest to us when they're out on the job market that their second major provides them something to talk about in job interviews — it's a curiosity for recruiters," Tepper said.

He also pointed out that the rise in a phenomenon known as "education inflation" may be driving Vanderbilt students and undergraduates nationwide to pursue double majors.

"Now that many more people (are) going to college, those degrees are perceived to not be worth as much," Tepper said. "I think students are always looking for something extra to differentiate themselves from the herd, and the double major seems to be one way in which students are trying to do that."

Pitt and Tepper also shared their opinions and questions regarding the creation of new, interdisciplinary majors here at Vanderbilt.

"One of the questions that ... I've really been wrestling with lately is the impact of new majors that are being created in A&S," Pitt said. "Are students finding this ... meaningful central major that they couldn't find (before)?"

According to Pitt and Tepper, these questions are still somewhat unanswered in the field of sociology.

"Is an interdisciplinary major the same thing as a double major? One thing we hear from students is that there is something about having a depth of knowledge that gives them ... confidence," Tepper said. "One of the things that interdisciplinary majors don't do as well is give you depth in (a particular) discipline."

However, he admitted that research on the topic is limited at this time.

The researchers also suggested that the increase in double majoring has a limited impact on Vanderbilt's social scene and campus culture.

"Students that double major do not seem to sacrifice a lot," Tepper said. "They feel like they're still able to take electives. They feel like they're able to do as (many) extracurricular (activities). In fact, they are more likely to be officers of clubs than single majors. They are more likely to travel abroad. They are more likely to work on independent research with faculty."

"After all of that, they also have higher grades," Pitt said.



Dr. Stephen J. Tepper



Dr. Richard Pitt

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Life



GO DO THIS!

VPAC ENCORE WINNERS

Vanderbilt Performing Arts Council celebrated the end of the year with their second annual performing arts award show. Here's a look at this year's winners:

1. BEST SOLO VOCAL PERFORMANCE (FEMALE)

Annie Bloemer – “The Dark I Know Well” in “Spring Awakening” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

2. BEST SOLO VOCAL PERFORMANCE (MALE)

Dan McNeill – “Radioactive” in “MEL007” (The Vanderbilt Melodores)

3. BEST ENSEMBLE VOCAL PERFORMANCE

“Skyfall” in “MEL007” (Melodores)

4. BEST A CAPELLA ARRANGEMENT

Justin Kenney – “Skyfall” in MEL007 (Melodores)

5. BEST DUET DANCE PERFORMANCE

Kayli Gronski and Kinari Sakamoto – “A Pair of Apples” in “Broken Open” (Momentum)

6. BEST ENSEMBLE DANCE PERFORMANCE

“Seven Devils” in “Broken Open” (Momentum)

7. BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

Madeline Mooney – “Settle Down” in “The In Between” (Momentum)

8. BEST COMEDIC PERFORMANCE (FEMALE)

Jessie Rodriguez as “The Drowsy Chaperone” in “The Drowsy Chaperone” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

9. BEST COMEDIC PERFORMANCE (MALE)

Sam Mallick as “Aldolpho” in “The Drowsy Chaperone” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

10. BEST DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE (FEMALE)

Laura Winston as “Vivian Bearing” in “W;t” (Vanderbilt University Theatre)

11. BEST DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE (MALE)

Hayes Helsper as “Melchior” in “Spring Awakening” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

12. BEST COSTUMES

Felicia Byrd and Margaret Jones – “The Drowsy Chaperone” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

13. BEST TECHNICAL DESIGN

Noah Fram – Lighting, sound and set for “The Drowsy Chaperone” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

14. BEST STAGE MANAGER

Dory Hunt – “Spring Awakening” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

15. BEST DIRECTOR

Graham Goenne – “Spring Awakening” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

16. BEST VISIBILITY

Tongue-N-Cheek

17. BEST CONCEPT

Laura Payne – “Until Dawn” (The Original Cast)

18. BEST ORIGINAL MATERIAL/WRITING

Tongue-N-Cheek – “Finale” in “The Big Ass Show” (Tongue-N-Cheek)

19. BEST COLLABORATION BETWEEN VPAC GROUPS

“Choral PRISM” (Vanderbilt University Concert Choir and The Vanderbilt Melodores)

20. BEST SHOW

“Spring Awakening” (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway)

OUTSTANDING STUDENT TECHNICIANS

Jessica Ayers
Noah Fram

IMPACT AWARDS

Kristen Webb
Jessie Rodriguez

Patton Oswalt’s ‘Star Wars Filibuster – Parks and Recreation’

Last week, Patton Oswalt made a guest appearance on “Parks and Recreation,” playing a man that launched a filibuster to prevent a city council vote. When the producers asked Oswalt to improvise the filibuster, one outtake makes it pretty apparent that Oswalt’s a fan of Star Wars – and has a lot of ideas for the seventh installment.



MOVIES TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS SUMMER:

BLOCKBUSTER VS. INDIE

BLOCKBUSTER

By MATT LIEBERSON
Life reporter

‘GREAT GATSBY’ MAY 10

Something about Leonardo DiCaprio as Jay Gatsby makes the book that everybody had to read in high school a little more palatable. Based on his bizarre yet successful “Romeo + Juliet” from 1996 with DiCaprio, it seems likely that Baz Luhrmann will take a few artistic liberties with this literary classic as well. The trailers are packed with captivating visuals and great music, as the soundtrack is produced by Jay-Z. While the movie looks to be an odd mix of 1920s glamor and present-day sensationalism, it definitely has a lot of anticipation surrounding it.

‘IRON MAN 3’ MAY 3

As part of Marvel’s plan to eventually make every movie in theaters, Tony Stark returns after “The Avengers” to launch the second phase of its film universe. This time, Ben Kingsley plays famous Iron Man nemesis The Mandarin, who promises to provide Stark with his biggest challenge yet. Look for a limited plot, a plethora of one-liners and an action-packed movie that surely won’t disappoint. But if it does, director Shane Black is already promising another film with Robert Downey Jr.

‘MAN OF STEEL’ JUNE 14

Christopher Nolan returns to the superhero realm — well, sort of. He’s producing the reappearance of Superman on the big screen, which is directed by Zack Snyder. Given the trailers, though, this movie has Nolan’s signature dark, gritty tone all over it. With British actor Henry Cavill as Clark Kent and Superman, as well as a gaggle of great supporting actors like Russell Crowe, Laurence Fishburne, Amy Adams and Kevin Costner, “Man of Steel” should be one of the best popcorn movies of the summer.

‘DESPICABLE ME 2’ JULY 3

“Despicable Me” was surprisingly well-received for a Universal Pictures’ animated movie, and the next installment of the franchise looks particularly promising. The film follows Gru when he is recruited by the Anti-Villain League to help deal with a powerful new super-criminal. Fans are hoping that the film will live up to the standards set by the first.



INDEPENDENT

By BRITTANY MATTHEWS
Asst. life editor

‘ONLY GOD FORGIVES’ JULY 19

Set in Bangkok, “Only God Forgives” is director Nicolas Winding Refn and actor Ryan Gosling’s second project together, following 2011’s cult hit “Drive.” “Only God Forgives” again puts Gosling in the role of stone-faced killer, a role that he, creepily, executes perfectly. After his brother is killed, Gosling’s character Julian is forced by his mother to find and kill the person responsible for his death.

‘CRYSTAL FAIRY’ JULY 12

Starring Michael Cera, “Crystal Fairy” is a comedy about Jamie, an insensitive American twenty-something traveling through Chile on a reckless journey for the legendary shamanistic hallucinogen called the San Pedro cactus. Along the way, he and his friends invite an eccentric woman, the titular “Crystal Fairy,” to come along while creating havoc and chaos everywhere they go. Director Sebastian Silva won the “World Cinema Dramatic” Directing Award at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival.

‘MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING’ JUNE 7

First screened at the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival, “Much Ado About Nothing” is director and producer Joss Whedon’s adaption of the classic Shakespearean comedy about two pairs of lovers with different approaches to romance. Whedon, most known for “Buffy: The Vampire Slayer” TV series and last year’s hit “The Avengers,” shot the film entirely in black and white and kept the project a secret until production was finished in late 2011. Whedon’s adaptation has been called the “the first great contemporary Shakespeare” in years by The Guardian and a film “true to Shakespeare” by The Hollywood Reporter. Infused with debauchery and themes of sexuality, the film will definitely keep you entertained.

‘FRUITVALE’ JULY 26

“Fruitvale” is based on the true story of Oscar Grant, a 22-year-old resident of the Bay Area who was shot to death by a police officer at the Oakland Fruitvale rapid transit station. The film follows Grant on his last day alive before being killed in the early hours of New Year’s Day 2009. Director Ryan Coogler won the “Grand Jury Prize Dramatic Award” at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. An ode to victim’s rights, “Fruitvale Station” is a powerful film for the ages.



Melodores’ ‘Encore’ finds listeners seeking just that

By EMMETT MCKINNEY
Life reporter

The Melodores brand new album “Encore” manages to combine goose-bump-giving harmonies with powerful vocal dubstep in numerous tracks, creating a synthesis that promises something for everyone.

Over the course of 13 tracks, the Melodores showcase a remarkable variety of styles, including covers of Mumford & Sons, Young the Giant, Justin Timberlake, Jay-Z and everything in between.

The album gets off to a quick start with “Numb / Encore,” a new take on Jay-Z’s and Linkin Park’s popular mash-up. In addition to the blend of rap and alternative rock, the song also blends vocal styles delightfully with a powerful bass line accented by a mind-blowing falsetto.

“Encore” moves right along with “Time is Running Out,” which rocks and rolls just like the original, except with a more impressive drum set. Vocal percussion consists of an emphatic snare-drum-kick-drum combination that adds a driv-

ing backbone to the already energetic Muse cover.

Perhaps the most fun track on “Encore” is the Melodores’ original synthesis of AWOLNATION’s “Sail” and Michael Buble’s “Feeling Good.” The dubstep-tastic mash-up seamlessly weaves smooth harmonies into a smattering of powerful vocal effects, so be careful where you listen to it — you might find yourself rocking out too hard.

If alternative rock isn’t your jam, then “Encore” still has you covered. The cover of Mumford & Sons’ “Little Lion Man” makes for easy listening with delicate harmonies, and the rendition of Little Big Town’s “Boondocks” showcases some country flavor as well. Neither version strays too far from the original, but the blending of voices on these straightforward songs reminds listeners of the delightful balance in each of the Melodores’ songs.

Without a doubt, though, the prize jewel of the album is the soulful mash up of Sam Cooke’s “A Change is Gonna Come” and Billie Holiday’s “Strange Fruit,” featuring a masterful solo by Turi “TC” Clausell.

After 10 listens, the Sam Cooke rendition continued — and continues — to send chills from head to toe.

Linkin Park and Muse certainly make for fun a cappella, but Clausell’s classic belting of one of rhythm and blues’ greatest treasures showcases the beauty to be found in singing from the heart — sans dubstep, autotune or any other effects.

The track opens with “Strange Fruit,” one of the first anti-racism songs ever recorded, and Clausell more than does this history justice with his powerful baritone solo. Clausell is complimented delightfully with bursts of harmony from the rest of the Melodores, which crescendo towards a transition to “A Change is Gonna Come.” The song picks up steam behind Clausell’s heartfelt R&B until it blooms into a triumphant celebration of hope for the future, which fills the listener with an irresistible feeling that bright times are ahead.

Altogether, “Encore” is a “strange fruit” in its own right. With its eclectic mix of AWOLNATION, Michael Buble, Sam Cooke and everything in between, the album is a true testament to the Melodores’ deep and versatile talent.

ON THE TRACKS

- Who You With (VU)
- Numb / Encore
- Time Is Running Out
- Boondocks
- Sail / Feeling Good
- Decode
- Cough Syrup
- Who You Are
- How Low
- Little Lion Man
- Never Gonna Leave This Bed
- Strange Fruit / Change is Gonna Come
- BONUS TRACK: (online only) Sexy Back / Naughty Girl



1. R&B singer Miguel got the crowd pumped before Rusko took the stage on the Friday of Rites.
 2. New Orleans-based gangsta rapper Juvenile added some diversity to the lineup as the only rap act of 2013's Rites.
 3. Headlining the first night of Rites, Rusko brought energy to the crowd with a non-stop performance, lasting over an hour and a half.
 4. Indie-rock band Delta Spirit blew the crowd away with their roots-infused rock.



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sports

THE BIG STAT

The number of first-place wins for the Women's Track and Field Team at the Vanderbilt Invitational. The victories came in the 1,500 meters, 5,000 meters, steeplechase and 400 meters.

4



MINUTE DRILL

BASEBALL PREVIEW: LOUISVILLE

By **ALLISON MAST**
Sports reporter

The Vanderbilt baseball team travels to Louisville to take on a familiar foe on Tuesday. The two programs have met sporadically since their first matchup in 1971, when the Commodores put down the Cardinals, 3-0. The rivalry has continued in the same closely-contested fashion, with plenty of dramatics along the way, but Vanderbilt leads the overall series 19-4.

Although the geographic proximity of the two teams led to the initial rivalry, the quality of baseball during recent games has been what has kept things interesting. The Commodores traveled to Louisville in back-to-back years for their NCAA Regional in 2009 and 2010, meeting their hosts in the championship game of the double-elimination tournament both times. In 2009, Vanderbilt won three straight games after an opening-round loss to force a winner-take-all game on the final day of the regional, but Louisville pulled out a 5-3 victory to advance to the Super Regionals.

In 2010, the Commodores rebounded from a 7-1 loss to Louisville in the winner's bracket, only to once again meet the Cardinals in the Regional final. This time, Vanderbilt prevailed with back-to-back wins, punching its Super Regional ticket with a 3-2 win in 10 innings that was capped off by a squeeze bunt that scored Curt Casali from third base.

The teams' recent regular season meetings have been equally meaningful. Just days after the 2010 Nashville flood, Louisville visited Hawkins Field for the first game since the rain stopped, where fans received free admission. After five and a half hours and nearly 17 innings of baseball, the game was knotted 10-10. Then, Jason Esposito came to the plate with two outs in the bottom of the 17th and crushed a walk-off home run onto the roof of Memorial Gym.

In the 2011 regular season, the Commodores met the Cardinals in Louisville and handed the home team a 5-1 loss. Curt Casali and Connor Harrell each hit two-run home runs in the second inning to help lift Vanderbilt to an early 5-0 lead.

Vanderbilt had rebounded from its slow start when Louisville came to Nashville in 2012 for the first official Battle of the Barrel. The two programs decided to name the rivalry in honor of Kentucky's history as a bourbon-making state and Tennessee's history as a whiskey-making state. The score was tied at 2-2 in the bottom of the eighth when Conrad Gregor scored the game-winning run on a wild pitch, and Jared Miller shut the door in the ninth to get Vanderbilt back to .500 on the season.

Although the Cardinals have not received quite as much national attention as Vanderbilt this year, they have the tools to get the better of their hosts in this week's matchup. The bullpen has been very strong for Louisville and has come through in close games. Their Vanderbilt counterparts have certainly had their share of success but have also faltered at times, specifically in the Commodores' 10-9 loss to Tennessee Tech on April 16.

So far this season, Louisville has found success against SEC opponents. In early March, the Cardinals swept Alabama in a three-game series. Two of the games went into extra innings, with Louisville needing 14 innings to secure a 4-3 victory in the series-opener. On April 16, Louisville beat No. 6 Kentucky 5-4 in 10 innings in front of a record-breaking home crowd. It's up to Vanderbilt, as one of the elite teams in the SEC, to reverse the tide and bring home the barrel in the process.

VANDY TRACK RECAP

By **GEORGE BARCLAY**
Asst. sports editor

Over the weekend, the Vanderbilt women's track and field team hosted a two-day invitational meet. The meet marked the second home meet of the season for the Commodores.

On Friday, Vanderbilt began the first day of the meet with some strong individual performances. Freshman Sara Barron won the 1,500-meter, besting teammates Grace Orders and Kristen Findley to achieve a time of 4:20.36. The finish was a personal best for Barron and marked the second-best finish in the event in the history of the program.

The Commodores were able to secure another victory in the 5,000-meter. The outcome of the race came down to multiple Vanderbilt runners once again with Jordan White and Allie Scalf battling for a first-place finish. White ended up prevailing with a time of 16:40.39, good for eighth-best in the Vanderbilt record book.

The final Friday victory for Vanderbilt came in the steeplechase. Sophomore Amira Joseph pulled away with a finishing time of 10:43.30. The event had yet another second-place finish for the Commodores with sophomore Rebecca Chandler coming in with a time of 10:55.49.

Day two of the meet on Saturday yielded more success for Vanderbilt. Freshman Faith Washington earned a victory in the 400-meter hurdles. Washington finished with a time of 58.44 seconds, just beating out teammate freshman Jennifer Cannon, who came in second with a time of 58.60.

Vanderbilt had another solid showing in the high jump, with Commodores placing second and third. Junior Ellie Tidman placed second after clearing 1.76 meters and junior Brionne Williams clearing 1.76 meters as well to place third. For both Tidman and Williams, the jumps were just under personal bests.

The pole vault was another standout area for Vanderbilt on Saturday. Senior Morgan Toone placed second after a vault of 3.61 meters. Fellow senior Alyson Hasty earned fifth place after she also cleared 3.61 meters.

Next weekend, the Commodores will head to the Penn Relays in Philadelphia for a three-day meet. After the Penn Relays, the Commodores will travel to Clemson for a one-day meet to wrap up the regular season before the SEC Outdoor Championships and NCAAs.

Tennis served by Volunteers, Gators at SECs



BECK FRIEDMAN / THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

By **JESSE GOLOMB**
Asst. sports editor

MEN'S TENNIS

How they did:

After knocking off Auburn 4-1 on Thursday afternoon, the seventh-seeded Commodores fell to Tennessee on Friday in the quarterfinals by the same score. The second-seeded, seventh-ranked Volunteers proved a mismatch for Vanderbilt. Only freshman Rhys Johnson, who bested Vols redshirt senior Taylor Patrick 6-2, 6-2 in singles, was able to help the cause.

Tournament MVP:

Rhys Johnson dominated singles play in the opener against Auburn, winning in straight sets and handing his teammates an early 2-0

lead. The 5-foot-9-inch freshman was also the only Commodore to win his match in Friday's loss against Tennessee.

Tournament champion:

Top-seeded Georgia defeated Tennessee 4-0.

Wait 'til next year:

Despite having no seniors on the roster this season, Vanderbilt finished the season ranked No. 16 in the nation. Johnson's postseason experience should help him progress into an expanded role next spring. Redshirt junior and team leader Ryan Lipman will be back for one more season.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

How they did:

Vanderbilt ran through 14th-seeded LSU, 4-0, on Thursday. Unfortunately, the script was flipped the following afternoon, when the

Florida Gators eliminated the Commodores by a score of 4-1.

Tournament MVP:

Sophomore Ashleigh Antal opened Thursday's match against LSU with a 6-3, 6-1 win over LSU's Kerri Frankenberger. Then, working in doubles with Marie Casares, Antal helped Vanderbilt get its only victory against the Gators.

Tournament champion:

Florida won, beating Georgia 4-0 on Sunday.

Wait 'til next year:

Like the men's team, Vanderbilt's women played with no seniors in 2013. They did, however, have a graduate student on the team: St. Louis native Megan Gornet. The rest of the team, composed mostly of sophomores and juniors, should be able to grow and succeed next season.

TOP 10 FINISHES FOR GOLF AT SEC TOURNAMENT



JOHN RUSSELL / VANDERBILT ATHLETICS

By **GEORGE BARCLAY**
Asst. sports editor

WOMEN'S GOLF

How they did:

No. 8 Vanderbilt had another strong showing in the SEC Tournament. On Friday, the Commodores were tied for seventh place with a score of 309. Saturday saw more of the same from Vanderbilt with another score of 309 to tie the team for seventh place. During the final day of play on Sunday, the Commodores shot a score of 301 to earn a final score of 919 and a fourth-place finish.

Tournament MVP:

Sophomore Kendall Martindale was the best player on the links for Vanderbilt over the weekend. Martindale shot a team-best 230 with a score of 75 on Friday, 73 on Saturday and 82 on Saturday. Martindale tied for 14th in the field with her final score.

Tournament champion:

No. 2 Alabama proved to be just as good as advertised over the weekend and led all SEC teams

over the three days of tournament play. The Tide finished with a score of 304 on Friday, 293 on Saturday and 302 on Sunday. Alabama's final score of 899 was 14 points lower than second place Georgia.

Wait 'til next year:

Like the men's golf team, the Vanderbilt women's golf team is only losing two seniors with the departures of Gabrielle Balit and Lauren Stratton. Only two of the team's remaining six players are juniors, giving the Commodores a chance to build upon their successful season and challenge Alabama.

MEN'S GOLF

How they did:

On Friday, the Vanderbilt men's golf team finished with a first round score of 295, good for 10th place. Freshman Zack Jaworski led the Commodores, shooting a 71, which put him one over par. Vanderbilt found itself in seventh place after the team ended the second round with a score of 282, which tied Arkansas. On Sunday, the Commodores tied Missouri for a seventh-place finish with a score of 875.

Tournament MVP:

Sophomore Ben Fogler was the star of the weekend for Vanderbilt, finishing the tournament with a team-best 8-over-par score. Fogler shot a 74 on Friday and then finished with scores of 72 on both Saturday and Sunday, giving him a final score of 218, tying him for 20th in individual play.

Tournament champion:

Alabama was far and away the best team this weekend, posting the best team scores on two of the three days of tournament play. Justin Thomas stole the show for the Tide, shooting a 68 on Friday, a 67 on Saturday and a 68 on Sunday. All three days of tournament play, Alabama had at least one player shoot under 70.

Wait 'til next year:

Losing only seniors Will Snipes and Ryan Thornton to graduation, the Commodores have nine returning players next season, only two of which are juniors. Vanderbilt has a chance to build a base of young talent over the next couple of seasons and work its way up through the SEC rankings.

3 UP



3 DOWN

By **BEN WEINRIB AND GEORGE BARCLAY**
Sports reporter and asst. sports editor

UP: ZANDER WIEL'S SOLID FIRST START

Wiel earned his first start of his career in the second game of Saturday's double-header, filling in for Conrad Gregor at first base hitting cleanup. The redshirt freshman struck in the first inning with a three-run homer, the first long ball of his career. Four innings later, he added a solo home run. Rounding out the day with two walks and a double, Wiel reached base all five plate appearances, scored four runs and set a 2013 team record of five RBI.

UP: TONY KEMP'S INCREDIBLE CATCH ... AGAIN

Kemp makes it onto this list again with another incredible diving catch that would have made Superman himself proud. In the eighth inning, Bulldogs leadoff hitter Curt Powell poked a pitch from Vanderbilt closer Brian Miller into right field. Mike Yastrzemski couldn't get to the ball in time, but the fearless Tony Kemp threw himself several feet in the air for an incredible over-the-shoulder catch.

UP: XAVIER TURNER STREAKING

Turner's infield single brought home the only run in Saturday's early loss, and he finished the weekend 5-for-14 with two runs and two RBI. He has a hit in 14 of the 15 games since being moved to the 2-hole in the lineup, hitting .338 in the process. He's also second on the team in hitting (.333) behind only Tony Kemp.

DOWN: PHIL PFEIFER

After a few rough outings, Pfeifer has found himself out of the Vanderbilt starting rotation. With a 2-0 record and a 4.14 ERA, the sophomore southpaw is now back in the bullpen where he began his Commodore career after T.J. Pecoraro got the Sunday start in the Georgia series. Pfeifer has 35 strikeouts and 23 walks this season, and batters are hitting .268 against him.

DOWN: MEN ON BASE

While Vanderbilt won the series 2-1, the Commodores left 25 runners on base over the weekend. Vanderbilt has scored a whopping 616 runs this season, but the black and gold will need to regain their run production as the season winds down, especially since SEC West opponents like LSU and Alabama continue to light up the scoreboard.

DOWN: CONRAD GREGOR'S POWER

Although Gregor is hitting .286 with 27 RBI, the Commodores' starting first baseman only has one home run to date. As the season continues, Vanderbilt will need more pop from Gregor in order to make a serious run for Omaha.

opinion

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Now, I'm not necessarily saying I cry when I watch 'The Social Network,' but I can't help but feel a little bit inadequate, a la Caesar, when I see college kids in their early 20s creating the world's most relevant products and businesses. I want to do something useful. I want to do something impressive."

JAMES CRATER



Something got you peeved? Irked? Honked off? The Rant is your place to anonymously vent your spleen on any issue you want. To get your rant on: tweet @VandyRant, email us at opinion@insidevandy.com, or visit the InsideVandy.com opinion page.

1. As a graduating senior, I can say that the quality of The Vanderbilt Hustler improved considerably this year compared to the last three. (Editor's note: Thanks.)

2. Nothing to rant here. A week as crazy as last really puts things in perspective.

3. Marketing brain-blast: How great would it be if SPEAR got an endorsement from Carey Spear? "A responsible student reaction to climate change is up ... and it's good!"

4. Mandatory Anchor Link attendance tracking = another tool of the surveillance state

5. NEEDTOBREATHE? More like NeedtoLEAVE. Mat Kearney's set should have been longer.

6. Why did I get an email about alcohol and hypothermia in APRIL?

7. Compared to the rest of Saturday's line-up, Juvenile felt more out of place than a guy parachute-dropped into the middle of estrogen-fueled Bid Day. What was VPB thinking?

8. What is the point of the printer in Rand if it never works?! Same for the VUPrint for laptops

9. There have been an offensive number of opinion pieces/letters about writers being offended. #but-thurt

10. How in the world has another year already gone by? ...

11. Are we ever going to get our DoreRewards?

vanderbilt hustler

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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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Now the real fun begins

Why I'm actually kind of excited to graduate



JAMES CRATER is a senior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at james.b.crater@vanderbilt.edu.

It seems that most undergraduates at Vanderbilt know that attempting to talk future plans with seniors is somewhat taboo. "Yes, I know I'm leaving this semi-utopian land of minimal responsibility, social opportunities on steroids and lower standards of judgment. I don't need to be reminded that the real world is coming. Thanks."

And this is reasonable. There are a number of things that would naturally cause any of us to worry. Soon most of us will be responsible for our own financial well-being. Skipping work on Friday mornings "because the weekend started last night" is apparently frowned upon. More relevant, many (probably most) of us don't even really know what we want to do yet. Even people going to graduate schools still have a number of decisions to make about how best to make their way in the world. How do we pick an occupation that will light a fire in us intellectually and emotionally?

I'm not saying there aren't things to worry about; I'm just saying that I think people should seem more excited about the great things that they get to do now that they'll have a degree. Because it's time to get going. We have so little time to do something awesome and worthwhile, and it all starts now.

I keep thinking of a legend involving Julius Caesar. The story goes that when the famous Roman was still relatively young, he came upon a statue of a similarly-aged Alexander the Great who centuries before had already conquered much of the known world. According to some accounts, Caesar, deeply dissatisfied at how relatively little he had accomplished up to that point, actually wept on the spot.

Now, I'm not necessarily saying I cry when I watch "The Social Network," but I can't help but feel a little bit inadequate, a la Caesar, when I see college kids in their early 20s creating the world's most relevant products and businesses. I want to do something useful. I

want to do something impressive — something that few others can ever say that they've done. Even the Olympians are all around my age now, off redefining human excellence on a global stage as I sit on my couch eating leftover Turbo Bread from Jet's.

This is why I'm not dreading graduation — this is why I need it. Up until now, we've been playing around in the sandbox. Our schooling up to this point has been valuable, but in the end, to quote my good friend Allen Iverson, "We talkin' 'bout practice." College was just preparation; the real opportunities to do interesting things come now. Personally, now that we're all in the sharing mood, I want to build the next great tech company. For others it might be taking a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court, running a nonprofit to help kids in Africa or being a mother of four. The point is that in only a few weeks' time, we'll actually get the chance to do things that truly matter, tasks in which our the results of our work will have real consequences for others.

So maybe the rivers don't run gold with Natural Light daily outside our little bubble. But that doesn't mean that we shouldn't be just as excited — if not more so — for what's coming. As Steve Jobs would say, it's finally time to make a dent in the universe. If we're as smart as our institution's reputation would suggest, there are very few things that should prevent us from being successful at the next level. The fun doesn't have to end yet.

This is my last column, so I want to say thank you to my fraternity brothers, to my mom for paying for my ability to be here, to my professors for all of their guidance and insights, to my readers for taking the time to listen and to my editors for not filtering out the seemingly ridiculous things I've said at times.

—James Crater

Re: Re: Chalk gods



RANI BANJARIAN is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at rani.banjarian@vanderbilt.edu.

To be entirely honest, I can't quite gauge my response to the aftermath of my April 15 column "Chalk Gods." While part of me was glad to realize that a considerable slice of the student body was interested and motivated enough to partake in and maintain this many-sided conversation, the greater portion of me was disheartened because my fundamental motivations were misconstrued.

In retrospect, I don't think I was successful in laying out an adequate foundation for my argument. While I was irked at the markings, I in no way strove to call for an end to this type of display, religious or otherwise. As I am not from the United States — if that wasn't made clear in the original column — I found it difficult to wrap my head around the general public's moderation and apathy to such a show of self-expression. Where I am from, it is not that easy. Different sects and denominations naturally gravitate toward separate areas of the country, which simultaneously establishes a facade of general coexistence while perpetually ingraining a sense of nationwide separation and exclusion. I therefore ask that you understand why I was assaulted by a myriad of thoughts and emotions, the most poignant of which were confusion and annoyance, when I laid my eyes on the markings: confusion because I simply did not know how to react, and annoyance because had I attempted to do the same kind of drawings back home, I would have been persecuted.

In the week since my original column, I have conducted a fair amount of research on the First Amendment and the elementary

notions of free speech. That, coupled with my daily experiences with people from a colorful array of backgrounds, has brought about an understanding that things work a bit differently in the United States.

The three published letters to the editor all make excellent rebuttals to my argument, which I recognize and appreciate even if they are intrinsically opposed. I could go the path of one of those, methodologically dissecting them and making opposing statements, but since I don't think such infinite regression will do anyone good, a little clarification is in order. While I may not be an expert on Christianity, I do come from an extraordinarily diverse place and have had my fair share of exposure to the "intrinsic propensity for conflict" that religions living in such close quarters engender. No, that is not a declaration of superiority, but the lamentable reality of the place I call home and must ultimately return to. It is not out of spite or closed-mindedness that I make my "sweeping generalizations," but out of 18 years' worth of "marginalization and disenfranchisement" as a secular homosexual in the Middle East.

I chose to write my original column more to strike up a conversation and less to whine about religious life on campus. Ultimately neither view, my column or the responses, will sway anyone, but I find health and benefit in having discourse like this — even if, for nothing else, I get better acquainted with this culture that I am starting to call home.

—Rani Banjarian

Goodbye to coal

MICHAEL DIAMOND

is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science and president of Vanderbilt SPEAR. He can be reached at michael.s.diamond@vanderbilt.edu.

The following is Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility's farewell to the Vanderbilt Coal Plant, which announced its retirement on Friday, April 29, 2013. Although we never saw eye-to-stack when Coal Plant was on campus, we nonetheless wish it the best in retirement.

Dear Vanderbilt Coal Plant,

After 51 years, you have been asked to leave Vanderbilt's campus at the Board of Trust Spring Meeting last Friday April 19, 2013. The Board of Trust has committed \$29 million to a natural gas installation to replace the coal-fired boilers here with natural gas, a major investment in sustainability at our university.

This was not just a budget-cut lay-off, even though the switch will save us money in the long run by sparing us the cost of the expensive maintenance that would have required to keep you in line with environmental and health codes. As Chancellor Zeppos clearly stated, the switch to natural gas was also motivated by Vanderbilt's commitment to sustainability at every level of the university: "The decision to convert this facility to natural gas reflects the priority we place on conserving our environment and energy. The overall welfare and future of our community are very important, and responsible stewardship of our environmental resources is a lodestar in ensuring those efforts."

We're sorry, but the decision is final: All of the coal infrastructure will be removed, including the three-story bag house, the smoke stack, coal hoppers and coal silo.

"The coal plant must have seen this coming," said Naveed Nanjee, a 2011 graduate, who created his own major in Environment & Sustainability and was visiting campus for Rites of Spring when the news was released. "The plant has witnessed rigorous change — especially in recent years."

The writing has been on the wall for years now, but recent developments especially have made it clear your time was limited. In 2004, the same year that Vanderbilt Plant Operations hired their first full-time staff member to work on sustainability efforts, the student organization Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility (SPEAR) was founded with the rhetoric of reducing carbon dioxide emissions through campus operations. You began to shutter in 2010 when students ran a campaign for the Vanderbilt Green Fund and were successful in receiving a \$75,000 annual grant for student designed energy-saving and clean energy projects. That summer, in 2011, the first Green Fund winners plastered your sides with an array of solar thin films, a harbinger of what the future would hold.

Although we at SPEAR recognized the necessity of having a fossil-fueled plant like you on campus, and were glad that our coal generation was considerably cleaner than substitute energy from TVA, we've always advocated for a cleaner option. Just in 2012, we wrote that "There is no question that coal is a terrible resource for us to use, and SPEAR fully expects and encourages the Vanderbilt administration to eventually replace the coal portion of the co-generation plant with a more eco-

friendly option." It's nothing personal — we just feel it's time to move on.

We are incredibly proud of our administration and the leadership of Chancellor Zeppos for honoring Vanderbilt's commitment to sustainability with this move. However, you've had a long history on campus, and we'd like to review how much progress has been made under your watch.

Since you moved into your current spot on Vanderbilt's campus in 1927, there have been a number of changes in the surrounding area. In 1966, women were welcomed into the Vanderbilt community as students for the very first time. Also during that year, Parry Wallace became the first African-American Athlete in the SEC. You began to notice a greater shift in 1984, when the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center moved in right next door.

About a decade later, in 1996, Vanderbilt began recycling for the purposes of sustaining scarce natural resources, a concept that probably bothered you. In 2008, you became very aware of powering a more diverse community than anticipated when you came to campus in the Roaring Twenties. The Vanderbilt Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender organization moved in down the block. Chancellor Gee expanded Vanderbilt's socio-economic mission with needs-blind admission and loan-free financial aid guaranteed to meet 100 percent of demonstrated need in 2009. At the same time, Vanderbilt established an Environmental Advisory Committee, started the ThinkOne Campaign to encourage environmental responsibility for staff and became a large purchaser of green power offsets. You knew that you just weren't up with the times. And now it's time to go.

We've accomplished so much while you were here, but your removal will let us be even better. Switching to natural gas from coal will reduce Vanderbilt's emission of particulate matter by more than 50 percent, while emissions of sulfur dioxide and other air pollutants will virtually be eliminated. In addition, natural gas boilers will significantly reduce the power plant's carbon footprint, which will be dependent on the efficiency ratings of our equipment and energy demand on campus.

Currently, five or six large trucks a day deliver coal to you. This truck traffic and associated transportation fuel use and emissions will be entirely eliminated with the installation of natural gas boilers and turbines because natural gas is delivered via underground pipelines. Your tall brick "smoke" stack and coal silo located at the power plant will eventually be dismantled and removed, beautifying our campus.

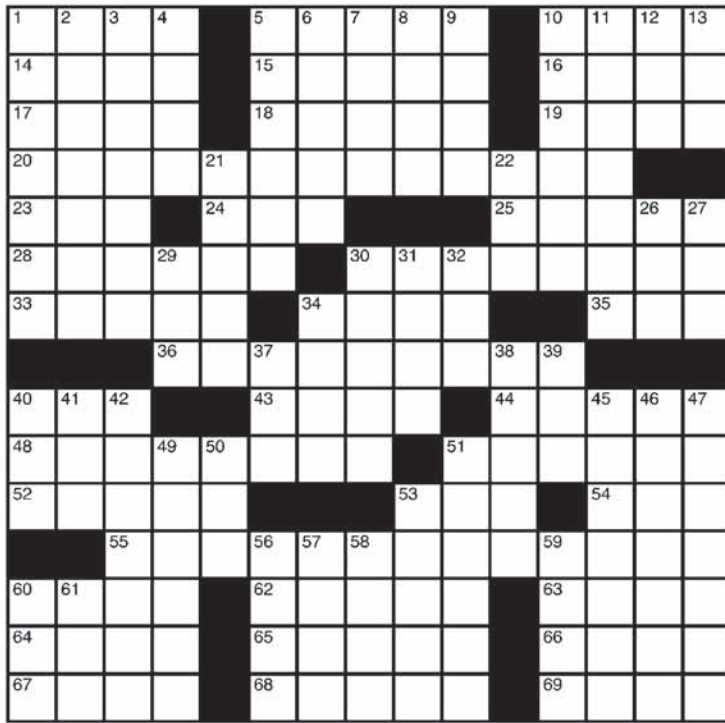
So sayonara, coal plant, our time together is done. Sustainability efforts at Vanderbilt will go on — real-time energy monitoring and more solar installations are coming, and we hope that divestment and large-scale campus composting will be close behind. But from now on, the energy behind Vanderbilt University's campaign — from the administration, from our professors, from the School of Engineering's alternative energy efforts and of course from student groups like SPEAR and Alternative Energy Club — for a more sustainable world will be part of the solution, not just another part of the problem.

—Michael Diamond

backpage

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Switchblade
 - 5 French revolutionary who was murdered in a tub
 - 10 Hard to outwit
 - 14 Trumpet muffler
 - 15 Rolled out of bed
 - 16 One-named Gaelic folk singer
 - 17 Bear in two constellations
 - 18 Pro cager
 - 19 Folksy Joan
 - 20 Behavior of a community
 - 23 Martini liquor
 - 24 AOL chat components
 - 25 Turkish ___: spas
 - 28 24-hour auto race city
 - 30 "Star Trek" catchphrase
 - 33 Standing straight
 - 34 Aim for pins
 - 35 "How come?"
 - 36 Storage items near outdoor faucets
 - 40 Satisfied sigh
 - 43 Sox player, e.g.
 - 44 Preface, briefly
 - 48 Military officer's ride
 - 51 Attempt to cool, as steaming hot soup
 - 52 Prefix with foam
 - 53 Maglie or Mineo
 - 54 Unlock, poetically
 - 55 Nurturing network of family and friends, and a hint to the starts of 20-, 30-, 36- and 48-Across
 - 60 Comcob pipe part
 - 62 "The First Time ___ Saw Your Face"
 - 63 Speech problem
 - 64 Stay fresh
 - 65 Dig artifact
 - 66 Send out, as rays
 - 67 500-mile race, familiarly
 - 68 Phones on stage, e.g.
 - 69 Contradict
- DOWN**
- 1 Bring across the border illegally
 - 2 One in a rush
 - 3 "Your money's no good here!"
 - 4 Calf meat, in Provence
 - 5 Coated buttonlike candies
 - 6 "Slicing Up Freshness" fast-food chain
 - 7 Reddish horse
 - 8 On the ocean
 - 9 ___ paper; school composition
 - 10 Device for a Skype chat
 - 11 Very agitated
 - 12 Soap ingredient
 - 13 '60s-'80s Red Sox legend, familiarly
 - 21 Ford named for a horse
 - 22 Selectric maker
 - 26 "Whadja say?"
 - 27 Double agent
 - 29 "Oh" de Cologne?
 - 30 Drilling tool
 - 31 Potter's pitcher
 - 32 Tavern brew
 - 34 Lugosi who played Dracula
 - 37 Cul-de-___
 - 38 Pharmaceutical giant Eli
 - 39 ___-Globe: shakable collectible
 - 40 Balaam's mount
 - 41 Lawyer: Abbr.
 - 42 Country bumpkin
 - 45 Double-cross
 - 46 Lures by phishing, say
 - 47 Afraid of running out, gas gauge-wise
 - 49 Drably unattractive
 - 50 Ascot wearer
 - 51 Fundamentals
 - 53 Word after comic or landing
 - 56 Cop's suspect
 - 57 Eggs ___ easy
 - 58 Move, in brokerese
 - 59 Winter toy
 - 60 Tackle a slope
 - 61 Olympic diver's perfection



By Drew Banneman

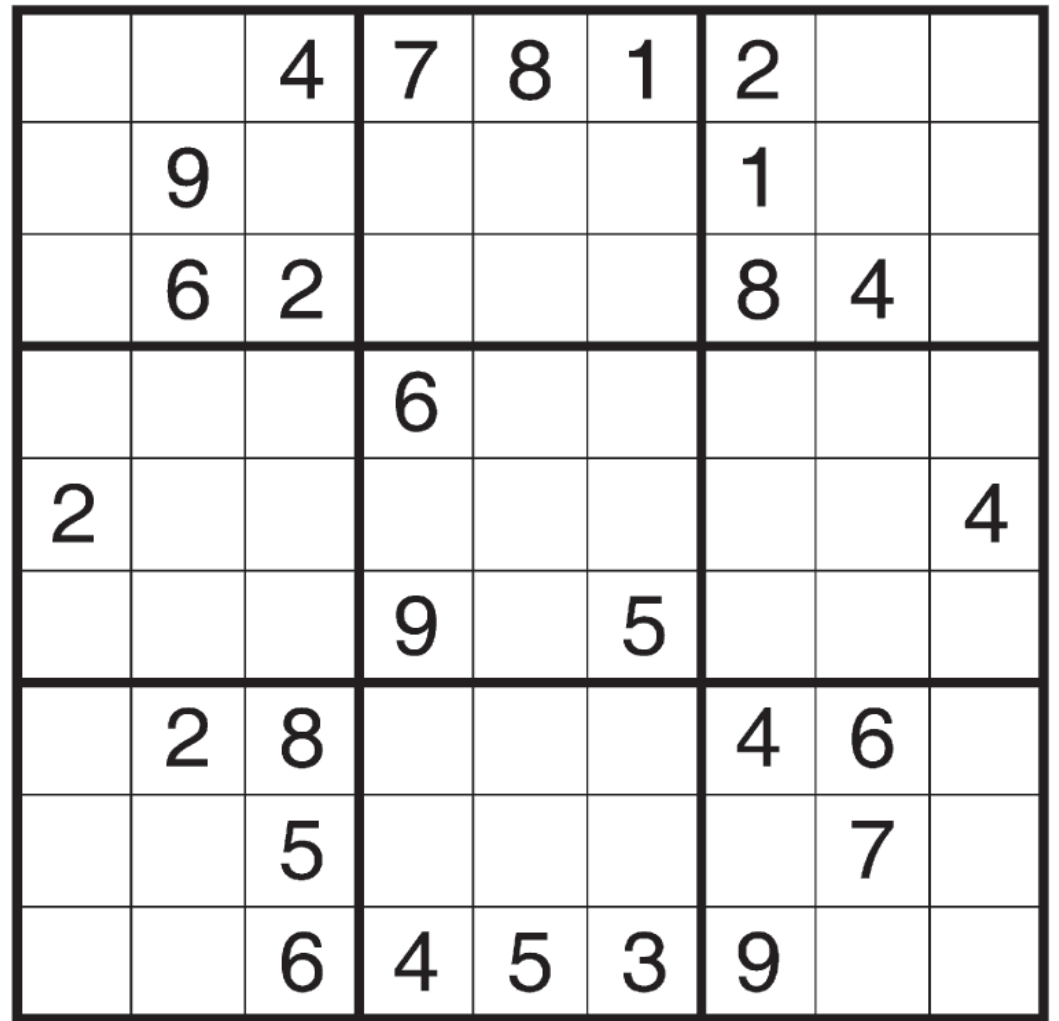
4/22/13

Answers to last Thursday's puzzle



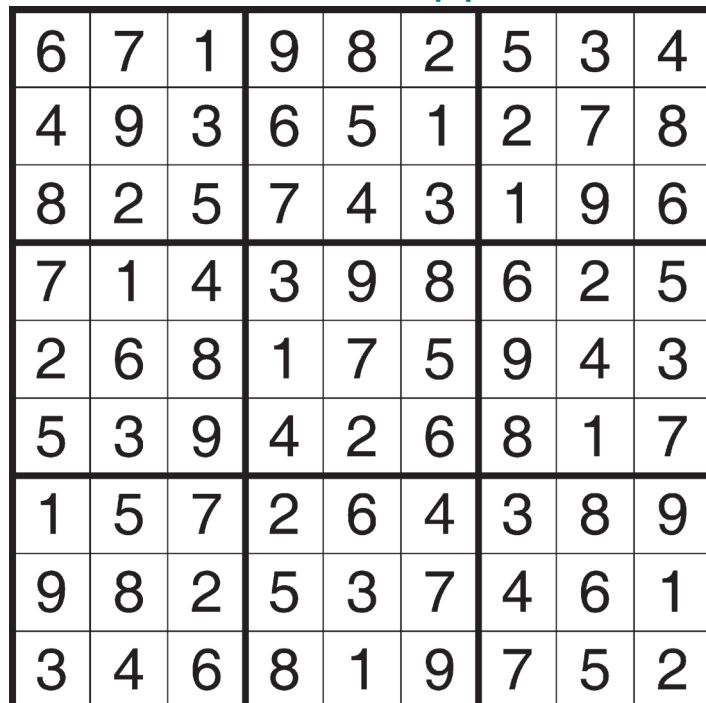
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TODAY'S SUDOKU



Answers to last Thursday's puzzle

4/22/13



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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