



WHY SO SYRIAS?

Bashar al-Assad Cast as Joker in 2015 Man of Steel Sequel

Nation Finally Sees Ben Affleck As Heroic

THIS JUSTIN Forbes Publishes Annual List of 1.3 Billion Poorest People

By: Peter Linck
Poverty Preacher

In its recent August issue, American business magazine *Forbes* published its twenty-third annual list of the 1.3 billion poorest people in the world. The yearly roundup of the planet's most poverty-stricken inhabitants was first published in 1990 to celebrate the effects of the first global recession.

This year's list is full of surprising contenders for the bottom of the socioeconomic ladder. "The big shocker this year is the growing presence of impoverished citizens from countries like Portugal, Greece, and Japan, where ongoing economic crises have been devastating," noted the introduction to the 5,287-page list. Also included in the sequence are familiar faces such as the vast majority of people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, and Eritrea.

"The combined net worth of this year's most indigent people is an astonishing twenty-five cents, likely the net worth of the clothes on their backs," noted a caption to a panoramic

picture of all this year's members in their utter destitution.

Since its debut, the list has become a yearly staple of the magazine. "Our readers love learning the who's-who among the world's wage slaves, vagabonds, and victims of circumstance," noted *Forbes* Editor-In-Chief Steve Forbes. Forbes went on to describe the future of the feature, which in recent years has more than doubled the length of the original 1990 feature. "With the widening gap in wealth between the world's richest and poorest, we can easily see ourselves expanding the feature into an entire issue in the next few years," Forbes added.

Public response to the article has been overwhelmingly positive, with sales of the August issue shattering the previous record for issues sold. *The Slant* reached out to many people on the list for a reaction; however, our emails and letters went unanswered as the vast majority of people on the list are illiterate.

STDs Welcomed as Vanderbilt's Newest Panhellenic Sorority

By: Almaz Mesghina
Greek Guru

Just in time for recruitment season's official start, Vanderbilt's Greek community recently welcomed STD, Sigma Tau Delta, to its campus. The Office of the Dean of Students and Greek Life officially greeted the ambitious STDs last month.

Founded in 1877, Sigma Tau Delta has since had a relatively small presence in the Greek community. That is, until now, as the founding ladies believe that "Vanderbilt has an atmosphere that would not only welcome the STDs, but also provide an environment that would foster the growth of the STDs."

"We just want to spread our STD love all over campus," proclaimed Jessica Steely, president of the Omicron Mu Gamma chapter of Sigma Tau Delta. "We wanted to bring a sorority that accepts women of all backgrounds, all interests, and all preferences who are willing to get involved in and around the Nashville community."

Their philanthropic pursuits look to be promising. Sigma Tau Delta has partnered up

with a local middle school to promote literacy, active lifestyles, and healthy eating habits for young students. They hope to do so through fundraising events, such as their widely anticipated STD Crabs Bake, which they plan to host each April.

Steely adds, "We want to make our presence known, so hopefully our current and future STDs will touch the community in one way or another."

Interested? The STDs are always scattered around campus and willing to talk about their new sorority and recruitment. Once you find them, grab an "STDs <3 Our 'Dores" sticker and proudly display your interest in what the sisters hope to be "an infectious community of growing, laughing, and loving."

Their first official open house will be held in the new Sigma Tau Delta house, conveniently located adjacent to the Zerfoss Student Health Center, on Tuesday, September 17th at 8 PM.

Class of 2017 Set to Squander More Potential Than Any Previous Class

By: Dan King
Admissions Adjudicator

The arrival of 1,559 new students to Vanderbilt University's campus has the entire community buzzing because all reports indicate that this class will squander more potential than any previous group of incoming freshmen.

Douglas Christiansen, Dean of Admissions, says he is incredibly proud of the class his team has assembled. "These kids really do have an amazing collection of God given abilities and advantages, and I can't wait to see how they'll waste all these talents and gifts during their careers at Vanderbilt."

According to the Vanderbilt Admissions office, this year's freshman class has far and away the highest average SAT score (2510), GPA (4.2), and ACT score (39) of any class in Vanderbilt history.

"But," says Christiansen, "none of that is really going to matter, because most of these little dicks are going to end up working corporate jobs that require little more than a third grade reading level."

At the annual Founder's Walk

ceremony, Dean of the Commons Frank Wcislo recapped the class's previous achievements, noting that "...twenty of you have already published books, and fifteen of you have already written for peer-reviewed journals in your chosen field. One of you was even a finalist for a Nobel Prize. And I, for one, can't wait to see how you waste all that momentum and slowly turn into a generic group of yuppies over the next four years." Wcislo added later in the speech, "Don't ever forget how easy it is to relax and just coast for a little while."

Chancellor Nick Zeppos has been positively effusive over all the possibilities that this year's freshman class will inevitably waste. Says Zeppos, "These kids could grow up to become doctors, lawyers, powerful politicians... they could do anything. But they won't! Most of them will take jobs that don't require degrees, or follow creative projects with no hope of success, or become mothers. All terrific wastes of potential I can't wait to see."

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FROM THE EDITOR



PETER LINCK

Tom Hanks is a phenomenal actor. Honestly, he's truly outstanding. He's a complete and total master of his craft. It's sort of becoming a problem for me. Sometimes I go days without food, water, or sleep because I just can't get over how good at acting he is.

He's too good. Stop it, Tom Hanks.

I mean really. If I asked you to name a bad Tom Hanks movie, first your brain would have to cycle through a handful of tremendous, life-changing films before you got to something like *Bachelor Party* or *The Da Vinci Code*. His body of work puts yours to shame, if you even have a body of work.

Seriously, think about it. Have you seen *Big*? Tom Hanks plays a kid inside a man's body for the entirety of that film. Most actors struggle to play an adult inside of an adult's body, yet he does with an ease and confidence that you literally won't find elsewhere on the planet because he's Tom freaking Hanks.

What if we all did our jobs as well as Tom Hanks does his? Like take cashiers for instance. Every interaction that a cashier had with a customer would be a masterpiece. Sure, every few years they would make a bad transaction. But by and large they would all be simultaneously revolutionizing the field.

And what's more is that Tom Hanks has pretty much dominated every genre of film. Watch *The Money Pit* and don't die laughing. Watch *Saving Private Ryan* and don't completely change the way you think about war. Watch *The Terminal* and don't wonder to yourself why the hell they cast Catherine Zeta-Jones as the romantic lead.

I mean for real, Catherine Zeta-Jones is a dreadful actress. Honestly, she's truly worthless. She's a complete and total embarrassment to her craft. It's sort of becoming a problem for me. Sometimes I go days without food, water, or sleep because I can't get over how bad at acting she is. She's too awful. Stop it, Catherine Zeta-Jones.

Anyway, in your hands you're holding our first *Slant* issue of the year. We are pleased to welcome a ton of new members to our outstanding staff. They have already proven themselves as fantastic writers, photoshoppers, copy editors, and the like. I hope you enjoy this issue to the absolute fullest. Who knows, maybe it'll be as good as some Tom Hanks movie.

Fucked Image



Lady GaGa debuts new look in anticipation of upcoming album.

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Mothers Nurturing Vanderbilt

By: Collier Bowling

Lactation Laureate

In an effort by Vanderbilt University to expand its sustainable local foods program, Vanderbilt has started the initiative Squeeze and Feed, connecting lactating mothers and meal side options.

Under the program Squeeze and Feed, the amount of lactation rooms on campus has more than doubled and the rooms are now more identifiable. Marked by signs that bear the slogan LactateVU, lactation rooms are available in every building on campus.

In exchange for the breastfeeding rooms that Vanderbilt provides through this program, the breastfeeding mothers have to provide breast milk to dining services to be served as a meal side in Rand. Vanderbilt plans to highlight the milk's nutritional benefits, particularly its ability to alleviate the Sunday morning blues.

Many mothers have come out in support of this program and feel honored that they can be a part of the effort to provide local and sustainable meal options on campus.

"It's great that mothers like me can actively participate in not only providing the excellent meal options that are served on campus, but that also, as a group, we can work towards Vanderbilt's goal of ecologically friendly foods," Barbara Teether, a Vanderbilt student and mother, said. "Furthermore I feel like I am not only a mother to my child, but to all the students on campus."

In addition to support from mothers for Squeeze and Feed, many students have been quick to rave about the newly available meal side.

"I used to always go for the skim milk when picking my beverage," Vanderbilt sophomore Coddle Boyd said. "However, I always felt that the milk was missing that wholesome taste that I left behind when I had to wean off during my senior year of high school. Now I feel like I'm home again."

While many mothers and students have expressed their support for Squeeze and Feed, the program has not been without



Family photo of Coddle Boyd, at age 12, and his mother

opposition. Latching On Vanderbilt, a Vanderbilt-run advocacy group for the rights of breastfeeding mothers, has proclaimed that Squeeze and Feed takes advantage of mothers.

"We acknowledge the huge favor that Vanderbilt has provided to breastfeeding mothers through Squeeze and Feed," Elizabeth Nippler, the public relations spokesman for Latching On Vanderbilt, said. "However, the added pressure that the program causes through the mandatory side donations is too much. The University needs to wean off of this meal side initiative and find other ways to provide local and sustainable foods."

Squeeze and Feed remains in operation at the moment, but it may not be too long before students may be without this new meal option and have to quit cold turkey.

Casual Freshman Conversation Leads to Hospitalization

By: Max Herz

Conversational Caretaker

What initially seemed like a normal first day conversation turned into a nightmare for a pair of new Vandy students on Sunday, August 18, just after move-in had been completed, as a first-year quickly went from wide-eyed to hospitalized. Many freshmen who aim to meet others and ultimately acquire new acquaintances, friends, or even significant others have been known to engage in small talk in order to drum up conversation with a stranger who they find appealing in some way. The situation was no different for first-year Michael Vincent, 18, of Amarillo, Texas, who had spotted a specimen that he deemed to be both nubile and approachable. The girl he had laid eyes upon was Leah Thoren, also 18, of Chicago.

Though initially nervous, Vincent approached Thoren with his mind set on making a positive impression. Looking back on the incident from his hospital bed, Vincent says that he "planned on just making small talk and introducing myself to her. She seemed cute and I was eager to make new friends on the first day of college."

Vincent made his approach and then spoke. "Hi, I'm Michael," he said, extending his dominant right hand in the girl's direction. She quickly replied in an upbeat tone "My name's Leah, where are you from?" This is where the problems began for the young, unaware Michael Vincent.

"I knew I couldn't tell the truth to her about where I'm from," Vincent said in painfully inaccurate hindsight. "Amarillo just isn't an interesting or sexy place. Well, it does mean yellow in Spanish. And sometimes that gets girls thinking about that Coldplay song

which gets them kinda horny, but normally it doesn't do much for me. I knew I had to lie to her."

Vincent's fib of choice was telling the girl that he was from Toronto, making the common mistake of thinking that Canada

is generally deemed to be an interesting place. "Cool!" replied Thoren, "I'm from Chicago, same as everybody else, I know. So what's your major?"

Another panic set in on Vincent. His current major (undecided) wasn't sexy or cool or attractive or muscular or anything else that girls liked! He knew he had to lie again. He quickly replied falsely that he was double-majoring in French and Electrical Engineering, believing those fields of study to be either hot, electric, or both.

"Cool!" the female replied. "I think I'm gonna study English, but I really don't know yet! Do you think you're

gonna join any clubs?" At this point, Vincent had gotten his fill. He wanted to continue to converse with the good-looking girl, but wanted to skip the small talk. He wanted less truth and more lies, less speak and more other things! The rage slowly pent up inside of his recently post-pubescent body until it reached his brain and young Michael Vincent passed out. He fainted on the spot and was taken to Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he was treated for a very mild case of annoyance.

Looking back on the incident, he reflected, "Yeah there are like 30000 girls here and they all look the same to me so who cares about that one anyway?"



Vincent, recovering from his major deceptive episode.

Bastard Confession



"Honestly, even if it had been Miley twerking in a dark alley, I would have shot her too."

--George Zimmerman

MASTHEAD



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PLACERE CONTENDIT

PROPE THE

The Slant's great grandfather recently passed away, leaving behind a lengthy last will and testament. The document outlined the property of Paw Paw Slant and the many, many slanted and angled items on Vanderbilt's campus to be inherited by The Slant. The pictures seen here are the things on campus that are now official property of The Slant.



Paw Paw's last night alive, before an armed robbery at his Pawn-Pawn Shop.



My rail! Back off.



I've always wanted a wooden ramp! Nice!



These slanted chairs are definitely mine now.



You thought this was your bridge. But it's mine now!

erty of Slant



Need a map? I've got one now.



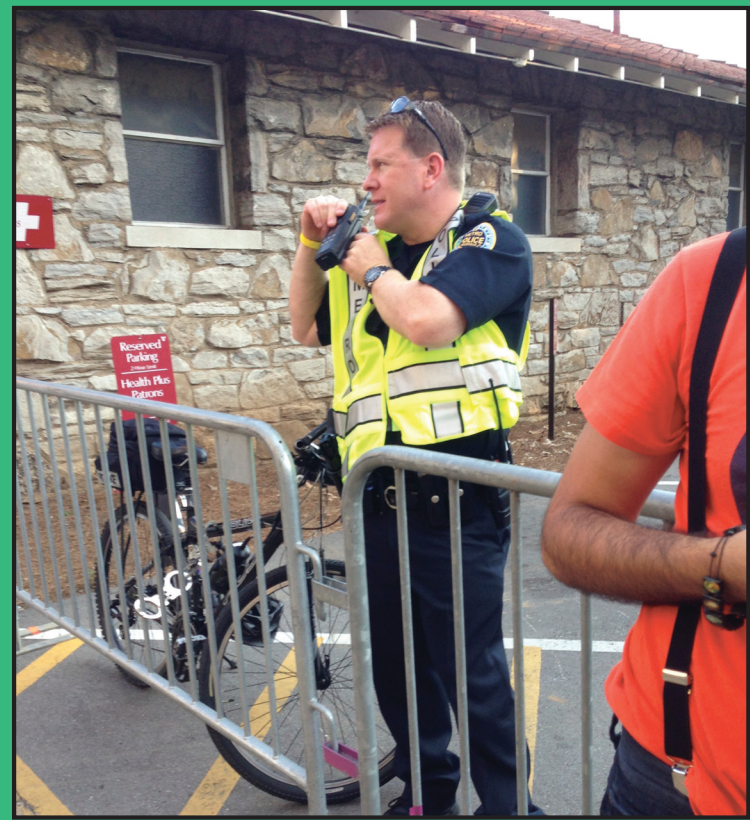
Sweet cans. Get it?



Thanks for the tree.



Dibs on this poster.



Hands off my crooked cop.



Check out my new cars.

Robin Thicke Undergoes Eye Surgery, Finds Lines Less Blurred

By: Danny McClanahan
Optical Optimizer

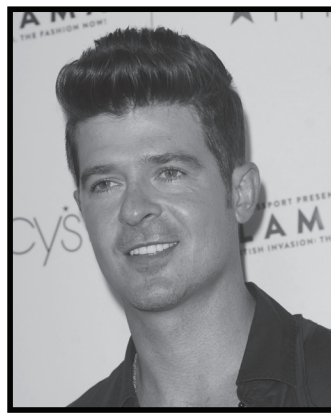
Singer/songwriter Robin Thicke recently underwent a complex corrective vision operation and is ready to look over his hit single with fresh eyes.

Thicke's optometrist expressed great relief that the procedure went as planned. "I like to think of myself as one of those cool adults the kids like to hang out with, so I listen to a lot of pop music. I turned on the radio one day and Blurred Lines came on, and all I heard were the textbook symptoms of a degrading cornea. I'm so glad we have positive influences like Justin Timberlake raising awareness of vision problems in pop culture. It's a very serious issue."

Thicke also maintains that the operation helps explain the meaning of his hit song. The lyrics to "Blurred Lines" have been called sexist and objectifying towards women. When Thicke was prompted about these accusations, he immediately replied, "That's absolutely true. I think the reason is that when they made the music video, my vision had degenerated so much that I literally could not tell the difference between the women and any other object on the set. It all looked the same."

Thicke says he "sees the world differently" now. "Rulers, bottomless chasms, double yellow lines in the road; I'd probably be in big trouble if I kept thinking lines like those were so blurry and easily crossed. Definitely dodged a bullet there."

At press time, Thicke was freaking out about seeing blurred lines again and was very relieved to hear that in fact his printer had just broken.



Robin Thicke is seen here utilizing his new and improved eyesight.

Nation Shocked to Find out Chelsea Manning Just Some Other Woman

By: Dan King
Gender Guru

The entire nation was shocked to find out that Chelsea Manning is just some other woman and not the new name of recently convicted Bradley Manning.

On July 30th Manning was convicted of espionage and computer fraud for leaking thousands of classified documents to the anarchist website Wikileaks.

The day after the conviction Manning held a press conference to tell the media that he was a man trapped in a woman's body, and to announce his new first name, Chelsea.

Chelsea had drawn praise for the bravery of embracing her true identity in the face of her prison sentence. But now Federal agents are announcing that Chelsea Manning is in fact not the new identity of Bradley Manning. Apparently, Chelsea is actually just some other woman whom Bradley kidnapped to take the fall for his crimes.

The DHS report states that Bradley Manning broke out of his prison cell late on July 31st, just hours after announcing his new identity to the media. Apparently Bradley fled from Fort Leavenworth searching for a woman named Chelsea Manning. Upon finding one at a gas station 12 miles down Rt. 73, Bradley rendered Chelsea unconscious, transported her back to Bradley's cell in the fort, and dressed her in Bradley's clothes.

In the time since, Chelsea Manning was apparently unable to communicate what had happened to her guards. Says Chelsea, "I woke up the next morning and tried to tell my guard 'I'm not Bradley Manning, I'm Chelsea Manning.' He heard what I said but just replied, 'I know Chelsea, I saw the press conference. I think you're so brave.'"

Authorities at Ft. Leavenworth say the guards around Chelsea's cell had all been given special sensitivity training for working with transsexual inmates. Military policeman David O'Brien says, "We all knew that you were supposed to call her Chelsea, so when she kept running around shouting 'I'm Chelsea Manning, not Bradley Manning!' we assumed she was just excited for her new identity. And I've got to admit, I was feeling pretty excited with her."

O'Brien went on, "My uncle is trans. We had both been really excited that I was guarding such

a brave woman. Or at least we were...you know...until we found out she was just some woman."

Chelsea Manning, who is in fact a mother of three from Lansing, KS, and not the infamous Wikileaks source Bradley Manning, says she was infuriated trying to communicate her situation to the guards. "I'd shout at them, 'Help, I'm trapped,' and then they would cut me off and



Who is the real Chelsea Manning?

say, 'We know, Chelsea, but we're going to start hormone therapy soon and then you won't be trapped anymore.'

Head of Detention at Leavenworth Mark Mandia says he is "... incredibly embarrassed" by this mixup and hopes to rectify the situation with Chelsea Manning as soon as possible. Mandia said, "We tried to offer to change Chelsea back into a man before sending her on his way, but she kept shouting that that was wrong, I guess... to be honest I'm having trouble keeping track of this whole thing."

DHS agent Nick Plumber says he is "still trying to fully process this whole situation." DHS earlier asked law enforcement to search for Bradley Manning, whom they describe as "maybe a man, maybe a woman, we're not sure how much of the trans stuff was real and how much was part of the escape plan."

The report goes on to state, "... we can never rule out a potential third sex, either. Let's just settle the issue by only referring to Bradley as 'a person' from here on out."

At this time it is unclear where the real Bradley Manning has fled but authorities suspect "that Bradley may have gone to San Francisco, I hear that's where they go... definitely California... Maybe Austin."

Vandy Republicans Offers Chicken and Waffles at Kickoff Event

By: Christopher Xin
Cuisine Connoisseur



The new face of Vandy Republicans.

In an effort to expand upon the diversity of the group, Vanderbilt College Republicans hosted a "Chicken and Waffles" event on Tuesday in celebration of the start of the school year.

"This year's event was just fantastic," Senior and Vandy Republicans Secretary Emma Cox said. "I'd never seen so many new faces at our kickoff event since I joined Vandy Republicans in my sophomore year. I think everybody loved the food, too, because it was all gone in, like, less than an hour."

Vanderbilt College Republicans is one of several campus organizations to annually host a kickoff event at the start of the school year, many of which choose to include free food along with the meet-and-greet to welcome students back onto campus. According to senior and President of Vandy Republicans Abigail Norris, this year's Vandy Republicans event drew a record number of attendees Tuesday.

"We wanted to let people know that our organization welcomes everyone, no matter where you come from. I think chicken and waffles says that," Norris said, regarding the choice of food. She added, "I think we're going to have a very diverse group this year."

Although the event was generally successful,

many students outside the extracurricular group received the event and its choice of food with ambivalence, one student describing himself as feeling "confused" and "mildly uncomfortable."

"I'm just kind of surprised," sophomore De-Shawn Williams said. "I mean, there's nothing wrong with it, I guess, but... I don't know." Williams' sentiment about the event was consistent with that of junior Terrance "Ice Man" Thomas, who, upon seeing a flyer for the event in Stevenson Center while walking to class, did a double take and paused briefly, but silently moved on.

Traditionally, the dish known as "chicken and waffles" is prepared simply by serving waffles, prepared not unlike they would be at breakfast time with condiments such as butter and syrup, and fried chicken on a single platter. The dish is thought to have been served as early as the 1930's, in Harlem locations such as the Dickie Wells Jazz Nightclub, as well as at the funeral of musician Miles Davis.

Former president of Vandy Republicans Matthew Kerns was in attendance on Tuesday, and when reached for an interview had nothing but positive remarks about the event. "I think it's great that we put on these events, especially at the beginning of the year. It really helps everyone feel welcome," Kerns said. When asked about the choice of food, Kerns stated that he didn't think anything of it but that the other attendees "really seemed to like it" before smiling with just barely noticeable hesitation.

When reached for questioning, members of fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha, a historically African-American fraternity, did not speak about their opinions of the Vandy Republicans kickoff, but did hint at the possibility of hosting a future event wherein Greek yogurt, foie gras, and Carr's Table Water Crackers would be served.



Dentist



"Tongue-N-Cheek!"

A Bear



"Alternative Winter Break!"

Casper



"Invisible Children!"

Recovering Alcoholic



"The Vanderbilt Bar Association!"

Door



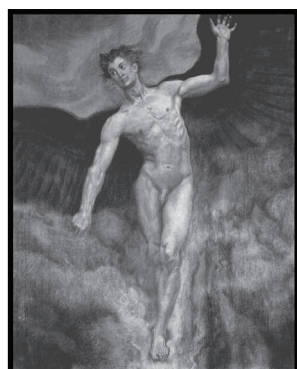
"Dore-For-A-Day!"

Window



"Inside-Dores!"

Icarus



"Vandy Hangliding!"

White Kid



"The Black Student Alliance!"

Sports Page

Blackout During Vanderbilt Game Against Ole Miss, Attendees Startled by How Dark It Is

By: Dante Thomas
Darkness Dude

Vanderbilt's season opener against Ole Miss last Thursday was postponed after an unexpected power outage, leaving the entire stadium pitch black. The blackout, witnesses say, occurred during the second quarter. "It reminded me of when my older brothers used to turn off all the lights in my room and lock me inside," says sophomore Macy Reed. "It was just that dark." Investigators have discovered that the outage was the result of a discarded Natural Light beer, which had spilled onto the stadium's primary circuit breaker. "You see this sort of thing all the time," remarks disgruntled stadium worker Josh Fabin. "I sort of expected a more high-end alcohol. But then again, this is Vandy, so you can't deny them their definition of 'play hard.'"

The weather on game day had also been heavily overcast, further enhancing the depth of the darkness. "I dunno, man. The worst was that there were no stars in the sky either," said freshman Christian Meyers. "It was like my eyes were closed...except they weren't."

Many of the visitors from Ole Miss were skeptical about the le-

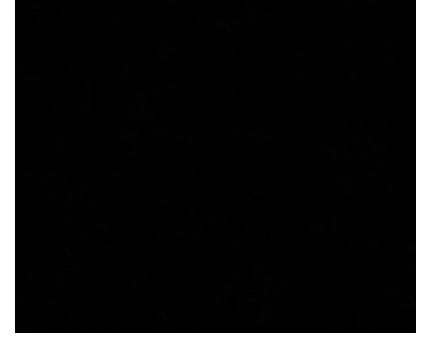
gitimacy of the blackout, and refused to believe it was not planned. "I mean, everyone knows that we love our vision in Mississippi," said Jesse Camden, longtime fan of the Ole Miss football program. "Leave it to Vanderbilt to try and take away the sense that the Rebels have cherished for 165 years! You become a top-20 school, and I guess you start thinking you can do whatever you want."

Some fans were not so much upset about the blackout itself, but more about the institution allowing such a thing to occur. "Isn't this Vanderbilt?" asked self-proclaimed Vandy man Jim Tannenbaum. "I mean, after that Super Bowl incident, why haven't we put safety measures into place? Am I the only one listening to Ray Lewis?!"

Even those among the personnel on the field were shaken by the sudden lack of light. "I've never really been afraid of the dark, but that was something else," said coach James Franklin. "I couldn't move, my mind went completely blank...I was scared out of my mind."

When asked about the blackout, Chancellor Zeppos gave no

comment, but instead flashed a mischievous smile, winking profusely and giggling. The damages to the stadium were minor, and included replacement of some electrical wiring, as well as removal of graffiti stating, "You've just been Zepped." The game has yet to be rescheduled, but is expected to take place sometime in October.



Seen here is the darkness.

</Sports Page>

The Slant's LadyQuiz Corner!

This week's quiz: Is Your Man Cheating on You or Just Taking a Long Dump?

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>1) When was the last time you saw your man?
A) 3 weeks ago, when he said he needed some time off from "us."
B) 20 minutes ago when he walked into the bathroom</p> | <p>3) What was the last thing your man asked you for?
A) Condoms and your sister's phone number
B) Toilet paper</p> | <p>5) What does your man say when you text him to say hi?
A) "Busy, nailing some broad I just met bareback"
B) "Hang on babe, taking a long dump."</p> |
|--|--|---|
- Circle your answers and see! If your answers are mostly B's, then don't worry, your man is just taking a long dump. If you picked too many A's, then your man is a CHEATER!

Ron Paul Drags Self Away From RuPaul's Drag Race Fans

By: Douglas Lee
Spandex Specialist



EFFEMINATE EXHIBITIONISM: Ron Paul and audience members both show off Charisma, Uniqueness, Nerve and Talent.

Citing his inability to "werk" with the free-spirited culture of RuPaul's Drag Race fans, Ron Paul sashayed away from a RuPaul event Sep. 7 in the Bridgestone Arena, which he mistook for his own conference held on the same day in a nearby Motel 6 due to a clerical error from a Secretary.

Ron Paul initially did not realize there had been a mixup. Upon arrival at the arena, he met several scantily clad people caked with makeup. "There seemed to be nothing especially unusual about them," Ron Paul said.

"Their posteriors seemed to be somewhat larger than normal, but didn't seem much different from my regular fans," a befuddled Ron Paul said. "I see people like that all the time, mostly people who learned about me on the internet. I don't really understand them, and they're a little scary, but they give me money."

The event prissy-ded smoothly once Ron Paul got on stage. Ron Paul became worried, as there was much more spandex and silicone in the audience than normal, but his fears were tucked away once he told them they "better work to attain the American Dream," a line met with uproarious applause. What Ron Paul did not realize was that the audience thought he was referring to giving a strong performance in a drag show and to receive fake hair, diamonds and frankfurters, rather than slaving away at low-paying jobs to reach for a goal declared dead by author F. Scott Fitzgerald over seven decades ago.

As his speech went on, Ron Paul began to sense something was astray, and not just the dress-wearing dog scurrying through the seats.

Ron Paul spoke with a fiery passion about a future where the Federal Reserve is dead and social programs are virtually nonexistent. Rather than the squeals and bams of pleasure from his usual audience, Ron Paul received distrustful murmurs. Experiencing a rare case of stage fright induced by a sense of disquiet, Ron Paul then spoke of his longing for the days of his youth where makeup and dresses were only seen on women. These remarks sparked a riot to "get that fake biatch outta here."

"I mean, I don't know

who that man thought he was, stepping up there and thinking he could tell ME how to live MY life, but that man better lip sync for his life or he's history!" audience member Tyra Janks said.

"Or should I say, HERstory," audience member Booty Buddy chimed in.

Ron Paul was then subjected to a volley of insults, including "ranky stank," "jankass flat ass," "post-modern pimp-ho," "rich bitch in britches," and "libertarian." These insults eventually gave way to a rallying cry of "BGB," or "Bye, girl, bye." Ron Paul was then escorted off the stage by the Drag Race's Pit Crew, two muscular shirtless men in tight spandex. They then showed him new dance moves with plenty of shaking, baking and booty-quaking. These moves are set to debut in the upcoming sixth season of RuPaul's Drag Race, and were described by the men as "an incredible ass-perience." Ron Paul did not concur with that description, and passed out shortly afterward.

Ron Paul's actions did not warrant such a vitriolic response and on the contrary deserved praise, according to Ron Paul.

"I've done good work in the House of Representatives, ensuring a smaller, less productive federal government and banning all low-flow toilets," Ron Paul said. "I know I'll need way more than a low-flow toilet after what I've just been through."

After Ron Paul crashed out of the Drag Race, RuPaul strutted onto the stage of the Bridgestone Arena to thunderous cheering, to advocate a radical, anti-American agenda of sexual tolerance, self-confidence and fierce jazzercise.

Freshman to Hold Off Until Thanksgiving to Cut Fingernails

By: Sam Ottenberg
Hygiene Herald

After much contemplation, Stambaugh freshman Tommy Cuticle came to the conclusion that, among other things, he will wait until he first returns home for Thanksgiving break to cut his fingernails.

In his statement Tommy explained, "I weighed the costs and benefits of each possible choice. I understand the social stigma I am placing on myself for being 'that kid' with talons, but I really don't give a shit."

He went on to explain that he has far better things to do with his time than waste it on "superfluous hygiene rituals," as he would much rather spend time hitting on the lunch ladies or continually flushing the toilet while his hall mates are showering.

Tommy says, "Popping pimples will be a breeze," and argues, "It will elevate my nose picking ability to unprecedented levels."

Needless to say, Tommy's mom was crushed after waiting for nail-biting hours on the announcement. "I don't understand where I went wrong," she sobbed into a fresh manicure.

Reporters raised concerns of inadvertently gouging out an eye when maneuvering contact lenses or getting the gangly appendages caught on a piece of clothing. Tommy responded, "I understand the risk of developing a wicked hangnail, but let me reiterate the benefits and the sheer time commitment that this grooming process would entail"

This innovative thinking is not isolated to one individual. Following the fingernail announcement, many other freshmen stepped forward to reveal the many tasks they plan to put off until their first trip back home.

Motivational Poster Manufacturer Calls it Quits

By: James Cross
Motivation Master

On Sunday September 1st, motivational poster manufacturer "Never Give Up" announced that its last factory, located in Harper's Ferry, Kentucky, will be closing. The company's owner - the great grandson of the organization's founder Patrick Wilson - held a press conference outside the factory to explain his decision. He stated, "We were going to stay open. But we realized that it would take a lot of hard work. We're talking major time commitments, probably some sweating, and definitely some manual labor. We considered all possible options, but all of them involved a good amount of effort on our part."

The company was first founded in 1942 to inspire a nation that was involved in its second world war, and was still recovering from the Great Depression. At its peak, "Never Give Up" had six factories located across the country. Their iconic "If you don't do it, he will" poster hung on the walls of millions of children across

Tommy's roommate John Must explained why he will hold off on doing laundry by stating, "There are two main reasons. First, it's a major pain in the ass, and second, I can't work those crazy contraptions."

This view is understandable, however, because laundry is women's work. Another freshman, Ralph Brown-Nose, who is aspiring to be elected into the VSG, confessed he will not bathe until returning home. "I don't like seeing the other boys naked in the shower and plus it's grossy."

Many other freshmen came forward revealing various tasks they are refraining from completing until they go home. It seems the class of 2017 is taking serious risks in their social experiments or, at least, on the topic of hygiene.



An artist's rendition of the student's fingernails come November



Pictured here is one of the 150 workers currently facing unemployment.

TOP TEN REASONS TO USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS

- 10 The Geneva Convention was a super long time ago
- 9 Sarin gas expires after two years, so not using it is just leaving money on the table
- 8 There's a surplus of innocent civilians
- 7 You woke up on the wrong side of the bed
- 6 You've always wanted to meet the U.S. President
- 5 Everything is technically made of chemicals anyway, so what's the difference
- 4 Freedom ain't free
- 3 The rebels have the moral high ground, and you need something to even the playing field
- 2 They started it
- 1 They only live once #TOLO

Anchor Down, Bottoms Up: The Slant's Guide to Effective Drinking

By: Sam Mallick and Michael Hogue
Alcoholic Advisers

With Greek organizations open to first-year students this Friday night, *The Slant* wants you to be prepared for your first big night out. First of all, it's important to know your context. 70% of the alcohol on Vanderbilt's campus is consumed by skinny, white sorority girls, who make up 25% of the population and 5% of the body mass. Second, it's important to know what strategies to use in order to maximize your drinking potential. After all, you enrolled in a Top-20 university, so you should be prepared to embrace a Top-20 alcohol tolerance. *The Slant* has compiled this list of tips to help your night be a success. Remember: drink smarter, not harder.

- Start out by forgetting everything you learned in Alcohol Edu.
- If you're pressed for time, start drinking while you finish your homework and other activities.
- You don't want to look like an alcoholic at the pregame, so make sure you have a few shots before you go out.
- Don't eat a large meal before you start drinking. Your stomach is only so big, and you need all the volume you can get for alcohol.
- If you do eat, make sure it's dry Cap'n Crunch, so that the tiny abrasions will allow the alcohol to directly enter your bloodstream.
- It's important to have a balanced diet. One beer counts as a serving of grains, green apple Smirnoff is a green vegetable, and Bailey's is a dairy product.
- Jack Daniels is only good for a day after it's been opened, so go ahead and finish that fifth tonight.
- If you're going to do whiskey slaps, slap like you mean it.
- If you still remember how many drinks you've had, you haven't had enough.
- People often leave half-finished drinks in the Towers elevators. Finishing these can be a cost-efficient way to have a fun night out.
- Friday night around midnight is a great time to call your mother and tell her that you love her. She won't be able to tell that you've been drinking.
- Don't let Taaka touch your bare skin. Wear your Chemistry Lab goggles to protect your eyes; you won't need them second semester anyway.
- You do know a brother. Tell them you know Will. Every fraternity has a Will, and where there's a Will, there's a way.
- They're definitely carding at Lonnie's these days. Sorry.



Remember that drinking on the cheap isn't just a game- It's for the children.

- Just call her. If she's half as drunk as you are, she probably wants you back, too.
- Despite the direction in which the conversation is currently headed, the VUPD officer writing you a citation will listen to reason.
- Puking just means you can restart your drink count.
- If you black out, you won't remember throwing up.
- Consuming alcohol can be dangerous if you are nursing or pregnant. Which you might be, after last weekend.

Student Dies Before Thinking of Idea for "Before I Die" Board

By: Kevin Cyr
Chalkboard Chum

Late Sunday evening, VUPD discovered the body of Vanderbilt student Johnny I. Ronny in front of Rand Dining Hall, dead from an apparent brain aneurysm and with chalk letters scribbled all around him. Friends of

morrow, fuck that hoe today," or Martin Luther King Jr. "Phone and bone."

One of Ronny's friends remarked on Ronny's dedication to making his life truly meaningful by dedicating his life to placing his life goal on



Before I die I want to...write a caption for this photo.

Ronny report that he was struggling for days to come up with an important, truly meaningful contribution for Rand's newest addition-- a board emblazoned with the phrase "Before I die I want to." The board is filled with the auspicious and benevolent goals of Vanderbilt students including: "Earn the title Cunt Destroyer," "Run that skank over," and the really noticeable "Get him to notice me."

Ronny was majoring in philosophy, and his pockets were filled with famous quotes from the likes of Gandhi, exclaiming "Live as if you were to die to-

that board.

"Yeah, Johnny really just wanted to be part of a group. He thought everyone else was so cool with their world-changing ideas, so he wanted to dream big. When he saw how people wanted to go sky-diving, make money, and fuck bitches, all before they died, he knew he needed to make something of his life."

Ronny's family has already established a scholarship fund in his name, the Pursue Your Dream of Finding a Dream Scholarship Fund, to benefit all of those students who have a dream that they may one day place their dream on a chalk board.

The Slant's Guide to Getting Over Your High School Sweetheart

By: Cynthia Kneeler
Heartbreak Hellion

The Slant is committed to addressing all of your emotional and physical needs. As our youngest classmates adjust to a new environment, *The Slant* feels compelled to discuss this very important topic and provide instrumental advice in the form of this list.

1. Cut it off

It's time for you to move on, whether you realize it or not. New people and new experiences are things that your ex, undoubtedly at a worse school, will never be able to understand. It might help to pretend your ex has been kidnapped by aliens, sold into slavery to the Egyptians for their beautiful multi-colored coats, or traveled abroad.

2. Actually cut it off

Ceasing all communication will prevent you from wavering. Avoid your mutual friends, and if you do happen to be forced to communicate with them, emphasize how happy you are.

3. Use that social media!

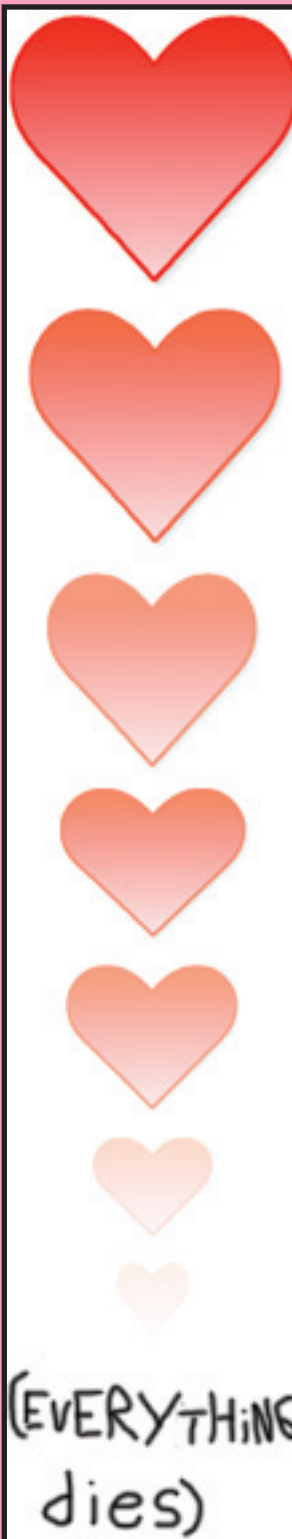
Just because you won't return their texts doesn't mean you can't shamelessly and completely stalk their Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. On that note, play up how happy you are (no sad or sappy statuses here, Rookie) by posting a picture of you having the time of your life in regular four-day/four-minute intervals minimum, depending on your style.

4. Porn

You're probably still going to need a romantic outlet, and the storylines in porn can really give you hope that you'll find a fun, emotionally fulfilling relationship with a new love soon! This is the kind of true love that rom-coms really can't provide; avoid those at all costs.

5. Get some

One of the fastest ways to get over a relationship is to hook up with someone else. The key part of the hookup is the post-hookup behavior. It is very important to immediately begin texting them nonstop and follow them on all social media to ensure repeat action. To have a hookup, simply head to Greek row on any given Friday or Saturday evening and proceed to find the drunkest girl/boy there. Their level of drunkenness is a prime indicator of their ability to connect with you emotionally and perform oral sex while you weep openly.



6. Their things

While some things you should probably save and return to your ex, such as articles of clothing, shot glasses, cherished stuffed animals, etc., not all items fall into this category. In some cases, these items can be "lost," thrown away, or burned. These exceptions include any perishables, that sweatshirt that looks better on you anyways, and any alcohol. Alcohol should under no circumstances be returned or discarded, but should be properly labeled as #RevengeRum, etc. The use of hashtags is encouraged.

7. Don't be afraid to cry

As Miranda Lambert pointed out, this is not your momma's broken heart, and you do not have to put a good face on it all the time (See #3). If you say his/her name in bed for a few months while crying into your hookup's crotch, that's normal. The name will fade with time.

8. Keep good company

If you find yourself awake in your bed at night, wishing someone were next to you, head to the nearest Toys-R-U's for at least 40 reasonably priced stuffed animals, or to the local morgue.

9. Elephant thoughts

As a final point of reflection, how do you eat an elephant? In small bites. But quickly, before the rest of the stampede catches up to you.

This advice is easily adaptable to other breakups, including those of upperclassmen and recent grads. For more advice, consult our sister publication, *Cosmopolitan*.

JOINTHESLANT

I have been a contributing member of *The Slant* for the past two weeks, and I must say, it is leaps and bounds ahead of other student organizations that I have examined. They haven't made me participate in any Satanic blood rituals yet, and I'm certain that the ooze leaking from the fluorescent lights in Sarratt 130 isn't blood or demonic fluids, which is more than I can say of the lights in Gillette. The application process was surprisingly simple: I arrived prepared with my everyday exorcism tools and holy water to do battle with any dark beings as

By: Lila Mephisto

part of a bloodthirsty competition for membership, but they just gave me pizza and told me to attend the weekly Wednesday brainstorm meetings in Sarratt 130. These meetings don't even require familiarity with ancient Greek or Swahili; a rudimentary understanding of the English language will suffice. The two lead editors, Martin Freeman and Beard Guy, are also incredibly memorable and inspirational. Just being around them makes me feel funnier, and I am almost positive that is not due to the creeping unease that accompanies the undead lack-

neys that serve them.

Do you like adventure? Cutting wit? Anything that doesn't require blood pacts or fear for the safety of your eternal soul? Join *The Slant*. It'll be the best decision of your life. So briefly email Beard Guy at peter.g.linck@vanderbilt.edu, or pop in for one of the weekly meetings at 9 PM. Please don't bring your wooden stake or silver bullets. Mr. Freeman and Beard Guy, despite their resemblance to supernatural creatures, are not actually any species of shapeshifter.



Lila wearing her standard issue Slant uniform.