

**Bowling team seeks to win school's first national championship . . .**

For more, see **Sports**, page 8



**Vanderbilt 'passes over'**

**Jewish traditions . . .**

For more, see the letter to the editor **Opinion**, page 4



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# The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007 • 119<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NO. 36

## THE WALL

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

### TODAY

#### 'Why Work on Wall Street?' presentation

Goldman Sachs will give a presentation titled "Why Work on Wall Street?" for all interested students in Student Life Center Meeting Rooms 1 and 2 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### TODAY

#### Making the most out of summer session

Find out how to accelerate your career plan and job search during your summer break. Topics will include gaining experience, networking and job search techniques. The session will take place from 4 to 5 p.m. in Student Life Center Meeting Rooms 1 and 2.

### THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 13 & 14

#### Final three showings of 'Odysseus'

This play, illustrating the courage and resilience of women after the Trojan War as they are forced into slavery, presented by VU Theater will be performed at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Neely Auditorium. Tickets are free to undergraduates.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 13

#### Student choice movies on Peabody Lawn

"Casino Royale" and "Borat" will be presented by The VenUe this Friday, beginning at 9 p.m. and ending at 1 a.m. The event is free for students, and free food and drinks will be served.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 12

#### Fashion for a Cause Runway Show

This runway fashion show features Betsey Johnson, Rebecca Taylor, Perry Ellis and Cynthia Steffe. The event includes a hors d'oeuvre reception, a silent auction and other performances. Tickets are \$15, and all proceeds go toward the Greater Nashville Affiliate Susan G. Komen for the Cure, an organization dedicated to fighting breast cancer.

Compiled by staff from various sources. Check out <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu> for more events.

## Greek Life holds frats accountable

by EVE ATTERMANN  
Asst News Editor

More than half of the 17 Interfraternity Council chapters have been put on probation this year, according to Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey.

Alpha Tau Omega, the most recent fraternity to be placed on probation, will be unable to hold parties for the next two weeks due to violations of the university alcohol policy.

Torrey said this number of fraternities on probation does not represent an increase over past years.

However, she said her office may become aware of violations more frequently because of the small size of the community.

"Compared to bigger schools like the University of Georgia or the University of Tennessee, we find out about more violations," Torrey said. "There are less students, and more police, and so we are able to more proactively find out about things."

Torrey said that, as members of the Greek community, fraternity and sorority members are expected to follow university policy.

"When you join a fraternity or a

sorority, you gain certain rights and privileges, but you are also giving up a little," Torrey said. "Your actions no longer reflect just on you but on your whole organization, and this extends to Facebook, random Saturday nights and behavior in a classroom."

While members of the Greek community may be held accountable for questionable content found on the Internet, Torrey said the Office of Greek Life does not actively search Facebook for university violations.

"It's not something we monitor; I have better things to do with my time," Torrey said. "There are definitely

things that are brought to our attention on Facebook, but it's nothing we go looking for."

Torrey said she holds regular meetings with the Office of Student Conduct and the IFC judicial council to discuss any incidents that need to be addressed on campus, even if they do not directly involve the fraternities or sororities.

"For example, there were the two recent sexual assaults that had nothing to do with fraternities," Torrey said. "We discussed fraternities letting VUPD officers know when they see suspicious people on Greek Row and not letting people walk home alone." ■

## Junior performs cello recital



LAUREN FONDRIEST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Junior Annie Suda, a cello performance major, performs her junior recital at Blair Monday evening. The Blair School of Music often sponsors faculty and student recitals.

## Greek life announces chapter, member awards

by EVE ATTERMANN  
Asst News Editor

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Alpha Delta Pi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon won Chapter of the Year awards at the 25th Annual Chancellor Alexander Heard Greek Awards.

Johnny Karageorgiou, a member of Sigma Chi, won Greek Man of the Year, and Emilie Carroll, a member of Delta Delta Delta, won Greek Woman of the Year.

The Greek awards are given to fraternities and sororities in order to recognize their achievements in scholarship and community service, as well as their contributions to the Vanderbilt community.

"The projects showcase all the

good that the fraternities and sororities do that people might not know about," said Director of Greek Life Kristen Torrey.

Edward Wills, president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, said his chapter won because of its level of friendship and brotherhood, along with its philanthropic work.

"We are a good frat, we like to hang out together and are a great group of friends," Wills said. "We had a great philanthropy with the Kick-Off Cook-Off, and we did stuff with alumni this year, and we also have a meal plan so guys can eat at the house together."

Lindsay Cullum, president of Alpha Delta Pi, noted her chapter's aspirations to set a positive example along with its scholarship and philanthropic efforts.

"I feel that Alpha Delta Pi contributes in a number of ways," Cullum said. "We did community service with the Cinderella Project, academically we have had the highest GPA for two semesters, and we bring together different chapters like when we worked with Alpha Kappa Alpha on the Cinderella Project."

Sigma Chi members nominated Karageorgiou for his involvement in several councils along with his long-standing commitment to Greek life.

"I served as Inter-Fraternity Council president, on the Common Group Executive Board, and on the Chancellor's Student Conduct Board for Honor and Integrity," Karageorgiou said. "I have been involved in Greek life for a very long time." ■

## 'Rap Sessions' forum to address gender politics related to hip-hop culture

by NIKKI BOGOPOLSKAYA  
Staff Reporter

Professor Tracy Sharpley-Whiting, set to release a new book on the cultural stereotypes that surround young black women, will participate in "Rap Sessions: Community Dialogues on Hip-Hop and Gender" on Thursday.



SHARPLEY-WHITING

The discussion, entitled "Understanding The New Gender Politics: Does Hip-Hop Hate Women?" will take place from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Stevenson Center, Room 4309.

"Over the last 30 years, hip-hop culture has proven itself to be a positive force in the lives of youth relative to art, business and social activism, but arguably the most well-known fact about the culture today is that its lyrics and music videos degrade women," Sharpley-Whiting said.

She said her book, "Pimps Up, Ho's Down: Hip Hop's Hold on Young Black Women," will delve into the culture of strip clubs and groupies, and explore the well established stereotype of young black women willing to sacrifice anything for a chance at music-industry fame.

She also said she would reflect on the popularity of hip-hop music in youth of all races, despite its lack of respect towards women.

"As disturbing as I find some of what's going on around gender in hip hop, there are also things that we need to celebrate," Sharpley-Whiting said. "It's a cultural art form. It's the soundtrack of black life in the United States ... We have to revel in that kind of creativity."

Sharpley-Whiting said she hopes Thursday's discussion will address this contradiction and provide a public forum to think through political and gender issues.

"As hip-hop is the defining culture in the lives of American youth, naturally the question arises, 'How is it shaping a new gender politics?'" she said.

Key speakers will include authors Bakari Kitwana of "The Hip Hop Generation," Joan Morgan, author of "When Chickenheads Come Home To Roost: My Life as a Hip-Hop Feminist," and Sharpley-Whiting.

Freshman Penny Dolan said she would be interested in attending the forum to learn more about the implications of hip-hop culture.

"I listen to the music, but I don't really know how it's affecting me and the world," she said.

Sharpley-Whiting will also hold a book signing May 10 at Borders on West End Avenue. Both the book signing and forum are free and open to the public. ■



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## WEATHER

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

## TODAY



Rain, 66/44

## THURSDAY



Mostly Sunny, 66/47

## FRIDAY



Partly Cloudy, 74/64

## SATURDAY



Partly Cloudy, 77/59

## VUPD CRIME LOG

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

There is no crime to report.

Check out <http://police.vanderbilt.edu/crimelog.htm> for complete listings.

## SERVICE GUIDE

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

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

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## LOCATION

The Hustler offices are in 130 Sarratt Student Center on the Vanderbilt University Campus. Address postal mail to VU Station B 351504, Nashville, Tenn. 37235-1504.

## AFFILIATIONS

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## CORRECTIONS

The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance. See our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

## PRINTER

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## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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One semester's delivery via U.S. Postal Service is available for \$125 or \$200 per year. Checks should be made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

## BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

## IN THE KNOW

The news you need — in brief

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

## WORLD

## Iranians announce giant step in nuclear technology, but doubts remain

Experts and some world powers are expressing doubt that Iran has been able to assemble the complicated system it needs to enrich uranium — a potential pathway to nuclear arms.

If true, Iran's revelation Monday that it now has 3,000 centrifuges producing enriched uranium brings the country closer to being able to produce the nuclear material for a bomb. But the inaccuracy of some past claims has fed skepticism.

With its nuclear activities shrouded in suspicions, Iran's claims are difficult to independently verify. Exaggerating the number of centrifuges gives the Iranians more room to negotiate with world powers — and possibly allow them to hold out and keep some vestige of a nuclear enrichment program.

"This is a country that routinely lies about conventional weapons developments and production," said Anthony Cordesman, an analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

On Tuesday, Russia and France — two of the six world powers pressuring Iran to give up enrichment — also expressed skepticism about the latest claims.

A U.S. official, who requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said concern over the announcement was tinged with a "high degree of skepticism" in Washington. SOURCE: AP

## NATION

## Teen takes plea deal, gets 45 years in prison for killing of assistant school principal

A 15-year-old Tennessee boy pleaded guilty Tuesday in the killing of a high school official and the wounding of two others under a plea deal announced after jury selection for his trial had started.

The judge sentenced Kenneth Bartley Jr. to 45 years in prison for the single count of second-degree murder and two counts of attempted second-degree murder in the 2005 shootings at Campbell County Comprehensive High School.

The teenager could have faced a life sentence if convicted on the original charges.

The principal and two assistant principals had confronted Bartley on Nov. 8, 2005, after hearing that he had a gun in the school. Bartley was in the principal's office when he fatally shot one of the school officials and wounded the other two.

Bartley had been indicted on charges of first-degree murder and felony murder, both of which could have carried a life sentence — meaning a minimum of 51 years in prison. He was also charged with attempted murder, taking a gun to school grounds and possession of controlled substances, which could have added to his sentence if he were convicted.

Jo Bruce, the widow of the slain administrator, endorsed the plea bargain.

"We did the right thing. We feel like this will help our community start to heal. I think (my husband) Ken would say, 'Job well done,'" Bruce said. SOURCE: AP

## CAMPUS

## Two Vanderbilt economists determine if women are paid less than men, show which professions are worst at pay parity

In this day and age women are CEOs, senators, construction workers, stockbrokers, economists and more. They comprise 46 percent of employees, yet women consistently earn less than men.

In separate studies, two Vanderbilt economists explored this issue.

Professor of law and economics Joni Hersch found that sex discrimination remained a strong explanation for the gender pay gap.

"If the unexplained pay disparity sometimes favored women and sometimes favored men, there would be no reason for concern," said Hersch. "But systematically and without exception, finding that women earn less than men raises some questions."

Does education help level the playing field? "Not necessarily," said professor of economics Malcolm Getz. His research found earnings of women at every level of education are lower than those of men. Despite this, Getz found female enrollment in college grew from 32 percent in 1950 to 57 percent in 2004.

Getz's research found that, in general, women yielded a higher economic value after earning an advanced degree, even though they still earned less than men.

Hersch's research was published in "Foundations and Trends in Microeconomics." Getz's research on salaries and the economics of education is included in his new book, "Investing in College, a Guide for the Perplexed." SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

## Mobile pollution sensors to be developed at Vanderbilt using Microsoft grant

Vanderbilt engineers have won an award from Microsoft Corp. to develop a real-time picture of air quality in large metropolitan areas like Nashville. The mobile system will make it possible to monitor air quality more accurately than the current system of fixed stations.

Engineers will adapt Microsoft SensorMap technology for this purpose. SensorMap is a software platform designed to integrate and publish various types of sensor data in real time on the Internet.

The system will include five prototype sensors that can be mounted on vehicles. "We will develop the sensors, as well as the necessary infrastructure, to measure the pollutants, gather, process and visualize the data and to deploy the system in the Nashville metropolitan area to provide a continuous live data feed on the SensorMap portal," said principal investigator Akos Ledeczi.

Ledeczi, who is a research assistant professor of electrical engineering at Vanderbilt, explained that when the sensor-carrying car is in motion, the sensor will sample the pollutants every few seconds, noting time and location of each sample. When the car comes into contact with a WiFi hotspot, it will upload the data to the SensorMap portal, where a detailed picture of the air quality in the area will be displayed. SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

## Indicted Duke lacrosse players to learn prosecutors' decision later this week

State will either dismiss case or decide to try players.

by AARON BEARD

Associated Press

The three men indicted in the Duke lacrosse sexual assault case could learn this week whether state prosecutors plan to bring them to trial or drop the charges, a person close to the case said Tuesday.

The attorney general's office, which has said for several weeks it was close to completing its investigation since taking the case from the district attorney, has wrapped up the additional interviews, said the person, who spoke to The Associated Press on a condition of anonymity because a formal announcement has not been made.

A spokeswoman for the state attorney general's office said Tuesday no announcement in the case was scheduled. No motions or court papers were filed

in the case on Tuesday.

"There is some hope that there might be an answer from the attorney general this week at some point," said defense attorney Wade Smith, who represents player Collin Finnerty.

Finnerty, Reade Seligmann and David Evans were indicted on charges of rape, kidnapping and sexual offense last spring after a woman told police she was assaulted at a March 2006 team party where she was hired to perform as a stripper. All three have steadfastly maintained their innocence, with Evans calling the allegations "fantastic lies."

Durham County District Attorney Mike Nifong dropped the rape charges in December after the accuser changed a key detail in her story, and recused himself a few weeks later after the state bar charged him with several ethics violations

in the case on Tuesday. tied to his handling of the case. If convicted, Nifong could be disbarred.

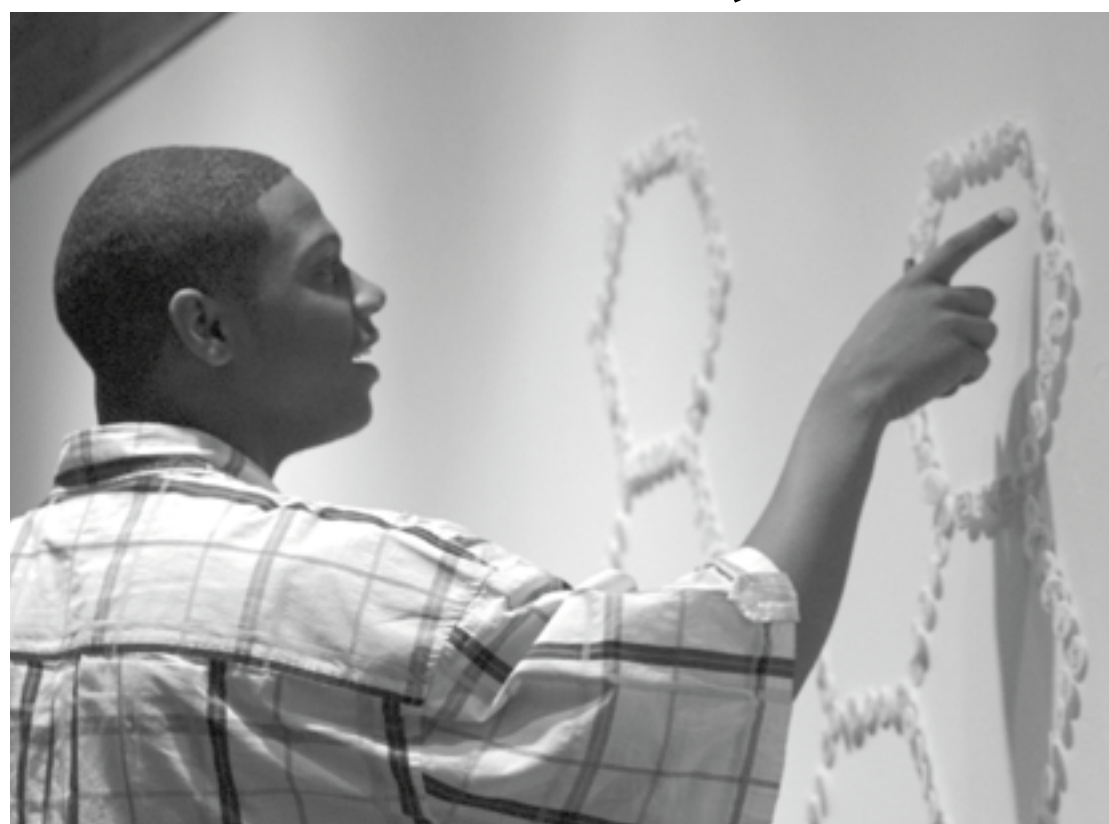
Nifong's recusal put the players' fate in the hands of North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, who promised "a fresh and thorough review of the facts" when he took over the case in January.

There were other signs Tuesday that an announcement from Cooper might come soon. Seligmann and his family arrived at Raleigh-Durham International Airport, and Smith said the Finnerty family was also expected to arrive later Tuesday.

"We are not going to have any expectations until we hear officially," Smith said. "When we get the word, we'll have the word."

Evans' attorney, Joseph Cheshire, declined to comment when asked if his client was planning to be in Raleigh on Wednesday. ■

## Gallery exhibits artists' exploration of symbols



LAUREN FONDRIST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Junior Julian Steele admires the art exhibit featuring works by Amanda Dillingham and Ben Matthews in the Sarratt Art Gallery Tuesday night.

## Radio host Don Imus receives harsh criticism for on-air remarks on Rutgers Women's basketball team calls remarks 'racist and sexist.'

by REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press

The Rutgers women's basketball team blasted radio host Don Imus Tuesday for "racist and sexist remarks that are deplorable, despicable and abominable" and agreed to meet with the embattled radio host.

Starting Monday, Imus will be suspended for two weeks for calling the players "nappy-headed ho's."

Rutgers players, who had not spoken publicly until Tuesday, called his comments insensitive and hurtful — but reserved judgment on whether he should be fired until after they meet him.

"Unless they've given 'ho' a whole new definition, that's not what I am," said Kia Vaughn, the team's sophomore center.

Calls for Imus' dismissal have been growing since he made the remarks about the team — which includes eight black women — a day after the team lost the national championship game to Tennessee on April 3.

Rutgers' players and head coach C. Vivian Stringer said Imus' comments took the luster off an incredible season.

"The Rutgers University women's basketball team has made history," said Essence Carson, a junior forward. "We haven't done anything to deserve this controversy, and yet it has taken a toll on us mentally and physically."

Rutgers' athletic director, Robert E. Mulcahy III, thought a meeting with Imus would offer the team's players a chance to listen to him and hear what he has to say. Several players said they wanted to ask the host why he would make such thoughtless statements.

"We all agreed the meeting with Mr. Imus will help," Carson said. "We do hope to get something accomplished during this meeting."

Imus, who has made a career of cranky insults in the morning, was fighting for his job following the joke that, by his own admission, went "way too far."

Imus, while acknowledging the severity of his mistake, said he just wasn't thinking when he made the comments. He also said those who called for his firing without knowing him, his philanthropic work or what his show was about would be making an "ill-informed" choice. ■



# D-Day plane flies over campus



Students in Professor Michael Bess' class on World War II history watched from Wilson Lawn as a P-51 Mustang that flew in the 1944 D-Day invasion flew over campus Monday afternoon. TYLER HAGEN / The Vanderbilt Hustler

# First openly gay bishop to speak at Benton Chapel

by JANELLE STOKES  
Staff Reporter

The first openly gay Episcopalian bishop will speak Friday at 2 p.m. in Benton Chapel.

The Office of Religious Life will sponsor a speech by the Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson of the Diocese of New Hampshire, entitled "Ministry in the Eye of the Storm." He will reflect on his experience as the first openly gay bishop within the Episcopal Church.

Sophomore LaRae Wortham said she anticipates a split in the reactions of Vanderbilt students.

"There are a lot of conservative people, but then we have liberals who will be accepting," she said.

"I guess it's nice that Vanderbilt is open to the possibility and allowing him to come and speak. It's not really something I agree with but, at least Vanderbilt is open to letting people see his point of view."

Freshman Ellery Richardson said she plans to attend the event.

"His sexual orientation doesn't mean that he can't worship God, and that shouldn't influence how we perceive him," she said. "He shouldn't be penalized for wanting to spread God's word." ■

# GRE test makers postpone proposed changes

by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI  
Asst News Editor

Makers of the GRE graduate school entrance exam announced last Tuesday they have postponed the release of a reformatted version of the test expected next fall.

Educational Testing Service had already delayed planned revisions by a year and has now said they do not have the capacity to make the switch this fall and will maintain the old test as it is currently administered.

Between 550,000 and 600,000 applicants to graduate programs take the GRE annually.

Roberta Bell, director of the Vanderbilt Institutional Research Group, said her office was just about to have its first meeting to discuss the changes, but it was cancelled that same day.

While the changes may not come this fall, they are still expected in the coming years.

Fearful of the inability to accommodate enough students at test centers, the main revision involved a switch to a more secure Internet-based system that would eventually expand

the number of sites where the test could be taken.

Among other potential revisions, the test may be lengthened from 2 1/2 to four hours, the antonym and analogy sections may be eliminated in favor of critical reading, and the test will only be offered 30 times a year.

The test would also change from its current "adaptive model," in which test takers receive different questions depending on previous correct or incorrect responses, to a "linear model," in which all test takers receive the same questions.

The MCAT and the LSAT both feature linear testing models. While all proposed changes are still tentative, ETS has also considered increasing the price of the exam but has not stated the new price. The current exam costs \$130 in the United States and \$160 in most other places.

Recent scoring errors on the SAT college entrance exam coupled with the delay in GRE revisions have raised concerns that the standardized testing industry, busy with dozens of national and state-level standardized exams, has too much on its plate.

"ETS has repeatedly tried to rush computerized exams into

the marketplace before they were ready for primetime," said Robert Schaeffer, public education director of FairTest, a group that has been critical of the testing industry. "They pushed these flawed products to increase test maker income, not improve assessment quality or meet students' needs."

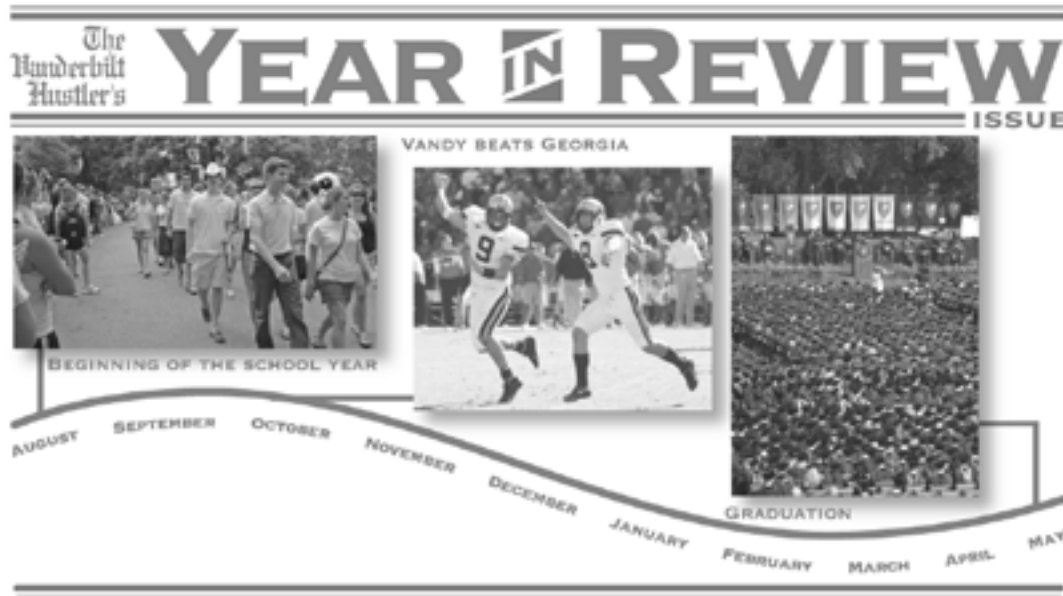
Senior Stephen Johnson said he did not feel the revisions would do much to solve the problems associated with the exam.

"You are not going to solve a problem of overcrowding by making the test longer or by offering it only 30 times a year," he said.

Johnson said he believes a four-hour exam is too lengthy and only decreases academic ability as students become tired.

Senior Ally Adams-Alwine said she took the GRE in May after hearing about the potential changes and extension of the test to four hours.

"They didn't really make it clear what the changes were going to entail, but when I took the test there was an experimental section — I guess a sample of some possible changes — and it was not pleasant," she said. ■



Half Page 11.63" x 10.5" \$850	
Quarter Page 5.75" x 10.5" \$475	Full Page 11.63" x 21" \$1600

The Vanderbilt Hustler's "Welcome to Nashville" issue will provide incoming students and parents a comprehensive look at what the Vanderbilt campus and the surrounding community has to offer. In an attempt to expose new students to "life beyond the bubble," the issue will include an overview of attractions, dining and shopping options around the city and other areas of interest. It will also serve as a valuable resource guide, addressing the students' most frequently asked questions.

Many of our new students will be unfamiliar with Nashville. They will need to know where to shop for a variety of goods and services including but not limited to school supplies, furnishings for their rooms, restaurants and clubs, clothing stores, area malls, auto maintenance, banks and much more.

We will print 10,000 copies for our normal campus distribution sites (4000 more than our regular newspaper). "Welcome to Nashville" will be available for the six new student and parent orientation periods during the month of June and again for about a week, beginning with move in day on August 18.

The "Welcome to Nashville" issue will have considerably more readers and a much longer "shelf life" than our normal newspaper publications, adding greatly to the value of your advertisement.

Make a lasting impression on our student body by advertising in our "Welcome to Nashville" issue, and dramatically increase your market share by advertising often in The Vanderbilt Hustler throughout each academic year. Frequency is the key to successful advertising.

Contact George Fischer at 615.322.1884

Half Page 11.63" x 10.5" \$850	
Quarter Page 5.75" x 10.5" \$475	Full Page 11.63" x 21" \$1600

The Vanderbilt Hustler's "Year in Review" issue will provide a comprehensive look back at the most important stories that shaped the 2006-2007 school year. Vanderbilt is in the midst of change, and the year was filled with triumphs, disappointments and controversies. "The Year in Review" issue will provide all students a nostalgic look back at this monumental year and give parents a glimpse of the events that helped define the future of Vanderbilt.

This special supplement to our final paper of the academic year will be distributed as part of our April 23 *Vanderbilt Hustler* (6000 issues). The paper will stay on the racks for about a week. We will print an additional 4000 supplements (10,000 total) to be redistributed on our racks as a keepsake for graduating seniors and their parents a few days prior to graduation on May 11. The "Year in Review" offers 66% more readers than our regular paper.

Parents will want to reward their graduates with commemorative gifts (new cars, business wardrobes, jewelry, and other gifts of distinction are popular). Other popular advertising categories for graduates and returning students will be banks and financial institutions, restaurants for celebrating, storage facilities, local wine and spirits stores, and apartment complexes just to name a few. This keepsake edition will give your advertising message a shelf life that could be measured in years!

Make a lasting impression on the Vanderbilt students and their parents by advertising in The Vanderbilt Hustler's Year In Review, and dramatically increase your market share by advertising often in The Vanderbilt Hustler throughout each academic year. Frequency is the key to successful advertising.

Contact George Fischer at 615.322.1884

# OPINION

## THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER

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### OUR VIEW

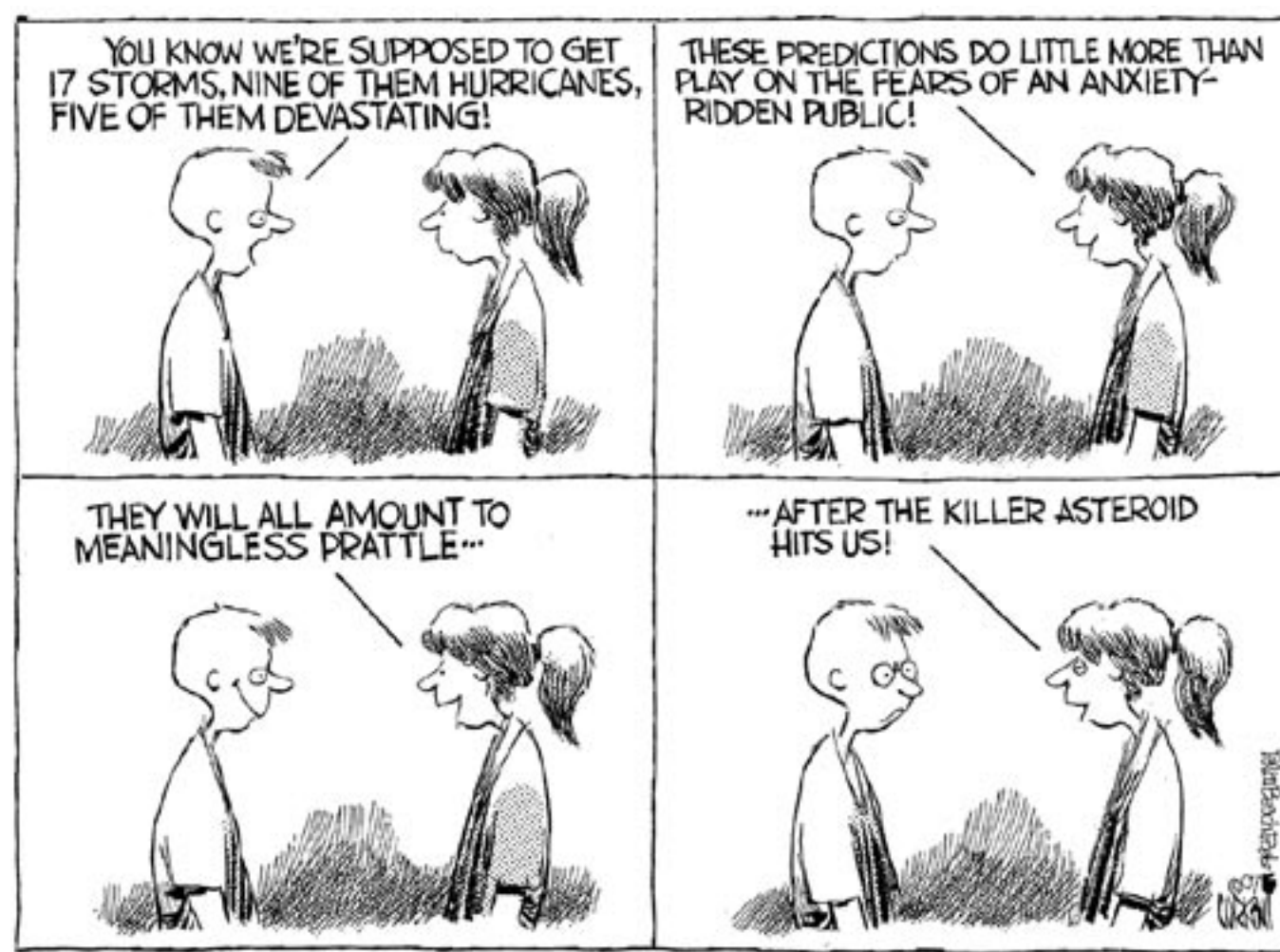
# Imus wrongly staked his public reputation on crassness and lost

When finding out Howard Stern thinks they have gone too far on the air, most people would step back and reexamine their lives. Don Imus, however, did not, and his racist comments on April 4 regarding the Rutgers women's basketball team have been met with no small amount of outrage.

Imus is a man who built his career on shocking others and saying what was on his mind. The reason his show became so popular is that building a career on being as offensive as possible, often with no underlying point, is a risky choice. Basically, Imus shot himself in the foot with this particular show format; a daily four-hour show based almost entirely around pointlessly mocking people cannot skirt the edges of public disapproval forever without running out of material. Even if Imus had censored himself and avoided this particular incident, his show could not be sustained forever. Imus told his listeners, "What I did was make a stupid, idiotic mistake in a comedy context." Imus is right; his words on April 4 were an idiotic mistake. He also made a deeper mistake, however, when he focused his show on irritating others rather than using his alleged comedic talent to make people think and to make insightful points.

Imus has promised to take his two-week suspension from the airwaves with "some dignity." His comments leave us wondering what else we should have been expecting. He said on "Today" his show should have a regular black cast member and frequent black guests, but it is unclear how this shows any commitment to change on his part. Affixing some sort of Band-Aid will not change matters on a fundamental level in the least; Imus's show will still be offensive simply for the sake of being offensive, and he will merely shift the brunt of his remarks to less prominent groups. He will, in other words, continue to add nothing to comedy or intellectual discourse, and AM radio will continue to be a wasteland of poorly thought out rants.

The radio host also pointed to his philanthropic activities. Philanthropic work is admirable, but Imus's logic breaks down somewhat when he implicitly claims his philanthropy somehow cancels out his idiotic tirade. It is understandable to see him grasping at straws in order to keep his job, but Imus gambled and lost. His popularity with the public and politicians alike was a direct consequence of his methods, of his sheer crassness, and apparently he has forgotten when there is much to gain, there is also much to lose.



Don Wright—MCT

### LETTER

## Self-appointed leaders engage in misdirection for sake of publicity

#### To the Editor:

So Don Imus is a tool. He makes ignorant comments on live radio: a sure sign of an untalented idiot. After listening to some of his past shows, it is evident that he offends many and rarely says anything that makes any sense. Even still, he is on a nationally syndicated radio show, and after spewing Michael Richards-like ignorance, he was given a mere two-week suspension. This annoys me.

But, as bad as that is, I became more annoyed after I listened to him on Al Sharpton's radio show. Speaking as a black man, I often wonder who made Sharpton the person to apologize to when racism occurs. Why not apologize to the public for making an ignorant-ass comment? Why couldn't he just "man up" and apologize directly to the people whom he offended? There's nothing wrong with a simple "I'm sorry." We all know what he did was awful, as does he. There was very little point to his appearance on Sharpton's program. Sharpton is not a judge in front of whom one stands in order to have their racist and sexist sins absolved.

I am agitated by this entire fiasco and my annoyance isn't really caused by Imus. A 67-year-old man is racist. So what? I come across racist men every day as I go home to my apartment on the border of Belle Meade. People stare, grab their

purses and lock their doors whenever they see me. Who cares? I talk to a racist every time I call my great-uncle who lives in Springfield, Tenn., and still calls people who are ethnically-mixed "mulattos." Again, who cares?

I am irritated because it is 2007, and we still have self-appointed people speaking for us. Sharpton is still running for president from time to time, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson is still marching. It is 2007 and these "leaders" aren't working on fixing the education system in the inner city. They aren't dealing with the fact there are more of our men in prison than in college, which, unfortunately, is the case in my family. These are issues I think about every day and have dedicated my life to changing. Why haven't they done the same? They haven't done so because of the power and publicity. There's no feeling of power in working to correct the discrepancies in education. And the media isn't rushing to interview the person who wants to uplift the community. They want to see the media spectacle surrounding another racist in America. If these so-called "leaders" weren't self-appointed, maybe we could hold them accountable for their ignorance.

**Steven D. Townsend**  
Graduate School

### LETTER

## Religious topics require more research

#### To the Editor:

Passover tradition dictates that during the weeklong holiday, no flour, wheat, soy, carbohydrates or legumes may be consumed. For the first 19 years of my life, I have dutifully followed these rigid guidelines, to the point where I would refrain from eating anything containing corn syrup or soy lecithin. My downfall: a simple, unassuming peanut-butter-on-matzo sandwich from Rand's Passover table.

When I came to Vanderbilt, I was assured the school was doing its best to inspire religious tolerance on campus and was actively recruiting students from a wide array of religious backgrounds, including Judaism. Given this background, you can imagine my shock when the only accommodations made for Jews during Passover were a small table in front of Rand, sporting matzo, peanut butter, horseradish and honey. Even to this, however, I grew accustomed; I learned not to expect Vanderbilt to go out of its way to provide for students following different dietary guidelines or to foster religious education along such lines.

This year it hit me: on Rand's Passover table, the only Passover staple offered was not kosher. Peanuts are legumes, and are thus anathema for Passover. The particular brand of peanut butter offered contains not only peanuts, but also soybean oil and corn syrup, all three of which violate Passover guidelines. Is this really the message Vanderbilt wants to send to its Jewish student population, that the school cannot be bothered to research the very holiday they are pretending to celebrate?

A kosher Passover menu would not be hard to create. Most meat dishes are already kosher for Passover. Maybe a sauce or two would be thinner without their flour base, or breaded meats traded for grilled, or even pan-fried offerings. It is not necessary for Vanderbilt to change all of its food during the week of Passover; by no means am I campaigning for an impossible concession to be made by all of Vanderbilt's population. I am simply asking for Vanderbilt to look into religious traditions while preaching tolerance and to not go out of its way to make religious observance impossible.

**Galen White**  
Junior, A&S

### OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section 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 our website.

Letters must be submitted either in person by the author to The Hustler office or via e-mail to [opinion@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:opinion@vanderbilthustler.com). Letters via e-mail must either come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editor-in-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. 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 might 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.

### CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2.

Bring corrections to The Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at [editor@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:editor@vanderbilthustler.com). You may also report them by telephone to the news line at 615-322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at 615-322-3757.

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COLUMN

# High rankings fail to guarantee success

**EDDIE HEARN**  
Columnist

In response to Andrew Solomon's column ("Returning home emphasizes outstanding opportunities," April 9), it is important to realize just because a person goes to a "top-tier" university does not necessarily mean anything. The fact of the matter is that many at Vanderbilt have no idea what they want to do in the future and others face uncertainty even after graduation.

When people graduate from here they usually get jobs, like everybody else. They start near the bottom at whatever job they choose and begin to work their way up as they learn the skills, attitudes and potential pitfalls in their chosen line of work. As they progress, they move to acquire more responsibility and tougher tasks. More importantly, however, they start in the same place as the graduates of non-"top-tier" universities. Sometimes, the people with whom recent graduates work have come from community college or junior college. They may have even worked their way up to an entry-level position with no college experience at all.







Concerning the "knowledge we gain" while at Vanderbilt, I would argue that any knowledge applicable to real-world scenarios has much less to do with the classroom or the "caring" professors about whom we hear so much. The real-world skills we learn here come mostly through social and professional interaction with peers (e.g., group collaboration for a common product), accepting and overcoming difficulty, and learning how to function and succeed in a highly bureaucratic environment (think AXLE or CPLE).

If we truly wish to "better our world" let's not rely on the status of our university, which has little or nothing to do with the undergraduate experience; look at U.S. News's criteria for ranking colleges. Rather than arrogantly assuming people who do not attend a school like Vanderbilt, Princeton or Harvard need our help and guidance, let us worry about how to engage and collaborate with the massive population of people who are not "top-tier" graduates. We are going to need them as much as they need us for help, knowledge and input along the way.

—Eddie Hearn is a senior in the College of Arts and Science.

## THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff!

Manatees		Sea cows have been reclassified as "threatened" rather than "endangered." Back in business!
Dieting		Recent studies show dieting may not work in the long term. There goes a bulging segment of the book trade.
Non-flammable construction materials		Johnny Cash's lakeside house burned down, possibly due to flammable wood preservative.
Student loans		Some colleges may have colluded with lenders to share revenue at the expense of students. Wonderful.
Non-disgusting restaurants		NYC Taco Bells apparently have become little more than rat theme parks. Nachos, anyone?
Bloggers		A coalition of bloggers wants to regulate online comments. This is a workable and worthwhile plan.

COLUMN

# Pelosi follows political road fraught with error

**MICHAEL WILT**  
Columnist

Nancy Pelosi was not elected President of the United States, nor was she elected by the American people. She was selected by her colleagues in the Democratic caucus to be Speaker of the House of Representatives. That is it — nothing more, nothing less. She is next in line to the presidency behind the vice president, but she is not the president. She is not the secretary of state.

The Logan Act, passed in 1799 and amended in 1994, is a federal law prohibiting any citizen from acting on behalf of the United States without the permission of the U.S. (i.e., the president) in matters regarding foreign countries with the intent to influence or coerce the actions of the foreign country in regard to any disputes or controversies. Pelosi visited Syria, a nation on the State Department's terrorism sponsor watch list. Syria has aided Hezbollah, for instance, in its ongoing terrorism of the Israeli people. Syria has allowed foreign fighters to enter Iraq through its borders, people who eventually go on to kill U.S. troops fighting in Iraq. Our disputes and controversies with Syria are long and well-known. By attempting to ease

relations with Syria without the consent of the U.S. government, Pelosi has placed herself in serious legal jeopardy and has impeded the work of the State Department. After her visit with Syrian dictator Bashar Assad last week, Pelosi declared, "We came in friendship, hope, and determined that the road to Damascus is a road to peace." Well.

I guess it doesn't need to be said that Pelosi must think very highly of herself, since she seems to believe she can resolve everyone's longstanding disputes. Moreover, she caused an international issue by relaying a false message to Syria from Israel. Apparently, she wanted to bring peace to the Middle East as well. She's a real Jimmy Carter, that girl! She told the Syrians that Israel was ready for peace talks. The Olmert government, however, stated that they never said this and never asked Pelosi to tell the Syrians this. So either Pelosi is incompetent and could not conduct the unauthorized diplomacy properly, or she is duplicitous, prone to lying through her teeth at the expense of one of America's greatest allies.

What we have is a rogue element in the U.S. government seeking to usurp the constitutional and popular authority given to the president to conduct foreign policy. Like it

or not, George W. Bush was elected in 2004 by a majority of the people of this country, and he is president for the next 21 months. Moreover, we see that, from the way in which Pelosi conducted her "foreign policy," to allow this to continue would be a huge mistake. Appeasing dictators such as Syria's Assad when we need to be standing strong to set an example for others (such as Iran's Ahmadinejad) is the wrong policy. It is clear the left, led by Pelosi, is incapable of guarding the U.S. from state sponsors of terror like Syria and Iran.


Prosecuting Pelosi probably will not happen, nor am I advocating that it should. While her actions are in violation of the Logan Act, it would be more painful to indict a sitting Speaker for what amounts to a political action. Instead of legal recourse, those in power should respond with political recourse. Pelosi is not fit to handle the duties of Speaker of the House, having clearly stepped over the boundaries of the separation of powers.

It is important that we understand exactly what Pelosi's actions represent in this period of American history. We are fighting a war against Muslim extremists who do not hesitate to behead Americans, to blow us up, to fly airplanes into our tallest buildings, to shoot our soldiers, to kill our women and children,

etc. There are countries that support them both financially and politically. Materially and physically, Syria has been a state sponsor of terror for many years, and it has been the policy of the U.S. government to end the regime's sponsorship of terror. It is unacceptable for Pelosi to attempt to misrepresent American policy as being peaceful to those who not only wish, but openly support, violence and death for America and its allies.

We need to stand up to politicians like Pelosi who will do and say anything, even sitting down at the "peace table" with America's enemies. However, we have a government in Washington that sees problems yet does nothing to fix them. There are so many issues we need to fix, but instead we have politicians like Pelosi disregarding laws, engaging in partisanship, and ignoring the goal of protecting the American people. The cycle of irresponsible and tainted government continues, with no end in sight. The question is, will anyone do anything about it? Is there anyone out there who can truly clean up Washington, defend America, and protect our Constitution? Anyone?

—Michael Wilt is a senior in the College of Arts and Science.



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**Today, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 6 - 9 pm**  
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This event is co-sponsored by the Health Professions Advisory Office and Career Center.

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## SPORTS

WHAT 2  
WATCH 4

## Upcoming Events

**Baseball**  
**Vanderbilt vs.**  
**Belmont**  
**Tonight**

**6 p.m.**  
**Hawkins Field**  
The Commodores (29-5, 7-5 Southeastern Conference) hope to get the bitter taste out of their mouths tonight against the Bruins after losing the series finale to Alabama in extra innings on Sunday. Vanderbilt, who still took two out of three from the Tide, will look to build momentum as it travels to Lexington, Ky., to take on the Wildcats this weekend. While the offense has struggled slightly as of late, expect the Commodores to bring out the bats in this one.  
*Prediction: Vanderbilt 10, Belmont 2*

**Bowling**  
**NCAA Bowling**  
**Championship**  
**Thursday**

While the Commodores (70-14) are in just their third year of existence, they have a solid chance to take home the school's first national title in any sport. Vanderbilt, who won three tournaments during the regular season, is 19-7 against the other seven teams in the field. On Thursday, the teams play to determine their seeds, and on Friday they compete in a double-elimination tournament. The top two teams advance to the title match on Saturday.

**National Hockey**  
**League**  
**San Jose vs. Nashville**  
**Tonight**  
**7 p.m.**

Say what you want about hockey's regular season, but the NHL Playoffs are a great take for any sports fan. In a rematch of last year's first-round matchup, the Predators will be stronger with a healthy goalie Tomas Vokoun and the addition of center Peter Forsberg, who is clutch in the playoffs. Still, the Sharks are better too. Nashville is under a lot of pressure in this series considering that it gave up a lot to acquire Forsberg and has a rocky relationship with its fans and corporate sponsors.  
*Prediction: Predators 3, Sharks 2*

**National Hockey**  
**League**  
**New York Islanders vs.**  
**Buffalo Sabres**  
**Thursday**  
**7 p.m. CDT**

Some are calling the eighth-seeded Islanders a team of destiny after they ran the table to get into the postseason. Still, their task won't be easy against the league's best team. The Sabres had a NHL-best seven 20-goal scorers and four who had at least 30. Buffalo is on a mission to win the Stanley Cup and should be able to get by the pesky Islanders in round one.  
*Prediction: Sabres 4, Islanders 2*

**Bowlers attempt to make history****Commodores head to Orlando for NCAA Championships.**

by JARRED AMATO  
*Sports Editor*

A year ago, the women's bowling team arrived at the NCAA Bowling Championship with minimal expectations. The second time around is different.

The Commodores, 70-14 overall, are not only more experienced, but also more talented. They have been ranked among the top three all season, winning three tournaments during the regular season and sporting a 19-7 record against the other seven teams in the field.

It should come as no surprise, then, to learn that coach John Williamson and his players have every intention of taking home the trophy.

"The expectation is high and the girls definitely hope that they can win the school's first national title and be part of history," Williamson said. "All season long we have preached focus and consistency, which we will need again, but I also want us to enjoy the moment."

Thursday, all eight teams will play qualifying games to determine their seed in the bracket. Friday, they will compete in a series of double-elimination Baker games, where each bowler rolls two frames. The top two teams will advance to the championship, which will be aired on ESPN on Saturday afternoon.

After finishing in a tie for fifth last season with five freshman starters, Vanderbilt heads to the Brunswick Wekiva Lanes near Orlando,



Kaitlin Reynolds and the rest of the Commodores will compete in the NCAA Bowling Championships beginning Thursday. No Vanderbilt team has ever won a national title.

Fla., much more relaxed. As Williamson said, "the difference is night and day."

"We're not going in eyes-wide-open like, 'Oh, wow. This is unbelievable,'" he said. "In addition to being more experienced, we're also a lot deeper. Last year we had five freshmen play 95 percent of our time. This year, with seven people,

we have the ability where if someone is having a tough day, we can substitute without any drop off."

While technically still young, the Commodores act like a veteran bunch. Four of the five starters are sophomores, and Josie Earnest doesn't bowl like a freshman as she leads the team with a 197 average.

Michelle Peloquin and Tara Kane are right behind Earnest with averages of 193 and 192, respectively.

"We've definitely matured as a team, and with that, we'll be able to deal with pressure a lot better than last year," said Kane, who has stressed the fundamentals in the practices leading up to the Big Dance. "I'm really excited to see if everything comes together when we go to Orlando."

Since each team is talented enough to win it all, the team that minimizes its mistakes will ultimately prevail.

"In tournament situations, a lot of teams tend to get caught up in all the outside things," Williamson said. "We're just going to have to be focused and do what we're capable of doing and if we can do that, I like our chances."

Given their accomplishments, it's hard not to. The Commodores won the first three tournaments in the program's three-year history, capturing the Maryland-Eastern Shore Hawk Classic and Mississippi Valley State's Invitational last November, and taking first at A&M's Holiday Classic.

The other participants include defending champion Fairleigh Dickinson, New Jersey City University, Nebraska, Sacred Heart, Maryland-Eastern Shore, Central Missouri State and Minnesota State-Mankato. ■

**Young**  
**program**  
**begins**  
**to gain**  
**respect**

by MAX FRANKLIN  
*Sports Reporter*

The Vanderbilt bowling team heads to its second straight NCAA Bowling Championship appearance this week in Orlando, Fla.

But, despite their remarkable success and being ranked near the top all season, the Commodores are still a young and growing program, a fact they are made well aware of every day.

"We know that we're one of the newest teams, both in collegiate bowling and at Vanderbilt," said sophomore Kaitlin Reynolds. "I feel like now more people recognize what we are doing and are aware that we have a very strong bowling team, and we hope that after this weekend even more people will be excited about Vanderbilt Bowling."

Most Vanderbilt students are now aware that Vanderbilt fields a top bowling squad, but other intercollegiate programs have certainly been eyeing the Dores for the past two seasons.

This year, Vanderbilt (70-14) has finished first in three of the eight tournaments in which they've played, and has a winning record against all the teams they will face this weekend. While the Commodores do not have the bowling tradition Nebraska, Sacred Heart or defending champion Fairleigh Dickinson have, the talented Dores have the potential to create a legacy of their own.

"I don't necessarily think that if there were odds-makers we'd be the favorite to win it," said coach John Williamson. "But I kind of like the girls to have a chip on their shoulder, and I think for the most part they do because we are a new program and don't get a lot of respect. Hopefully we can change their minds for the better."

Unlike last season, the team is not just happy to be at the final tournament. The Commodores are also quite conscious of the chance to bring home the first team national championship for Vanderbilt.

"It would really be exciting to win a national championship," Reynolds said. "At a school like Vanderbilt, with such a great history and tradition, it would mean a lot to be able to add a national title to the Vanderbilt sports program. But we still have to go out and bowl some great games to give ourselves a chance to play in that final championship, and that's what we're focused on now."

By the end of the weekend, all Vanderbilt fans might have a chance to focus on a national championship trophy. ■

## COLUMN

**Vandy content to fly under radar**

ALEX BARD

*Columnist*

It has been a few weeks since Jeff Green's pivoting beat Vanderbilt to advance to the Elite Eight, and in that time period, what have we heard of from this program that generated so much buzz during tourney time?

Nothing, and that's the way the coaches and players intended it.

The SEC is full of publicity story and publicity story, but Vanderbilt stays out of what I wouldn't necessarily consider the "lime light" of Andy Katz reporting. We have no coaching changes, no player problems and no general issues on display for anyone with access to the AP wire to report.

Kentucky is going through a coaching change after Tubby Smith finally called the right play for once and got out of Lexington. After being rejected by more than a few current coaches, the Wildcats landed Texas A&M's Billy Gillispie, a one-hit wonder thus far who didn't spend enough time in College Station to coach his own recruiting class. I guess the Kentucky job leaves something to be desired for most coaches (like your sanity).

Unfortunately, Gillispie will not have the pleasure of coach Randolph Morris, who decided to sign with the Knicks last month, showing unquestioning loyalty to his alma mater that I was sure had been there since his infamous "fax" last year.

Meanwhile, Florida, whose poster hangs in Andrew Barge's bathroom stall, had trouble retaining their own messiah, I mean coach, Billy Donovan. Donovan was unclear on his desires to return to Gainesville, entertaining what we can only assume was an offer from Kentucky.

And now, the famed junior class at Florida is going pro, but don't question their dedication to their studies, they said they probably wouldn't drop out of classes yet. I just hope Taurean Green learned something in his last Economics class before his illustrious ABA career takes off.

Arkansas may have finally landed a head coach from (drum roll) South Alabama. Hold your applause please. Time will tell if this coach will hang around or pull a "Creighton," as it's now referred to in Fayetteville, and ditch the Razorbacks and their heap of trouble. With two players testing positive for marijuana and another currently academically ineligible, this may end up being "Six Months of Hell" next season.

And then there's our favorite team, those Academic All-Americans down in Knoxville. Old Rocky Top has been surprisingly quiet. The only sounds that can be heard are Bruce Pearl chewing and an odd sniffing, snorting sound coming from the basketball dorm.

I'm not saying someone will be arrested or suspended during the off-season, but let's just say I have May 13 in my office pool.

Finally we come to lowly Vanderbilt, who gets no publicity



With Derrick Byars off to the NBA, Shan Foster and the Commodores are already working hard to return to the NCAA Tournament.

because we have no athletic department and don't focus enough on sports. This school not only has retained its coach, who never even commented about other jobs, but we are bringing back every player who isn't getting his diploma this May (or already did last year).

Derrick Byars is preparing for a special day in June, by working hard, not "doing it all day, all night" like future NBDL All-Star Joakim Noah. Shan Foster and company are working to maintain their unbelievable team chemistry and to top this season's remarkable run.

Vanderbilt is doing all the right things this off-season, but what's the fun in reporting that? ■



# Pitching, defense leading way

by JARRED AMATO  
Sports Editor

The No. 1 Vanderbilt baseball team would love for its offense to come alive in tonight's home contest with Belmont. After 12 Southeastern Conference games, the Commodores find themselves ninth in batting average (.261), ninth in runs scored (55) and tied for 11th in extra-base hits (25).

As coach Tim Corbin said, "If you look at our conference stats, and if I didn't tell you what our record was you'd think we might be a sub-.500 team."

But the reality is that Vanderbilt (29-5, 7-5 SEC) is just one game behind Florida for first place in the highly competitive Eastern Division. The reason? As with most championship-caliber teams, solid pitching and defense, along with a knack for winning close games.

Vanderbilt is second with a 3.73 ERA in league games and its .969 fielding percentage is good for fourth best. The pitching staff is anchored by junior David Price, who was dominant once again last Friday in the Commodores' 3-0 victory over Alabama.

Price (6-0, 2.50 ERA) struck out 10, gave up just three hits and became the first SEC pitcher to toss a complete game shutout this season. It was Price's fourth complete game in nine starts and his seventh double-digit strikeout game.

Freshman Mike Minor had another strong start on Saturday, surrendering just two unearned runs in 5.1 innings to improve to 5-0 on the season. He has an overall 1.88 ERA and 1.17 ERA against SEC foes. Still, the Commodores' offense is a slight cause for concern.

"Our OPS (on-base plus slugging percentage) is not very good in this conference," Corbin said. "Our conference stats are not glowing offensively. We're not driving in runs. I want to see guys who drive in runs period, and we're not doing that."

With that said, Corbin is by no means ready to panic, especially when one considers that his ball club has faced many of the league's best teams early on and that all players go through slumps during such a long season.

"The positive is that I still don't think we've done anything offensively, and, when we do, I think we'll be more of a complete team," he said. "Right now there are a lot of things we don't do, but when you go into a 56-game season, you're going to have a drought here or there."

- The Commodores complete a stretch of three of four SEC series on the road this weekend against Kentucky.

- An impressive streak came to an end Sunday in the Commodores' extra-inning loss to Alabama. Vanderbilt had been 23-0 when leading after eight innings.

- Offensively, the Commodores hit .277 on the week with three homers and 14 runs scored. David Macias was 8-for-15 (.533) on the week, including a career-best four hits in Wednesday's win over Austin Peay, while Matt Meingasner was 7-for-14.

- Dominic de la Osa came off the bench to deliver a game-tying RBI double in the ninth against Austin Peay last Wednesday. He served as the designated hitter over the weekend while recovering from a hamstring strain and hit two homers and a double against the Crimson Tide. He now has eight homers on the year, one short of his career high set last season. ■



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
Junior Dominic de la Osa went deep twice over the weekend as the Commodores took two out of three from Alabama. He now has eight homers on the year, one short of his career high.

# Vandy's athletes work hard on and off the field

by ANDREW BARGE  
Sports Reporter

Finally, Student-Athlete Appreciation Day is here. Well, it was supposed to be anyway.

While the event was pushed back until Wed., April 25, due to the inclement weather expected this afternoon, that doesn't mean we can't take some time to appreciate Vanderbilt athletics for taking the phrase "student-athlete" as seriously as any other program in the country.

We've all seen the NCAA commercial that says, "There are 300,000 collegiate athletes and most of us will go pro in something other than sports."

True, the professional sports field is extremely limited, but what exactly will these athletes do in the real world? After all, it's tough to "go pro" without a degree.

It's no secret that many elite programs enforce a lax discipline policy that promotes athletic performance over everything else. As long as grades are above the minimum, the athlete will play. Whether they graduate or not, well, that's their problem.

Take Ohio State center Greg Oden. Undoubtedly one of the nation's best basketball players, Oden was forced to attend college for at least one year before entering the NBA Draft. He planned on majoring in finance, but the university wanted to make the most of its only year with the budding star. As a result, Oden pulled back and, according to a recent Sports Illustrated article, is now "undecided" on his major. His load includes whopping two courses this semester (Sociology 101, History of Rock and Roll and two credits for playing ball).

Oden is just a celebrated example,

and Ohio State definitely isn't alone in this practice. In fact, most programs give athletes — both starters and reserves — extreme exceptions academically.

Not Vanderbilt. The Commodores boast one of the nation's highest student-athlete graduation rates and their academic standards are unmatched by any other Southeastern Conference school. Last year 155 student-athletes earned GPAs of 3.0 or higher, and 88 student-athletes were named to the Dean's List.

I'd like to see someone ask All-SEC linebacker and engineering major Jonathan Goff or distance runner and SEC Student-Athlete of the Year Erika Schneble about their course loads.

"Academically, this last semester is the best semester anybody in our area can remember," said Vice Chancellor for Student Life and University Affairs David

Williams. "The student-athletes understand that academics is really the most important. Sports are also important, but academics are what you're here for."

I'm not saying Vandy's athletes are perfect. Like most college students, they'll have academic and disciplinary issues every once in a while, but they're different from the academic mockery that's associated with collegiate athletics.

Most of the Commodores we cheer on and sit with in class will leave school with a prestigious degree. Consequently, each of them has the opportunity to make us proud even after they've stepped out of the spotlight. Those of us without athletic scholarships should be grateful that our athletes will benefit the NCAA now and the real world after graduation.

Not a bad way to spend our tuition money, is it? ■

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Rating: PG-13 for intense sequences of violent action, a scene of torture, sexual content and nudity.

**BORAT**  
Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan  
11:30 p.m.

Sacha Baron Cohen brings a perfect combination of slapstick and satire, a Platonic ideal of high-and lowbrow that manages to appeal to our basest common denominators while brilliantly skewering racism, anti-Semitism, sexism and that American affliction: we're-number-one-ism. 2006, 84 minutes

Rating: R for pervasive strong crude and sexual content including graphic nudity, and language.

For information, call 322-2471  
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# FUN & GAMES

## SUDOKU

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

**TO SOLVE:**  
Fill in the blanks so the numbers 1-9 appear just once in each horizontal row, vertical column and 3x3 box.

### 4/9/07 SOLUTIONS

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

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wall covering
  - 6 Baby's bed
  - 10 Stable youngster
  - 14 Sneeringly derogatory
  - 15 Part of ADC
  - 16 Far from terra firma
  - 17 Commit theft
  - 18 Part to play
  - 19 Ananias, e.g.
  - 20 Conclude
  - 22 Odor
  - 23 Old hand
  - 24 Utters suddenly
  - 25 Formed
  - 29 Wall covering
  - 31 Polished
  - 32 Umpire's pocketful
  - 36 Pint drinks
  - 37 Procrastinator's word
  - 38 Abound
  - 39 Propped up
  - 41 "The Count of Cristo"
  - 42 Presses
  - 43 Tongue-lash
  - 44 Kind of cold?
  - 47 Mare's morsel
  - 48 Steer clear of
  - 49 Infuriating
  - 55 Expressions of disapproval
  - 56 Beyond risqué
  - 57 Scoundrel
  - 58 Coagulate
  - 59 Organic compound
  - 60 Conjure
  - 61 Towel word
  - 62 As expected
  - 63 Takes the plunge

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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61					62				63			

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4/11/07

### 4/9/07 SOLUTIONS

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

- DOWN**
- 1 Attention getter
  - 2 Game starter
  - 3 Landing place
  - 4 Cheese from Holland
  - 5 Experienced again
  - 6 Jeweler's weight
  - 7 Wild profusion
  - 8 Without work
  - 9 Speller's contest
  - 10 Common adder
  - 11 Basketry material
  - 12 Emulated Pisa's tower
  - 13 Small open pies
  - 21 Actor Beatty
  - 22 Thick piece
  - 24 Fox's title
  - 25 Medicinal applicator
  - 26 Aura
  - 27 Skater's leap
  - 28 Doomsayers
  - 29 Spouses
  - 30 Played for a sap
  - 32 Farm outbuilding
  - 33 Horne or Olin
  - 34 Riga resident
  - 35 Hook's underling
  - 37 A Spinks or mouth
  - 40 Trampled
  - 41 Gauged
  - 43 Spoiled
  - 44 Nab
  - 45 Botanic structure
  - 46 Word before oil or mouth
  - 47 Curiously
  - 49 List of dishes
  - 50 Mil. truant
  - 51 PBS series
  - 52 Composer Stravinsky
  - 53 Heat in the microwave
  - 54 Launch forces
  - 56 Set the pace

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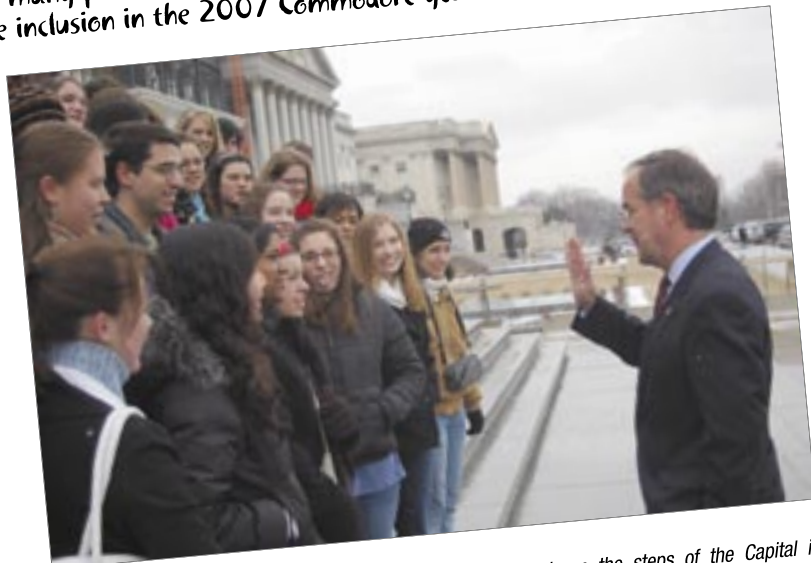


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## YOU IN THE YEARBOOK

One of the many photos submitted for possible inclusion in the 2007 Commodore yearbook...



Submitted by **Shane Stever**  
U.S. Representative **Jim Cooper** addresses the Concert Choir on the steps of the Capital in Washington, D.C., during VU Concert Choir's spring tour. The choir then sang the Alma Mater for him.

It's easy to submit your favorite photos from this year at Vandy: Just visit [InsideVandy.com](http://InsideVandy.com) and scroll down to the big red Commodore yearbook button that says "click here to submit your pics." Your photos will help the yearbook staff commemorate 2006-07 at Vanderbilt!

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