

**NCAA**  
**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
**#11 GEORGE WASHINGTON**  
**vs #6 VANDERBILT**  
**Thursday, March 15**  
**4 p.m. CDT**  
 For a preview, see **Sports**, page 8

'Playboy's casting call has no place on Vanderbilt's campus...'  
 For more, see the letter to the editor **Opinion**, page 6



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# The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888  
 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007 • 119<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NO. 24

## THE WALL

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

### TODAY Reconstruction efforts in Iraq speech

Quabad Talabany, representative to the United States from the Kurdistan Regional Government, will give a speech about ongoing efforts in Iraq in the Jacobs Believed In Me Auditorium in Featheringill Hall from 4:10 to 5 p.m.

### TODAY 'Planning Your Research Paper' workshop

This workshop will discuss how to narrow your topic question, draw on both individual interests and outside materials, and take advantage of university resources. This will be held in Alumni Hall 117 from 4 to 5 p.m.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 15 Founder's Day lecture

Anja Becker, visiting post-doctoral fellow from the German Academic Exchange Service, will speak from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Law School Bennett-Miller Room.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 16 'Are We Really Made of Quarks?' lecture

Jerome Friedman, 1990 Nobel Prize in Physics laureate, will give the annual Francis G. Slack lecture about the history behind the acceptance of the quark theory. The lecture will take place from 4 to 5 p.m. in Stevenson Science Center 4327.

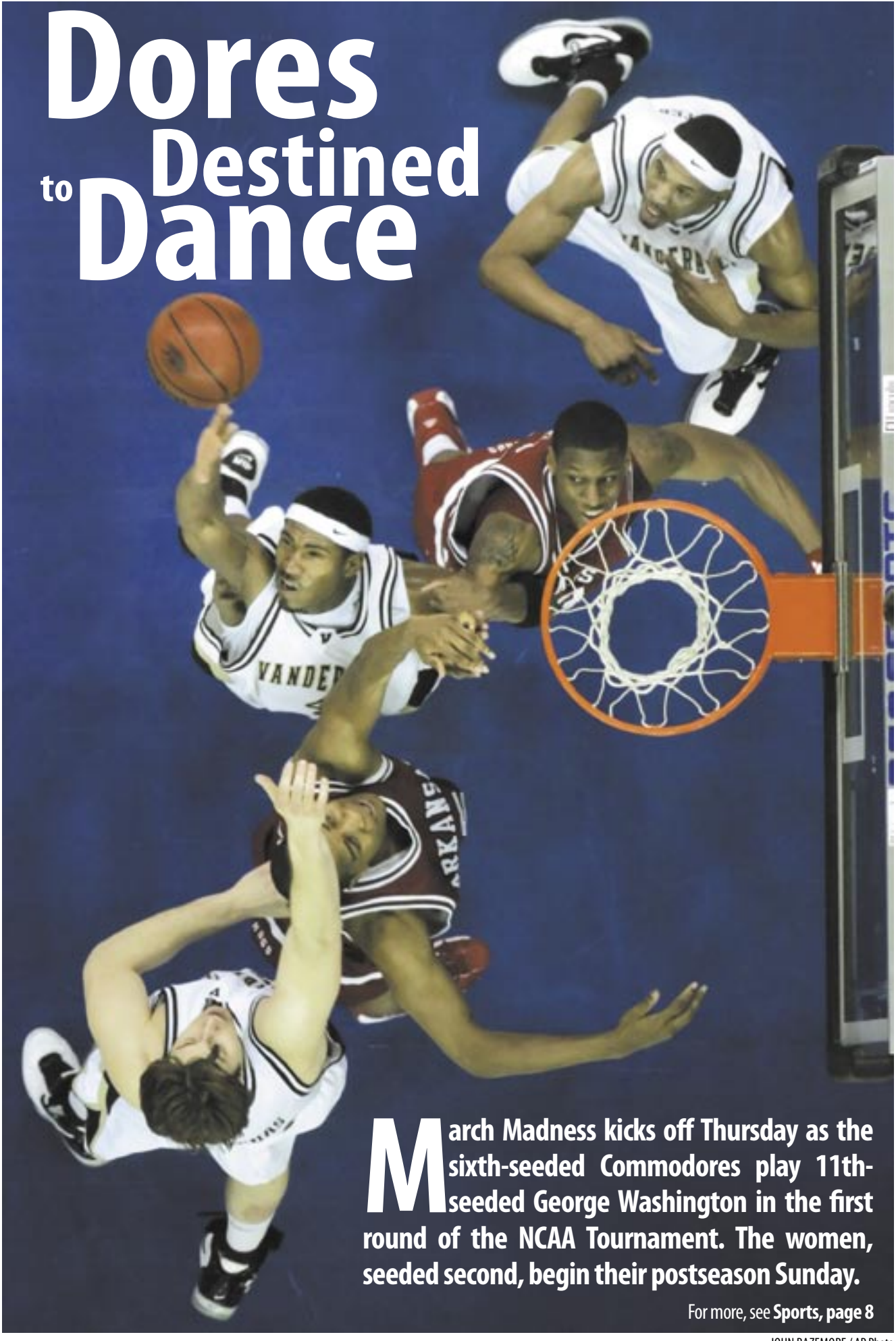
### FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 16 & 17 Juggleville II performances



photo by JUDITH DEXHEIMER

"Juggleville II: Symphony in Gravity" will be performed in the Martha Rivers Ingram Center on March 16 at 8 p.m. and March 17 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Presented by Vanderbilt Juggling and Physical Arts, the performance will combine music, juggling and dance into three acts. Tickets are available at the Sarratt Student Center or at the door.

Check out <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu> for more events.



# Dores to Destined Dance

**M**arch Madness kicks off Thursday as the sixth-seeded Commodores play 11th-seeded George Washington in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The women, seeded second, begin their postseason Sunday.

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

JOHN BAZEMORE / AP Photo  
 Junior Shan Foster, top, and seniors Derrick Byars and Ted Skuchas, center and bottom, battle Arkansas' Sonny Weems, second left, and Darian Townes for the ball during their Southeastern Conference basketball tournament game at the Georgia Dome. The men's basketball team plays its first game Thursday against George Washington.

## University dismisses cheerleaders, asst. coach



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
 Cheerleaders energize the crowd at a men's basketball game. At least four cheerleaders and an assistant coach have left the team.

by **GLENNA DeROY**  
 Editor-in-Chief

At least four Vanderbilt cheerleaders have been dismissed from the squad for violation of team rules over spring break, according to Assistant Vice Chancellor Brock Williams.

An assistant coach was also terminated as a result of the rule infractions, which occurred during a trip to the Southeastern Conference women's basketball tournament.

Williams could not comment on the specifics of the infractions or release the names of those involved, as the disciplinary proceedings are still in progress on both a departmental and a student conduct level.

Head coach Pam Pearson said she was not at the women's tournament and has not been relieved of her position at the university as a result of the incident.

Pearson was unable to comment any further on the situation and referred all other questions to Williams.

Williams said the incident does not jeopardize the cheerleaders' certification for participation in the NCAA tournament and called the situation an "internal matter."

However, he said some team members will miss out on the opportunity to travel to the tournament as a result of their behavior.

"Some people will not be able to enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience, but several other student organizations, such as the Danceline, have stepped up to support the basketball teams during the NCAA tournament," Williams said.

Attempts to contact members of the cheerleading squad for comment were not successful.

Williams said, regardless of team membership, students must follow university, team and departmental policy when representing the university beyond campus.

"I probably do hold (the cheerleaders) to a higher standard, and they know that going in when they accept the privilege to be a cheerleader here," he said. "The same is true of any member of a club sport team or SGA. When these kids travel outside of the community, the same policy applies to everybody."

Williams said he also must keep these rules in mind when he travels.

"If I bring attention to myself in a way that embarrasses the university, I am aware that my supervisor will hold me accountable for that," he said. "I am always cognizant of that no matter where I go."

Williams said that he appreciates the "sincere regret and remorse" many students have expressed regarding their actions.

"I know young people are going to stub their toes," he said. "It's our job to help people make the transition from adolescence to adulthood." ■

## ASB groups return from service

by **ALLISON SMITH**  
 News Editor

Every night the 12 members of Alternative Spring Break group "Brick House" shared their "roses," "buds" and "thorns" with each other while sitting on church pews, their beds for the week.

The group members, who worked with a homeless community in central Florida, are among about 400 ASB participants at 35 sites across North America who reflected as a group each night about their service projects. Now in its 20th year, ASB has become the largest student organization on campus.

The last night is typically the most reflective, with group members talking about their accomplishments and what they learned throughout the week.

"I have a bunch of roses today but the one that sticks out was the look on the woman's face who was in the hospital when she saw the room that we all redid," sophomore and "Brick House" member Lindsey Jones told her group. "She was really, just really, like surprised and excited, and it felt really special, and it makes me feel good that all the hard work that our group put into that one room paid off, and she gave every single person there a hug, and she was just really grateful, and that was just really nice to see."

When ASB Co-chair Nancy Schoemann asked "Brick House" site leader Laura Kim about her trip on Monday, Kim



Photo by LINDSEY JONES

"Brick House" member and sophomore Kellianne Kleeman cleans a memorial at Anthony House, a homeless community in central Florida, threw her arms in the air and smiled.

"You definitely get a lot of people who just say it's awesome," Schoemann said. "They can't really put it in words yet. I think it takes a while for a lot of people to sink in the experience."

Please see **ASB**, page 2

—Listen to a podcast of one ASB group's reflections, post your own comments and community news, and submit your ASB photos for possible inclusion in The Commodore on:



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**WEATHER**  
compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

**TODAY**



Showers, 72/57

**THURSDAY**



Showers, 75/48

**FRIDAY**



Partly Cloudy, 57/37

**SATURDAY**



Partly Cloudy, 56/37

**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**

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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.

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**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

**CAMPUS**

**Sloan Foundation awards Vanderbilt physicist for 'exceptional promise'**

An assistant professor of physics at Vanderbilt University has won a \$45,000 research fellowship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation aimed at encouraging promising young scholars.

Julia A. Velkovska is one of 118 researchers in physics, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, neuroscience and economics chosen at the early stages of their careers because of their "exceptional promise to contribute to the advancement of knowledge." The grant money may be used to pursue any research that interests the recipient.

"This flexibility is often of great value to young scientists who are at a pivotal stage in establishing their own independent research projects," said a Sloan official.

Velkovska's research centers on the study of nuclear matter at the extreme temperatures and energy densities created by the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC), a major scientific facility at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, N.Y. The RHIC collides gold atoms at nearly the speed of light to explore what the universe may have looked like in the first few moments after its creation.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

**Campus efforts to go green gain traction; George named sustainability coordinator**

Call it the "one plus one plus one equals four" effect. Or the synergism of environmentally friendly forces. Either way, Vanderbilt's administration, faculty and students have teamed up like never before to take on campus sustainability — including energy conservation, recycling, pollution prevention, air quality and more.

Andrea George, who serves as associate director in the environmental health and safety department, has been named to the newly created position of sustainability coordinator to synchronize the many moving parts that make up Vanderbilt's sustainability push.

George comes to her new role with sound credentials. Since the mid-1990s, she has developed and implemented management systems for many of Vanderbilt's environmental compliance programs. She has a master's degree in environmental engineering from Vanderbilt and has been in her current senior position with the environmental health and safety department since 1997. In addition, she is in the process of completing her doctoral degree in environmental engineering through Vanderbilt's Center for Environmental Management Studies.

"Vanderbilt's sustainability program is designed in a cooperative, systematic and thoughtful way," Chancellor Gordon Gee said. "This new program will leverage the existing collegiality among faculty, students, staff and administration to continue working together — with Andrea George as our coordinator — to develop a common plan of action for the next few years."

SOURCE: VANDERBILT REGISTER

**VU athletics featured on Costas' HBO show**

Veteran sportscaster Bob Costas interviewed Chancellor Gordon Gee about Vanderbilt athletics and academics during a campus visit Feb. 26. Vanderbilt athletics was discussed on an episode of Costas' HBO show "Costas Now," which aired March 13 at 9 p.m. Vanderbilt sports teams' success has garnered national media attention in recent weeks. Seven Vanderbilt teams are ranked in the top 25 nationally. The Commodore baseball team is ranked No. 1 in the nation after upsetting pre-season favorite Rice on Feb. 9. On the hardwood, men's basketball defeated then-No. 1 Florida on Feb. 17, and went on to best Kentucky Feb. 25 for the fourth straight win over the Wildcats. In women's basketball, No. 13 Vanderbilt claimed the SEC title March 4 with a 51-45 win over LSU.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT REGISTER

**Broad spectrum of experts travel to Vanderbilt to learn how apology and dispute resolution interact with law**

Violent crime, racial oppression, ethnic tensions, mass atrocities and transitioning societies are all volatile situations that could be helped with effective conflict resolution techniques, including apology and forgiveness. But the complex emotional transition necessary for effective conflict resolution becomes even more complicated in the context of group conflicts. A conference being held at Vanderbilt Law School on March 30-31 will provide a unique opportunity to explore trends in conflict resolution.

A broad spectrum of experts, including scholars, mediators and social advocates, will come together at Vanderbilt to discuss ways for groups to successfully put research on apology and conflict resolution into practice and to infuse practical knowledge back into theory.

"There's a large body of research in the areas of psychology, sociology, philosophy, religious studies and law focusing on apology, forgiveness and reconciliation in relationships, such as those between a victim and his or her offender or between husband and wife," said Erin O'Hara, a professor of law at Vanderbilt and co-organizer of the conference. "We're interested in determining the extent to which this body of knowledge can be applied in dealing with conflicts between groups."

Some examples of possible topics include complications in racial hostilities, forgiveness after atrocities like the Holocaust, and helping resolve group conflicts in countries in major transition, like South Africa or parts of Eastern Europe.

The conference will also honor a civil rights pioneer who has continually found positive ways to help with dispute resolution. On March 30, the Rev. James Lawson, Vanderbilt Distinguished University Professor, will talk about his impact on the civil rights movement.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

**ASB: Groups form strong bonds**

From ASB, page 1

Schoemann attributes people's good opinions about ASB to the program's equally weighted emphasis on service, education and reflection.

"You're throwing everyone into this intense service experience away from campus, and they are able to create this bond that I think is hard to create on campus," Schoemann said. "We don't just do service, we put emphasis on education and reflection, and by equally emphasizing all three aspects we are able to give people a well-rounded experience and expand beyond the immediate service. It brings the issue deeper and the people together."

Schoemann explained that most sites spend the majority of the day doing service, while nighttime is spent circling up and reflecting on the day and the issue, and also doing "life maps."

"Everyone takes turns telling their life stories," Schoemann said. "It sounds cheesy, but for a lot of people it's the most powerful part of ASB because you get to know people on a really deep level really quickly."

Schoemann said participants are so willing to open up about their life stories because ASB tries to create groups with people from "different social groups on campus."

"The fact that no one knows from the

beginning even the playing field," Schoemann said. "I think site leaders usually do a good job in creating a safe space. People all embrace the fact that they are all there to do service."

Schoemann, who has participated in ASB since she was a freshman, said she thinks ASB is something every Vanderbilt student should do at least once.

"Once you do it, you'll get hooked," she said. "I think that we hold a lot of pride in the fact that it was started at Vanderbilt."

"Brick House" member and freshman Lindsey Smith said she is considering participating in ASB again.

"My thorn is the fact that I want to stay, but we have to go back — I don't feel like going back, and I don't want to get all emotional, but I liked this week," Smith said to her group on the last night. "I was telling (another group member) that it's weird that we're never going to be back here, and that's really weird to think about. And my bud is seeing all you guys around campus."

On Sunday, the some 400 ASB members will come together for a reorientation in Wilson 103.

"I have heard a lot of good stories," Schoemann said. "It's nice to get positive feedback after putting so much time in something." ■

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# Stevenson building dries out after water leak



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
Adam List, director of undergraduate studies for chemistry, works as fans dry his damp Stevenson office Tuesday afternoon. Assistant Vice Chancellor for Plant Operations Mark Petty said the water pipe leak may have caused \$10,000 worth of damage.

# 136 seniors denied off-campus housing

Two residence halls to open next year will provide more on-campus housing.

by NIKKI BOGOPOLSKAYA  
Contributing Reporter

Upon their return from spring break Monday, 136 rising seniors received notice they were not granted their request for off-campus housing.

This year's housing authorization period was held from Feb. 12 to 25. Of 666 applicants for off-campus housing, 525 seniors were granted permission to live off campus. Students granted off-campus housing included 210 rising seniors who currently reside off-campus and an additional 325 rising seniors.

Jim Kramka, senior director of housing facilities operation and management, said many factors contributed to the denial of off campus housing.

"One factor is that there are two new residence halls, and a renovated Gillette Hall will open next fall, adding 540 spaces for students on campus," Kramka said in a press release.

He also said almost 200 students who are eligible to enroll for housing for the fall semester have not applied for housing or off-campus authorization.

"We do not know what their plans are for the next academic year," Kramka said in the release. "There are many possibilities, including that they forgot to register, they are planning to graduate this semester, and they are planning to participate in internships."

"Should we gain the flexibility to authorize more requests, we will use a random selection

procedure to select the additional students," Kramka said.

Rising senior Stacie Pawlicki received off-campus housing but said she worried for the students who did not.

"I am super excited, but I know a lot of people that didn't get it and I think that it is really unfortunate," she said. "I also hate the idea that in two years, no one will be able to live off campus. I just wonder if juniors and seniors are both going to have access to kitchens as well as private bathrooms."

This year's housing registration gave automatic authorization to live off campus to those who currently reside off campus, and a random selection process decided the remaining requests. ■

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## GET READY!

Currently enrolled, returning, single undergraduates will participate in the general random selection process for housing for the 2007-2008 academic year between March 13 and April 12. Carmichael Towers suite ballots and Commons triples ballots will be accepted March 19-20. Lodges and apartments will be offered on March 28, followed by rising seniors/juniors women's and men's singles and doubles on April 3, and rising sophomores' singles and doubles on April 10-12.

Housing applications were accepted during the period of February 12-25. **If you have not yet applied for the housing assignment process, please do so immediately.** To apply, direct your Web browser to <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd> and follow the link to the upperclass housing application. Your Vunet ID and e-password are required for logging in to the application.

For detailed information about assignment policies and procedures, please consult *A Guide to the Housing Assignment Process: 2007-2008*. A downloadable version of the *Guide* can be found on our website [www.Vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.Vanderbilt.edu/ResEd). For more information, visit our website at [www.Vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.Vanderbilt.edu/ResEd). Students with questions should contact their Assistant Directors at 2-2591.

**The following dates are important as you prepare for the random selection:**

- March 19** Deadline to decline off-campus authorization without penalty, 4:30 PM.
- March 19-20** Submit ballots for Carmichael Towers suite selection to 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- March 19-20** Submit ballots for Commons triples selection to 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- March 22** Local Hall selections  
6:00 p.m.—Tolman Hall—Tolman TV Lounge  
6:00 p.m.—Carmichael Tower East—Mr. Hebs  
6:00 p.m.—Crawford, East, Memorial, North, Sutherland, West – Sutherland Lobby  
7:00 p.m.—Cole Hall—Cole TV Lounge
- March 25** Check OHARE Website ([www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd)) for Carmichael Towers suite selection order.  
Check OHARE Website ([www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd)) for Commons triples selection order.
- March 26** McGill selection in Branscomb Recreation Room, 7 p.m.  
McTyeire selection in McTyeire Fireplace Lounge, 7 p.m.
- March 27** Carmichael Towers suites selection, Branscomb Rec Room, 1 – 5 p.m.  
Commons triples selection, Branscomb Rec Room, 5 p.m.
- March 28** Apartments and lodges selection in Student Life Center ballroom, 5 – 10 p.m.
- April 3** Rising seniors/juniors Women's and Men's random selection for singles and doubles, 5:30 – 11:00 p.m.
- April 4-5** Submit ballots for rising sophomore singles/doubles selection to 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- April 8** Check OHARE Website ([www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd)) for rising sophomore singles and doubles building assignments and selection schedule.
- April 10-12** Rising Sophomore singles/doubles random selection in Branscomb Recreation Room

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# Muhammad Yunus announced as 2007 Senior Day speaker

## Nobel Laureate receives \$100,000 cash grant as winner of annual award.

by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI  
Asst News Editor

Vanderbilt alumnus and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus will be the keynote speaker at Senior Class Day on May 10 at 10 a.m. on Alumni Lawn.

"This is more than just a speech," said Vanderbilt spokesperson Mike Schoenfeld. "It is a very significant commemoration of public service, an opportunity to speak in front of the entire senior class and the acceptance of a cash grant of \$100,000 endowed by Ed and Janice Nichols."

The administration consulted broadly with the Vanderbilt community regarding the recipient of the honor, Schoenfeld said.

According to Schoenfeld, Chancellor Gordon Gee approached Dr. Yunus and he enthusiastically agreed to speak.

After earning a Ph.D. in 1971 through Vanderbilt's Graduate Program in Economic Development, Dr. Yunus returned to his native Bangladesh where he developed the concept of microcredit and founded the Grameen (meaning "rural") Bank in Jobra.

Yunus' fundamental idea made money available to poor people on appropriate terms in which "these millions of small people with their millions of small pursuits can add up to create the biggest development wonder."

According to a press release, after 30 years of operation the Grameen Bank has lent nearly \$6 billion to 6.61 million borrowers, and 99 percent of the loans have been repaid. The bank now has 2,226 branches, which furnish their services to more than 71,000 villages in Bangladesh.

Yunus, in conjunction with the Grameen Bank, received the Nobel Peace Prize in October 2006 for his efforts.



YUNUS

Senior Elizabeth Rissman said she remembers hearing Yunus speak two years ago.

"His story about opening the credit bank in Bangladesh was really inspiring," she said. "I would strongly encourage anyone who hasn't already heard his story to attend."

"I've studied his work with the Grameen Bank in several of my economics courses," said senior Jean-Louis Castro-Malaspina. "It is quite an honor to hear the words of a man who has empowered and inspired so many."

Senior Meredith Toole said she is glad to see a speaker outside of the political arena invited to campus.

"I really look forward to attending Senior Day this year and learning about something outside the typical range of keynote speaker topics," she said.

"To be honest, I don't know much about Muhammad Yunus, but from what I hear it should be a great speech," said senior Ashley Wood.

The attendance for the event annually ranges from 10,000 to 15,000. The speech is free and open to all members of the Vanderbilt community. However, tickets are required due to space limitations and must be reserved no later than April 27. ■

# Founders Day 2007 kicks off with lecture given by visiting scholar

by CAROLINE SCALI  
Contributing Reporter

Founders Day will commence Thursday, marking the 134th anniversary of Cornelius Vanderbilt's first gift to the university.

Anja Becker, visiting post-doctoral, will address the audience. The addition of a guest lecturer was introduced only last year, said Patricia Sanders, executive assistant to Vice Chancellor Mike Schoenfeld and an active participant in Founder's Day.

"I think it is a great idea to honor the individuals who established the university that is giving us an incredible education and enhancing our individual selves," said sophomore Matt Kearney.

Founder's Day not only celebrates the lives and accomplishments of Cornelius Vanderbilt and Bishop Holland McTyeire, but it also honors the contributions of their respective wives, Frances Armstrong Crawford and Amelia Townsend McTyeire, as the two men would not have met without their wives' close friendship, said Lyle Lankford, senior officer of university history and protocol.

"It is imperative to acknowledge (Vanderbilt and McTyeire) and that we would not be here if it weren't for them," said sophomore Katie Bernstein.

Founder's Day has been celebrated since Vanderbilt's first academic year in the spring of 1876. The ceremony was initially held on May 27, Cornelius Vanderbilt's birthday, but as the academic year changed, Founder's Day was moved to the day Vanderbilt made his founding gift — March 17, 1873.

"Founder's Day, throughout the 1970s up until the 1990s, was merely an event marked on the university calendar. It was not until 2003, the 130th anniversary, that Founder's Day would be reinstated," Lankford said.

The Founder's Day events will begin Friday at 10 a.m. at the main campus entrance on West End Avenue. The ceremony will include the laying of the wreaths and a procession to the memorials of Cornelius Vanderbilt and the tombs of Bishop Holland McTyeire and his wife. Lankford said the foliage used to create the ceremonial wreaths is significant.

The magnolia branches are cut from the trees on campus and are intertwined among purple irises, Tennessee's state flower; red roses, the state flower of New York (where Cornelius and his wife met); and camellias, the state flower of Alabama, the home state of Amelia McTyeire and Frances Crawford.

The ceremony will conclude with coffee and birthday cake in the second floor lobby of Kirkland Hall. Both Sanders and Lankford strongly encourage available students to take part in the Founder's Day activities and to honor the individuals who created and established the university. ■

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# Three seniors selected as 2007 Wattles fellows

by **EMILY SCHWEICKHARDT**  
Contributing Reporter

The Career Center announced this week that seniors Megan Ceryanec, Caroline Johnson and Samantha Whiting have won the annual Wattles Fellowship, allowing them to work at Lloyd's of London next year.



CERYANEC



JOHNSON



WHITING

Senior Jacklyn Becker was also selected as the program alternate.

The Wattles Fellowship is the only program that offers a one-year position in the underwriting room at the internationally renowned Lloyd's of London, a previously male-dominated work environment. Two of the Vanderbilt women will be trained as aviation brokers and one in underwriting.

The Wattles Fellowship is a yearlong work and study program established in 1976 by Walter C. Wattles, a 1936 Vanderbilt alumnus.

Thirty-four Vanderbilt women applied and interviewed for the program. Sixteen of the 34 were chosen for a two-day interview, in which they were asked about their academic performance, student leadership, internship experience, community service and personal qualifications.

"The interview process was nerve-racking but also very exciting," said Ceryanec, a human and organizational development and English major. "We were interviewed by past Wattles participants, and all of the women were strong, outgoing and inspiring."

Ceryanec said the program will benefit her professional development in several ways.

"I will have the chance to gain an entirely new perspective from a business standpoint," she said.

Involved with several campus organizations, including Vanderbuddies, VUcept, Student Government Association, Alternative Spring Break, Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and The Vanderbilt Hustler, Ceryanec also studied abroad in London last spring.

"In London, it was impossible not to hear about Lloyds on a weekly basis," she said.

The Vanderbilt women will gain experience in the international insurance business, gaining skills that can be used in banking, law, communications, insurance, international consulting, education and government. They are required to take the Lloyd's Market Procedures and Practices Examination to compete with the British workers who have had years of experience in the field.

"I am excited about learning about a new culture, both from interaction with my coworkers and the overall design and nature of Lloyd's," Johnson said. "Also, anyone that has gone abroad can understand the attraction of living and working in a city like London."

Johnson, a communication studies and history major, also participates in ASB, Vanderbilt Catholic Community, Saddle Up! and Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Whiting, an HOD major and child development minor, is a member of Vanderbuddies, Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science, Pi Beta Phi sorority and Outlook Nashville. She also volunteers at the Margaret Cuningim Women's Center and interned at Lehman Brothers.

Becker, an HOD major and communication studies minor, is a member of Chi Omega sorority, Vanderbuddies, ASB and Dance Marathon and has served as a Greek Ambassador.

Anne Riegle, who was a recipient of the Wattles Fellowship in 1983-84, said the fellowship enabled her to have a "great relationship with other British people who offer support and friendship during their fellowship year and many years afterwards." ■

## VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY Dance Marathon

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# OPINION

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### OUR VIEW

# Vanderbilt women should not bare all for temporary fame

Playboy Magazine placed an advertisement in the Feb. 28 issue of The Hustler announcing their search for "Vanderbilt University coeds to appear in the magazine's October 2007 'Girls of the SEC' pictorial." The ad also contained a quote from Alison Waite, a former cover girl, citing her experience with Playboy as one of the best of her life.

We can accept that Waite is happy with her decision, but that does not make it a good one. Certainly she received money and some temporary fame, but at the price of her reputation. She, and others like her, will never know if she has been hired because her boss is lecherous; she will never know if it has been denied employment not on the basis of her application but on the basis of the magazine's reputation. Certainly it is unfair that an appearance in pornographic media will follow her for the rest of her life and that others will see her as having low moral standards, but the unfairness of the situation and the snap judgments of others

do not mitigate the reality that her peers will forever see her differently. She will have to explain to her children that she sold her dignity and lost the respect of her peers for temporary exposure to strangers who may forget her completely when the next bundle of pornography arrives in the mail.

While it is the right of Vanderbilt women to take Playboy's offer if they choose to do so, our community must discourage such actions; they reflect poorly on both the individual and the institution. The entire point of the magazine's temporary focus on college women is that they are seen as unattainable and especially desirable. As a university community, we have an interest in keeping it that way rather than allowing our peers to debase themselves and, by extension, their fellow classmates. Like it or not, any Vanderbilt woman in the "Girls of the SEC" issue will represent our university, and that representation will not be a favorable one.



Wayne Stayskal—MCT

### COLUMN

## Service encourages process of introspection as students focus efforts outward

**EVE ATTERMANN**  
Guest Columnist

I have never really been one of those outstanding "do-gooder" types. Sure, I went on the odd midnight run with my synagogue while I was growing up, and I sometimes even remembered to bring in cans for school food drives. But it was not until I went on Alternative Spring Break my freshman year that I learned what service really meant and how much it could benefit me.

ASB is important for many reasons. The obvious ones shoved down our throats as privileged college students are that we need to give back to the communities from which we take so much, we need to gain perspective, and we need to help those less fortunate than we are. While these are excellent reasons to do service, I would suggest an even more selfish reason to participate.

The modern day college student has a lot more on his or her plate than those of the past. We are expected to know exactly what we want to do with our lives pretty

much from the moment we step on campus and to groom ourselves through appropriate major programs, extracurricular activities and internships. Anyone is able to reach us at any moment through pagers, cell phones and laptops. A student's whole school record can be accessed from said laptop in just moments, making obsessing over a GPA that much easier. Our baby-boomer parents exhort us to be individuals while still striving for professional success; they entice us toward activism with proud stories of their rebellious pasts. Some of us have been given much and are expected to produce all we have been given almost tenfold. Others of us are less fortunate and are expected to work hard for everything we need and to achieve the success our parents have not been able to.

ASB allows us to take a week off from the constant barrage of stress, class, work and activities, and reflect not only on the state of the world but also on the state of ourselves. It is the perfect vehicle for self-exploration — you are not only sleeping in a room full of strangers, but also you are given the wonderful privilege of not

having to think about yourself for one whole week. Knowing you are helping those who are in dire need and addressing important issues just makes the week that much better.

This past break I went to Los Angeles and lived in a homeless shelter on the infamous Skid Row. The weather was beautiful, the service meaningful, and the people I met wonderful. I had experienced a really stressful midterm week and an even more trying semester, and I finally had the breathing room I needed to recharge myself for the completion of the year. What I took from the trip was the idea that although things may seem hectic now, there will always be opportunities for me to step outside myself and do something for the common good. Call this selfish if you must, but if a week of simple service makes me feel that much better about everything, I would say it is that much more worthwhile.

—Eve Attermann is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science.

### LETTER

## Objectification of women spurs domestic violence

### To the Editor:

The Violence Against Women Task Force, the voice of the many offices and departments on campus working to prevent and respond to violence against women, would like to express concern that Playboy is soliciting Vanderbilt "co-eds" to appear in their "Girls of the SEC" pictorial. Since its inception, the goal of this task force has been to challenge culturally sanctioned norms and actions that condone violence against women at Vanderbilt University.

Playboy intentionally constructs a context in which women, more specifically women's bodies, are gazed at for the purpose of entertainment. Women are presented as objects for the reader's pleasure, rather than as human beings with their own subjectivity. Violent and demeaning behavior toward women is presented as humorous in Playboy magazines around the world and this publication frequently makes light of violence against women. For example, a European issue of Playboy recently printed an article entitled "How to Beat Your Wife without Leaving Marks." A Playboy joke section included a description of the perfect morning as "Waking up to find your girlfriend's picture on the cover of Playboy, your son's picture on the Wheaties box, and your wife's picture on the milk carton."

Central to the mission of both Project Safe and the Violence Against Women Task Force is the goal of raising awareness of beliefs and actions that contribute to violence against women on this campus and in this community. The task force works to encourage a culture that promotes civility and respect for all persons. We strongly believe that Playboy's upcoming auditions for Vanderbilt "co-eds" works against this mission.

**Project Safe**  
**The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center**  
**Rape & Sexual Abuse Center**  
**New Student and First Year Programs**  
**Staff of the Office of Religious Life**  
**Vanderbilt University Psychological & Counseling Center**  
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**Office of Active Citizenship & Service**  
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### 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. 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. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at 615-322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at 615-322-3757.

### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Your voice doesn't stop here. The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative and issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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COLUMN

# Fraternity pledging teaches valuable lessons, promotes personal growth

**JUSTIN POYTHRESS**  
Columnist

The issue of fraternity hazing is a rather old one in the sense that it has been debated countless times in countless different environments and situations. However, in light of the latest incident in this long chain affecting Phi Kappa Psi, I feel it is important to discuss some basic realities people seem unwilling to face. Every organization employs some form of hazing, or, more accurately, a new-member initiation process. Each organization has its own individual traits, regulations and expectations and new members must learn and accept these before they are able to display the identity of the larger group. Whether this process is something basic such as a list of rules on a sheet you must sign, such as the Honor Code, or something more intricate and intense like military boot camp, the processes exist universally.

**“Every organization employs some form of hazing or, more accurately, a new-member initiation process.”**

Now, in our specific university situation, the difference I see between pledging and hazing is that hazing is any process meant to make new members feel inferior or uncomfortable in any way; more specific guidelines are comprehensive and numerous. Just so we're on the same plane here, it should also be understood that all fraternities, if examined closely, probably would be found in violation of the hazing policy. It should also be noted that there will rarely be a "hazing incident" resulting in disciplinary action unless a disgruntled pledge snitches on his own group.

However, I would argue that the university should remove the choke-chain from the fraternities. I am not a member of a fraternity, but I have seen these foolish and destructive measures taken in the name of creating a safe environment. No matter what rules exist, there will always be ways to get around them to allow a fraternity to do whatever it likes in secret. I also think it is fair to say that in the long run, nobody, especially the fraternity,

wishes to see pledges getting beaten, set on fire or poisoned. Word does spread about what type of pledging the fraternities exercise, and the ones going over the top with intense hazing are doomed to decline in popularity.

There is something significant to be said for learning to submit to authority. The army exercises brutal physical and mental conditioning, yet everyone who finishes the program seems to be well adjusted and even a step ahead of others when it comes to functioning in the outside world. As I understand it, part of pledging is learning to sacrifice your own wants, needs and interests to serve a larger group, creating interdependency and group responsibility. I believe everybody should undergo an experience during which they

are told what to do and when to do it without complaining or asking questions; sadly many people do not

learn discipline from their parents. There is nothing wrong with learning to respect and submit to authority, whether through a fraternity or through academic and office environments.

The best argument as to why the university should not concern itself with fraternity pledging is because the pledging process should be a contract between the individual student and the fraternity. If a student or pledge is upset or uncomfortable with a fraternity's deeds he should leave. There is no need to make the situation any more complicated than that. I am in no way advocating violent or "intense" hazing, but when one joins a Greek organization, he shoulders the responsibility of the group's requirements. If he does not find those requirements acceptable, he may always leave the group, but there is no need to complain to someone else and in doing so take away the opportunities of others.

—Justin Poythress is a sophomore in Peabody College.

## THE VERDICT Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff!

Ron Paul		The Republican Party's answer to Dennis Kucinich announced he will seek the Republican presidential nomination. Buy stock in windmills; pundits project a lot of tilting next year.
Al Gore		The New York Times questioned Gore's film "An Inconvenient Truth" for misrepresenting scientific facts. They should be glad they didn't see his terrible slideshow instead.
Department of Commerce		Commerce has pledged to provide \$80 in coupons to every American household to facilitate the switch to digital TV. We're going to restore the American Dream . . . with low, low prices!
Starbucks		The coffee giant announced plans to start a record label, bolstering the chain's reputation as a hangout for pretentious teenagers.
Intel		An advanced chip promises to lower prices slightly for the \$599 PlayStation 3 console. At this rate, we will be able to afford PS3s by 2012.
New York City		An NYC mugger punched a 101-year-old woman in the face and stole her purse. Back in 1906 he would have been tarred and feathered or exiled or put on the rack or crucified or something.
The Stardust		The once-glitzy iconic Las Vegas casino has been demolished. Now where will all the organized crime go?

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# IMPACT 2007

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7PM

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**MARCH 20**

Former Speaker of the House

**NEWT GINGRICH**

7PM

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Book available; *Winning the Future: A 21st Century Contract with America*



**MARCH 21**

Former US representative and Senate candidate

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7:30PM

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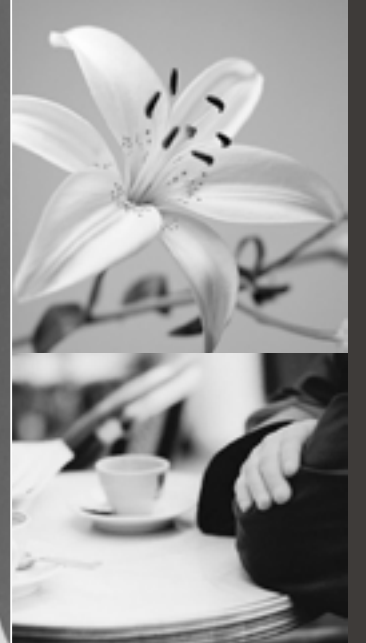
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# SPORTS

## MARCH MADNESS BEGINS

### Men's bracket

#### East Regional

**LJV Coliseum  
Winston-Salem, N.C.**

1 UNC  
16 E. Kentucky  
Thursday, March 15  
8:40 p.m. CDT

8 Marquette  
9 Michigan St.  
Thursday, March 15  
6:20 p.m. CDT

**Spokane  
Memorial Arena  
Spokane, Wash.:**

5 USC  
12 Arkansas  
Friday, March 16  
8:45 p.m. CDT

4 Texas  
13 N Mexico St.  
Friday, March 16  
6:25 p.m. CDT

**ARCO Arena  
Sacramento, Calif.**

**6 VANDERBILT**  
11 George Wash.  
Thursday, March 15  
4 p.m. CDT

3 Washington St.  
14 Oral Roberts  
Thursday, March 15  
1:40 p.m. CDT

**LJV Coliseum  
Winston-Salem, N.C.**

7 Boston College  
10 Texas Tech  
Thursday, March 15  
11:25 a.m. CDT

2 Georgetown  
15 Belmont  
Thursday, March 15  
1:45 p.m. CDT

**From summer workouts to hours of film, this is what both Vanderbilt basketball teams have worked so hard for.**



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
Juniors Shan Foster and Ross Neltner hope to celebrate after Vanderbilt's first-round contest with George Washington Thursday at 4 p.m. CDT.

## Thrilled be on biggest stage

by **JARRED AMATO**  
Sports Editor

Vanderbilt's Derrick Byars used to hate Selection Sunday. "You just felt bad when you looked at the bracket and you didn't see your name on there and everybody's filling out the bracket and you're not on there," he said.

The fifth-year senior was all smiles this year as his Commodores earned a No. 6 seed and the right to play No. 11 George Washington in a first-round NCAA Tournament East Regional contest in Sacramento, Calif., on Thursday. With the exception of seniors Dan Cage and Ted Skuchas, who were part of the 2004 squad that advanced to the Sweet 16, this is the players' first trip to the Big Dance.

"From an individual level, that was my first time ever. I was just so happy for my coaching staff, my teammates, and everybody surrounding the program," he said. "It is a feeling that you definitely can't describe. But this is not where it ends. Our name got called and we still have some business left to finish."

The Southeastern Conference Player of the Year has made it his mission to advance to the NCAA Tournament.

"I recall one time in August. I gathered the team around and told them, 'I don't want to be sitting home Selection Sunday sad again like we were last year,'" he said.

Like Byars, junior Shan Foster was tired of playing in the NIT. "When I signed here, it was the year they went to the Sweet 16," Foster said. "When you're a college basketball player coming in, you always have high hopes of how the season will go, and unfortunately we've been in the NIT the last two years. We have a chance to kind of make up for that a little bit."

The first test will be the Atlantic 10 champions, who are 23-8 and coached by Karl Hobbs. The winner of that game will play either No. 3 Washington State or No. 14 Oral Roberts on Saturday.

Despite losing their last two games, both to Arkansas, players said they feel fresh as they begin a new season.

"We didn't end the season the way we would like to, but I wouldn't say we've run out of gas at all," Foster said. "We still have a lot of fired up guys on this team and a lot of great players on this team and we're very excited about this opportunity."

The opportunity hardly seemed likely back in November when the Commodores lost three of their first four games, including the infamous home loss to Furman, which has made this experience even more gratifying.

"It feels good to be able to accomplish one of the goals that you set out for in the beginning of the season, and as coach said, it's a credit to the hard work we put in, especially starting out 1-3 as we did," Foster said. "We kind of stayed together and that's been the story of the year."

From brackets to buzzer-beaters to Cinderellas, the best time of the year begins Thursday.

"For my money, it's the most exciting event going in terms of tournaments and sporting events," Stallings said. "We really feel privileged to be part of it and look very forward to the challenges that this week will bring." ■

—For Sports Editor Jarred Amato's continuous coverage of the men's NCAA tournament from Sacramento check out:

[InsideVandy.com](http://www.insidevandy.com)

### Women's bracket

#### Greensboro Regional

**RBC Center  
Raleigh, N.C.**

1 Duke  
16 Holy Cross  
Sunday, March 18  
6 p.m. CDT

8 Temple  
9 Nebraska  
Sunday, March 18  
8 p.m. CDT

**Breslin Center  
East Lansing, Mich.**

5 Michigan St.  
12 Delaware  
Sunday, March 18  
6 p.m. CDT

4 Rutgers  
13 East Carolina  
Sunday, March 18  
8 p.m. CDT

**Galen Center  
Los Angeles, Calif.**

6 Louisville  
11 BYU  
Saturday, March 17  
7 p.m. CDT

3 Arizona St.  
14 UC Riverside  
Saturday, March 17  
9 p.m. CDT

**Breslin Center  
East Lansing, Mich.**

7 Bowling Green  
10 Oklahoma St.  
Sunday, March 18  
1 p.m. CDT

**2 VANDERBILT**  
15 Delaware St.  
Sunday, March 18  
11 a.m. CDT



TODD BENNETT / AP Photo  
After winning the Southeastern Conference Tournament, Vanderbilt sophomores Jennifer Risper and Christina Wirth look to cut down another net.

## Ready to cut down next net

by **ROBERT WYNKOOP**  
Sports Reporter

The ninth-ranked Vanderbilt women's basketball team gathered in the upscale Admiral's room at Memorial Gym on Selection Monday to learn its fate in the NCAA Tournament.

The room buzzed with excitement, cameras rolling and journalists speculating, as the team, who won the Southeastern Conference Tournament over spring break, waited to hear if they would be a No. 2 or No. 3 seed.

Shortly after 7 p.m., the women let out a collective cheer as it was announced they were selected as the second seed in the Greensboro region and will first face the No. 15 seed, Delaware State (20-12), in the first round.

Coach Melanie Balcomb said she was pleased with the selection committee's results.

"I didn't care where we were going. I was just looking for a two seed. I would have been disappointed if we didn't get it," she said. "I thought winning 10 out of 11 and finishing up strong. Beating the teams we did down the stretch ... I thought we'd be right there and I thought the committee recognized those three things."

The women will take on Delaware State in East Lansing, Mich., at 11 a.m. CT on Sunday in round one. Balcomb said she isn't familiar with her opponent at all — one of the perks to earning a seed as high as the Commodores did. Duke, who beat Vanderbilt in December, is the No. 1 seed in their region.

"I'm an East Coast girl, but I've not seen them on TV whatsoever," she said. "That's why we'll be getting game films and scouting reports together tonight."

Their opponent, the Delaware State Hornets, won the Mid-Eastern Atlantic Conference final over Morgan State on Saturday, giving them a spot in the tournament. The team has no seniors on the roster and shot a dismal 33 percent from the floor during the regular season.

Even though Delaware State has been lost to other top women's teams during their non-conference play, including Virginia Tech, Old Dominion, UCLA, Texas A&M and North Carolina, the Vanderbilt women are still preparing to play this game as any other.

"This team I think has momentum everyday in practice. They're excited to be at practice. They're excited to keep playing," Balcomb said. "They have gained a lot of confidence."

Despite not knowing their opponent, the team hasn't stopped working over the two weeks since beating Louisiana State in the finals of the SEC tournament.

"There's just certain fundamentals of basketball you can work on — things you're going to see every game. We're just working on defense, ball pressure, rotation and all those important things," said sophomore forward Christina Wirth, who ranks in the top five 3-point shooters in the SEC. "We've been doing a good job in practice. Coach will get us a scouting report and we'll start getting ready for them." ■



# Vandy has something to prove

by WILL GIBBONS  
Senior Sports Reporter

Shan Foster was near tears. Kevin Stallings had to pull him off the Georgia Dome floor, and teammate Alan Metcalfe was there to give him a hug. Meanwhile, Gary Ervin lay at the bottom of a pile center court, and Arkansas coach Stan Heath exited through the wrong tunnel in his excitement.

Friday's 72-71 heartbreaker in the quarterfinals of the Southeastern Conference Tournament presented a classic example of the seesaw of emotions a college basketball team experiences in the month of March.

"The thing that irked me the most was the fact that I let my team down," said Foster, who missed an open 3-pointer in the final seconds that would have pushed them past the Razorbacks. "They worked hard to get me a wide open shot, and those are shots I thrive on making and am very confident in making."

Fortunately for Foster and the rest of the Commodores, they have a chance for redemption.

"Obviously the way we ended the last game wasn't the outcome that we wanted," Foster said. "We have a huge opportunity to rectify that and that's what we plan on doing."

The fact that Vanderbilt lost its last two games caused some to question whether they deserved a No. 6 seed. Coach Kevin Stallings certainly wasn't one of them, especially considering that the Commodores were the only team, including Florida, not to lose consecutive games in league play.

"I feel like our seed is very representative of our entire performance, not our performance of the last week or the first two weeks of the season, but our performance from the beginning to the end," he said.

Still, the Commodores don't believe they've gotten the respect they deserve.

"These guys have been remarkably consistent, and remarkably competitive," Stallings said. "I just



Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings pulls Shan Foster to his feet following a 72-71 loss to Arkansas in the SEC Tournament. JOHN BAZEMORE / AP Photo

don't think that they feel like people respect who they are, and how they play. I think that's just how they feel."

That's why Vanderbilt arrives in Sacramento with what senior Dan Cage calls a chip on its shoulder.

"Well, we have a lot to prove," Cage said. "There's going to be a lot of naysayers out there talking about how we're overrated or maybe we're not deserving of getting in, things like that."

The Commodores will have a chance to silence their critics Thursday when they take on George Washington.

"Everything up until this point has been preliminary," said senior Derrick Byars. "This is what we have worked for all season long. It was a tough outing out there in Atlanta, but that is behind us now, and we still have a chance to do some special things in the postseason." ■

# Colonials used to playing in March

by ANDREW BARGE  
Sports Reporter

George Washington might be a lower seed than Vanderbilt on Thursday, but don't expect the Colonials to act like underdogs.

With a 23-8 record, George Washington enters the Big Dance fresh off an Atlantic-10 Conference Championship. Coach Karl Hobbs has now led the Colonials to three straight NCAA tournaments.

"I know Karl Hobbs is a very well respected coach among coaches. I have a very high regard for him and what's he done with that program," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings. "The experts said this was going to be a rebuilding year for them and they're 23-8, and they've won eight in a row."

Guards Carl Elliott and Maureece Rice shoulder most of the scoring load. Rice averages a team-best 16.2 points per game and shoots 43 percent from 3-point range, while Elliott averages 13 points and five assists per game to go along with 83 steals for the season.

Sophomore Rob Diggs adds tremendous athleticism to the Colonial front court as an effective scorer (10.7 points per game), rebounder (5.1 per game) and shot blocker (1.9 per game). According to Stallings, the Colonials pride themselves on not only having a fast and athletic offense but also a stingy defense that can give opponents headaches. "They like to press and trap and create turnovers and use their athleticism and their speed and quickness to do that," he said.

For the Commodores to deal with full-court pressure and a 1-3-1 trap, they will turn to point guards Alex Gordon and Jermaine Beal to take care of the ball. Shan Foster, Derrick Byars and Dan Cage will have to help out in transition, as well.

"Their deal is creating turnovers so we'll have to be very prepared to take care of the ball and try to get it moved and get it to the open spots on the floor," Stallings said.

If the Commodores shoot well, hitting those open shots shouldn't be a problem. "Against any type of press, any type of half-court traps, you have to make the extra pass and step up and make shots," said Rhode Island coach Jim Baron, who team turned the ball over 21 times due to the Colonials' pressure in the A-10 final.

Foster said he doesn't expect a lack of tournament experience to change how they approach Thursday's game with the Colonials.

"We kind of think of ourselves as a hard team to prepare for just because of the nature of our team," Foster said. "We've got a lot of unselfish guys. Nobody cares who's making shots as long as we're playing together and having fun."

The last time the Commodores received an NCAA Tournament bid they had the higher seed than their first round opponent. Still, since most of the experts marked Western Michigan as a trendy spoiler, silencing doubters was Vandy's forte in 2004 as it traveled to the Sweet 16.

This year boasts a similar story. Perhaps history will repeat itself. ■

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# WHO'S GOT THE EDGE?

Taking a look at how the Colonials stack up with the Commodores.

	Vanderbilt (20-11)	George Washington (23-8)	Edge
<b>Best player</b>	Derrick Byars	Maureece Rice	VU
<b>Best win</b>	Florida	Virginia Tech	VU
<b>Momentum</b>	Lost two straight	Won eight straight	GW
<b>Conference</b>	10-6 SEC	11-5 Atlantic 10	VU
<b>Coach</b>	Kevin Stallings	Karl Hobbs	GW
<b>Experience</b>	First trip since '04	Third straight appearance	GW
<b>Depth</b>	9-man rotation	7-man rotation	VU
<b>RPI</b>	47	71	VU
<b>Strengths</b>	Shooting	Pressure defense	Tie
<b>Nickname</b>	Commodores	Colonials	VU



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler  
Southeastern Conference Player of the Year Derrick Byars is ready to make the most of his first NCAA Tournament appearance.



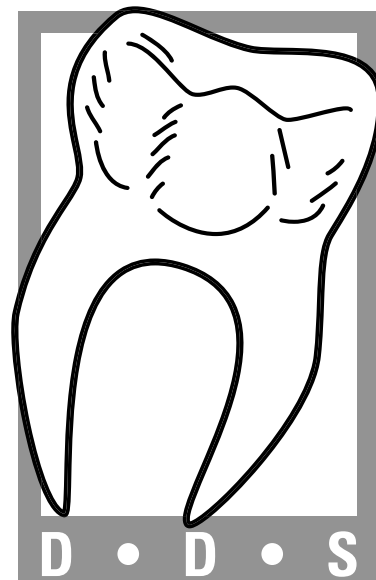
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# Commodores more than capable of deep tourney run

by JARRED AMATO  
Sports Editor

At the time, the Commodores had played only one exhibition game, but coach Melanie Balcomb was already beaming about her team.

"I think we can get a lot better, and I'm excited about the possibility of how good we can get with this group if they maintain their effort and unselfishness," she said in early November. "It could be a lot of fun."

Given where Vanderbilt is nearly four months later, Balcomb couldn't have been more prophetic. The Commodores won 10 of their final 11 games en route to capturing the Southeastern Conference Tournament title.

Despite more than a two-week break between games, Vanderbilt expects to pick up where it left off.

"This team can carry the momentum," Balcomb said. "They're very, very close on and off the court, and I think they've gained a lot of confidence and I can even see it in the practices."

Led by their three seniors, the Commodores have reason to be confident. Few point guards compare to Dee Davis, who averages 8 points and 5.5 assists per game. She could easily score more but often chooses to set up her teammates instead, and when the time did come for her to look her for own



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Vanderbilt women's basketball team cheers as it finds out it is a No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament on Selection Monday. Shots in the SEC final against Louisiana State, Davis poured in 19 points.

Carla Thomas is one of the nation's best post players, averaging 16.3 points and 6.4 rebounds per game. Caroline Williams can light it up as she's connecting on 50 percent of her 3-point attempts,

while also scoring 12.5 points per game to go along with 3.6 rebounds.

But the reason the Commodores are so successful — and so fun to watch — is because they don't care about statistics. They just want to win.

"If we stick together and do the same thing we've

been doing all season — sharing the basketball, playing Vanderbilt ball — we'll do just fine," Davis said.

There's no reason to think they won't. And as the SEC Tournament showed, Vanderbilt proved it can win in a multitude of ways.

The Commodores' offense flourished in victories over Florida (105-77) and Georgia (81-56), and when the team needed to step up the defense against LSU, they did it and grinded out a 51-45 victory.

"What's really important is we showed we could play in any tempo," Balcomb said. "This was their tempo. Defense wins championships, and I think that's what happened."

Last season, Vanderbilt put "April '06" on the back of its practice jerseys to represent its goal of reaching the Final Four, but they came up short, bowing out to North Carolina in the second round. The players are now ready for the challenge.

"We know what it takes," Davis said. "We've always seemed to lose at the crucial parts of the tournament, but we feel like this is a special team and can go further this season."

The Commodores have already received one tournament trophy this season and have every intention of bringing home another one.

"We finished out the SEC on a good out and we're hoping to finish off the NCAA on a better note," Davis said. ■



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

### 3/2/07 SOLUTIONS

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2	1	3	4	8	9	7	6	5

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Legendary chalice
  - 6 Hyped up
  - 10 Skin woe
  - 14 Main artery
  - 15 '20s art style
  - 16 Buddy
  - 17 Swift-footed
  - 18 Table scraps
  - 19 Energy food, for short
  - 20 Olympic symbol
  - 21 Chick's call
  - 22 Scottish Gaelic
  - 23 Mach+ jet
  - 25 Strongly disposed
  - 27 Keep up
  - 32 Parking area
  - 33 Fairy-tale baddie
  - 34 Indigent
  - 36 Fables
  - 40 Tie
  - 41 Villain's expression
  - 43 Portend
  - 44 Became less intense
  - 46 Blackthorn
  - 47 Theater section
  - 48 Bird's beak
  - 50 Male astronauts
  - 52 Curl up closely
  - 56 Lilly or Wallach
  - 57 Rising ground
  - 58 Merit
  - 60 Active starter?
  - 65 Sicilian volcano
  - 66 Actor Morales
  - 67 Do domestic duty
  - 68 Low fat
  - 69 Laura or Bruce
  - 70 Accepted practice
  - 71 Mr. Flintstone
  - 72 Smeltery waste
  - 73 Marketing figure
- DOWN**
- 1 Angler's hook
  - 2 Dice toss
  - 3 Field of study
  - 4 News piece
  - 5 Most recent
  - 6 Orphan placements
  - 7 Richard of "Chicago"
  - 8 Two quartets together
  - 9 Spiritual music
  - 10 Good enough
  - 11 Map
  - 12 RN part
  - 13 Fix firmly
  - 24 Dupes
  - 26 Incisive comment
  - 27 Pie a la
  - 28 Taj Mahal site
  - 29 Pension \$\$
  - 30 Home of the Patriots
  - 31 Christmas carols
  - 35 Starting business again
  - 37 Weaver's machine
  - 38 Lip
  - 39 Noticed
  - 42 Not imaginary
  - 45 Make holes
  - 49 Isn't colorfast
  - 51 Three-ring event
  - 52 Ledge
  - 53 Saltpeter
  - 54 Bones in forearms
  - 55 Painter's tripod
  - 59 \_\_\_ avis
  - 61 Lohengrin's love
  - 62 Freshwater duck
  - 63 Latest thing
  - 64 Washington bills

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3/14/07

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**YOU IN THE YEARBOOK**  
One of the many photos submitted for possible inclusion in the 2007 Commodore yearbook...

Submitted by Lindsey Jones  
Posing during their Alternative Spring Break trip to Zellwood, Fla.: Lindsey Smith, Kellianna Kleeman, Laura Kim, Lindsey Jones, Dan Maxwell, Stephanie Shoe, Elizabeth Middlebrooks, Kristin Hoevel, Jamis Gouge, Nancy Tan, Aj Khandaker and Ryan Wilson. They were visiting New Smyrna Beach during their day off from working at the Anthony House, a homeless shelter.

It's easy to submit your favorite photos from this year at Vandy: Just visit 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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