

Freshman Mike Minor pitched eight shutout innings in the Dores' victory Tuesday...



MASON HENSEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Bad plastic surgery should not be a laughing matter...

For more, see Mark E. Storolis' letter in Opinion, page 4



WHAT'S NEW ON

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Go behind the scenes with a video tour of Chancellor Gee's Kirkland office...

For more, see Multimedia at InsideVandy.com

The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2007 • 119TH YEAR, NO. 22

THE WALL

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

ONGOING IMPACT Symposium tickets on sale

This year's speakers include CNN anchorman and host of "Lou Dobbs Tonight" Lou Dobbs, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, and congressman and visiting professor Harold Ford Jr. IMPACT runs from March 19 through March 21. Tickets are free for Vanderbilt students and faculty, and all speeches will take place in the Student Life Center.

TODAY Resumes and cover letters information session

Learn how to create resumes and cover letters that will impress recruiters. Topics will include the components and the dos and don'ts of resumes and cover letters. The session will take place in the Student Life Center, Meeting Room 3 from 4 to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAR. 1 Deadline to submit Lwala Project application

The Lwala Community Health Clinic Project has joined forces with the Office of Active Citizenship and Service to facilitate global community service in Lwala Village, Rongo District, Kenya. Students will have the opportunity to help educate people about HIV/AIDS, teach English and other subjects to local school children, bring mosquito nets to families, and shadow a doctor within the village.

Applications should be submitted to OACS.

THURSDAY, MAR. 1 Discovery Lecture Series: Tony Hunter

Tony Hunter, a professor of Molecular and Cell Biology and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, will present the Discovery Lecture — "Signal Transduction in Disease and the Response to DNA Damage." The lecture will be at Light Hall, Room 208 from 4 to 5 p.m.

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

Vanderbilt Greeks respond to DePauw incident

by EMILY SCHWEICKHARDT
Contributing Reporter

The Vanderbilt Greek community is beginning to respond to an incident at DePauw University, where Delta Zeta's national officers evicted already-initiated members.

National officers came to the Delta chapter of Delta Zeta in hopes of boosting numbers by eliminating members deemed "socially awkward." These women were the only overweight and ethnic women in the sorority.

Liz Rinck, the director of communications for Kappa Alpha Theta at DePauw University, said her sorority and all other sororities at DePauw cannot respond to any questions from the media because university officials do not want students to make statements that reflect poorly on DePauw.

Some Greek students have expressed concern that the incidents at DePauw reinforce a negative stereotype that sororities are superficial.

Sophomore Allison Erwin said she finds it "ridiculous" that "national directors would come in and tell 19-year-old girls that they should be placed on alumna status."

"Sororities have the potential to do a lot in this world, and it is disheartening that a few Greek women's behavior will make us all look bad because what Delta Zeta did is a shameful representation of Panhellenic spirit," Erwin said.

Sophomore Jacquie Kumar, a member of Alpha Chi Omega, said she can see why Delta Zeta's national organization made the decision to showcase only the sorority members whom they felt were the "best representatives" of the chapter recruitment.

"It's unfortunate that much of recruitment has to be based on appearances; it's inevitable to some degree in recruitment," Kumar said. "It's not all superficially based, but some of it has to be because sororities

Please see **GREEK LIFE**, page 2

Girl Scouts deliver cookies to Rand



LAUREN FONDRIEST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Jenny Morgan (left) and Karen DeMilk, both 9, count the money they received from their sale of Girl Scout cookies to students and faculty in Rand Tuesday night. The Girl Scouts sold about 180 boxes of cookies from 3 to 7 p.m., for a total of \$630. Jenny is a student at Christ the King School, and Karen attends Granbery Elementary School.

Students elect VSG representatives



TYLER HAGEN / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Freshman Alex Wendelborn votes in the Sarratt Promenade Tuesday afternoon.

A&S SENATORS

Fabiani Duarte
Alan Dyer
Kelsey Pendleton

A&S COUNCIL PRESIDENT

John Furlow

PEABODY SENATOR

Wyatt Smith

PEABODY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Lauryn England

ENGINEERING SENATOR

Matt Snyder

ENGINEERING COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Charreau Bell

BLAIR SENATOR

Jena Carpenter

BLAIR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Tierney Bamrick

—For full election results, visit the News section of: InsideVandy.com

MESA annual event to feature dancing, trivia Thursday night

by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI
Asst. News Editor

Belly dancers will perform on the Wall during lunch to advertise the Middle Eastern Student Association's Thursday event.

MESA Night, to be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Life Center, will include entertainment, food, games and prizes.

Last year the event was "so successful," according to MESA President Jeanine Mansour, that it "maxed out capacity at the Student Life Center."

Despite the proximity of this year's event to spring break, Mansour said she remains optimistic the night will be a success.

The event will feature Middle Eastern food such as warak anab, falafel and hummus catered by Tarboosh, a belly dance performance, participants' names written in Arabic, a co-ed belly dance contest, Debke show, and trivia game, among a multitude of other activities.

"In comparison to Debke, belly dancing is

more of a feminine sensual dance, whereas the Debke dance is more of a traditional masculine dance originating in the northern Middle East," said junior Mohammed AlNahayan, a member of MESA.

Senior Thamer Alsaegh will perform an Egyptian style of drumming.

"The piece is a very old song called 'Alf Lilah Wa Lilah,' and the performance will feature a professional belly dancer as well," Alsaegh said.

Posters featuring facts about the Middle East will line the room and provide information for the trivia game later in the night.

There will be multiple opportunities to participate and win prizes, as well as activities including hookahs, coin hip scarves for women and traditional headdresses for men. Also, free t-shirts will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

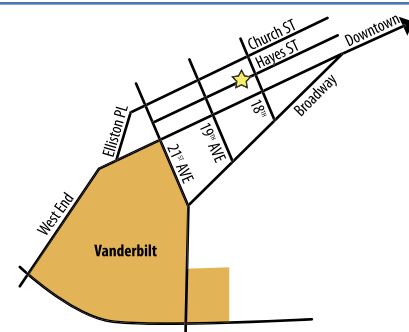
MESA was formed in 1999 and continues to host a variety of campus activities dedicated to educating the Vanderbilt and Nashville community about the Middle East. ■

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Dinner
Monday–Thursday 5–10
Friday–Saturday 5–11
Bar opens for dinner at 4:30



WEATHER

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

TODAY



Mostly Cloudy, 67/55

THURSDAY



Morning Rain, 67/38

FRIDAY



Partly Cloudy, 60/37

VUPD CRIME LOG

compiled by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY

Feb. 25, 2007, 1:30 a.m. — An intoxicated person was transported to the emergency room from Tower 1.

Feb. 25, 2007, 1:30 a.m. — A car's windshield wiper was twisted and the radio antenna broken off at the Alpha Epsilon Pi house.

Feb. 25, 2007, 2:15 a.m. — A person was arrested for pouring a cup of beer in the window of a passing car in Branscomb Quadrangle.

Feb. 25, 2007, 2:03 p.m. — A person's wallet was stolen at the Memorial Gym concession stand. An arrest has not yet been made.

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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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.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Call (615) 343-3064 9 a.m. — 5 p.m., Monday — Friday.
 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

CAMPUS

Congressman urges better connections with community at CSRC discussion

U.S. Rep. Jim Cooper, D-Tenn., a self-avowed "reserved Episcopalian," looked ruefully around a table of scholars and students at Vanderbilt's Center for the Study of Religion and Culture and summarized his frustration with the state of religion and politics in America.

"In a lot of bars in Nashville, you'll get in a big fight if you say it's a non-Christian nation," Cooper said.

"Where is the golden rule? Where is brotherly love? Where is the concern for the poor? All that seems to have been written out of the Bible."

Cooper participated in a no-holds-barred discussion of religion and politics in Buttrick Hall on Feb. 22 at the invitation of the Religion and Politics Study Group at the Center for the Study of Religion and Culture.

About 15 members of the study group told Cooper about a three-year research project that has placed Vanderbilt students in small Tennessee communities to gauge the interplay between politics and religion. Cooper praised the project and urged the students to consider more permanent involvement in small communities.

"I just think we've completely lost touch with the grassroots folks," Cooper said. "The average Tennessean is a factory worker, 45-50, worried about his future, his kids, his job, everything."

"It's almost more a class divide and an educational divide than a religious one. ... Wouldn't it be nice if you could prove them wrong and start infiltrating some of these churches in a positive way so that you were a pillar of the congregation and the community?"

"I'm really worried about our country," he said. "I'm afraid we're in the late Roman Empire phase, where we're getting so decadent and soft that if you even begin to advocate discipline or focus, you're viewed as either being a puritan or an antique." SOURCE: VANDERBILT REGISTER

Herbert: Americans must begin to combat indifference with awareness, action

Americans enjoy a high quality of day-to-day life and are therefore being lulled to a state of indifference when it comes to human suffering around the world, said New York Times columnist Bob Herbert during a Feb. 20 lecture at Vanderbilt.

In no instance is this more evident than in popular attitudes toward the war in Iraq, he said. Herbert spoke at the Student Life Center in the latest installment of the Chancellor's Lecture Series.

The veteran journalist has gathered reactions to the war from friends, colleagues — even college students. Many were "hostile toward Bush and opposed to the war, but not horrified by the war as we should be," he said.

Herbert recalled the suicide bombing in early February of a Baghdad marketplace that killed more than 130 people and wounded more than 300, most of them Shiites and many of them women and young children. The attack was so violent, Herbert described, that many of the victims' bodies were completely obliterated in the explosion, denying them any measure of dignity in their deaths.

While the attack was covered in the American media, it failed to garner the same near-rabid response as the sudden death of celebrity Anna Nicole Smith.

And talking about it makes people uncomfortable, Herbert said. "We don't like to see people in trouble or suffering — that's why the worst images of the war aren't televised. ... And it's not just war and terrorism; it's global warming, New Orleans."

"Am I saying most Americans are indifferent to these matters? Yes, I'm afraid so."

This becomes especially dangerous when we begin to marginalize those we previously considered to be among our own.

"We've let our own wounded troops fall into the category of 'shadow people,' and this is unforgivable — unforgivable," he said. "All of us need to be more aware of what's going on in the war, no matter how we feel about it politically."

"Indifference contradicts the reality that ordinary, everyday people really do matter," he said. "Life is not a movie, and we shouldn't be reduced to a nation of spectators." SOURCE: VANDERBILT REGISTER

Vanderbilt-Ingram cancer clinic set to expand waiting, exam room space

When the dust settles on a new renovation project involving Vanderbilt-Ingram's Henry-Joyce Cancer Clinic, waiting room space and exam rooms will nearly double to help meet the needs of an ever-increasing number of cancer patients in Middle Tennessee and beyond.

With approximately 52,000 outpatient visits in the last fiscal year, adding more space to handle the influx was inevitable.

"The numbers have skyrocketed by about 60 percent since 2002," said David Johnson, M.D., deputy director of Vanderbilt-Ingram. "They have leveled off a bit, but only because there is a limit to what we can physically do. We can't fit in any more people."

"This expansion will allow our professional cancer care team to meet the needs of our patients and families with more efficiency and effectiveness," said Jennifer Woods, R.N., M.B.A., manager of the Cancer Patient Care Center.

As part of its efforts to better serve an expanding population of cancer patients, Vanderbilt-Ingram is also engaged in a comprehensive strategic planning process for its clinical care program. Atlanta-based Oncology Solutions, which has worked with hundreds of clients including many academic-based cancer programs, the National Cancer Institute and NCI-designated centers, has been engaged to assist.

Once the renovation work is complete, Vanderbilt-Ingram officials say immune system-compromised cancer patients will have their own elevators and stairwell to get to the infusion area without being exposed to other Vanderbilt patients.

Carol Eck, R.N., M.B.A., added that, despite the volume, Vanderbilt-Ingram's outcomes remain strong. "Our survival rates are better regionally and nationally, as well. We consistently exceed the national benchmarks," Eck said.

Johnson added, "Our numbers are not just a little better, they are a lot better than the national average."

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

GREEK LIFE: Rush more 'real' at Vanderbilt

From GREEK LIFE, page 1

don't have any other way to get to know some of the girls."

Sophomore Maggie Fesmire, the rising Kappa Alpha Theta recruitment chair, said Greek recruitment at Vanderbilt is much more "real" than at other schools where Greek life is also dominant, such as the University of Mississippi.

Fesmire said she has heard from friends at Ole Miss that certain sororities put their "less attractive" women "in the basement to count votes" during recruitment rounds.

But at Vanderbilt, Fesmire said, her sorority and others would never do this.

"Our sorority makes everyone participate during rush," she said. "The girls who don't participate get fined."

Fesmire said she likes that Vanderbilt has deferred recruitment, in which freshman women participate in spring recruitment, because this enables sorority women to develop relationships during first semester.

By the time spring recruitment comes, she said sorority members will have gotten to know potential new members based on their

personalities, their involvement on campus and their backgrounds.

Senior Kate Swensson, the Alpha Chi Omega recruitment chair, said she is "confident that it's not an issue with Vanderbilt's recruitment process."

"The people in charge of sorority recruitment, both in-house and within Greek Life, know how to conduct a successful recruitment without resorting to such superficial tactics," she said.

In response to the events at DePauw, Swensson said she was "shocked that this was supported, and even carried out, by the national representatives of their sorority."

"Assuming you can only increase your numbers by screening members based on looks or sociable personality is a very immature way of approaching recruitment," she said.

Swensson said Greek Life holds weekly meetings and workshops meant to tackle different issues, but "right now, we interact only when Greek Life tells us to."

"We need to be able to talk on a more personal level in order to increase respect and accountability between chapters," she said. ■

Weather draws students outdoors



KELLY HOCUTT / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sophomore Austin Rissler and freshman Garrett Spiegel enjoy the spring-like weather with a frisbee game on Peabody campus Tuesday.

IMPACT 2007

presents



MARCH 19

Award winning journalist

CNN's LOU DOBBS

7PM

The Political Economy

Book available; *War on the Middle Class: How the Government, Big Business, and Special Interest Groups Are Waging War on the American Dream and How to Fight Back*



MARCH 20

Former Speaker of the House

NEWT GINGRICH

7PM

A Current Political Analysis

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



MARCH 21

Former US representative and Senate candidate

HAROLD FORD, JR.

7:30PM

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Bolotin work stays until March 22



TYLER HAGEN / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Freshman Steve Knubley admires the new artwork in the Sarratt Art Gallery. "The Jackleg Testament," an exhibit of Jay Bolotin's work, will be on display until March 22.

Vegetarian focus group to discuss meal plan options with dining official today

by CHRISTINE BROWN
Staff Reporter

Director and Executive Chef of Dining Services Camp Howard will hold a group discussion for vegetarian students today at 4 p.m. in the Rand Function Room.

The meeting aims to make the meal plan menu more attentive to vegetarians' needs in the new dining facility set to open partially this summer in The Commons.

"We are in the process of planning

the menus for The Commons," Howard said. "The new facility will have a very different setup, which will make it more flexible. Instead of the food served being branded by the name, it will be designed from an equipment perspective, so more different types of food can be made at each station."

The forum is specifically intended to give vegetarians a chance to suggest changes to the current meal plan menu.

"I haven't had a problem finding

things to eat; it's hard to find protein sometimes, but compared to other schools, I think Vanderbilt does a good job giving people options for dining," said freshman Gabrielle Levine.

Another goal of the meeting is to make students aware of the variety of meal options already available here on campus.

"Right now there aren't that many vegetarian options on the meal plan other than Grins," said sophomore Katy Finneran. Finneran is a life staff writer for The Vanderbilt Hustler. ■

New programs offer sponsorship for student-led service projects

by KELSEY PENDLETON
Contributing Reporter

The recently launched BolderBreak and GrabLife GiveLife programs, designed by 20 college students to foster community service among young adults, are now accepting submissions for an online competition.

Both programs give students the ability to design and receive funding for community service projects from corporate sponsors Dodge and Sicard and Co. by allowing students to vote on what projects they believe should receive funding. College students can nominate events online for the GrabLife GiveLife competition, and the first event to receive 20,000 online votes wins \$20,000 to fund the event.

"The idea is one click equals one dollar," said senior Eleanor Evans. "Not only can you get all this money, but also you raise so much awareness through the efforts required to get 20,000 votes."

Evans is one of about 10 Vanderbilt students that helped design the programs and has now partnered with Alpha Kappa Psi, the honorary business fraternity, to promote the programs.

BolderBreak allows students to design their ideal, weeklong summer service projects, submit the projects online and compete for votes. The five projects with the most votes will become finalists, and the two sponsors will choose the winning project from those finalists. The winner will receive full financial support to cover food, lodging, travel and supplies.

Junior Lindsay Matthews said it is rare for a student with a great philanthropic idea to receive the necessary funding and that BolderBreak can solve this problem for one group of students.

"I want to see some sweet projects," she said.

"Once students see that they can raise a substantial amount of money for their charities, the competition will take off," said sophomore Ted Griffith, a member of Alpha Kappa Psi.

Eleven events have been nominated in the GrabLife GiveLife competition over the past week, all but one from Vanderbilt students, including AOPie in the Face, World AIDS Battle: FACE the Pandemic, and Momentum Benefit for the American Dance Therapy Association.

Four BolderBreak submissions have been made, including one from a Vanderbilt student — Breaking the Cycle. Students at the University of Tennessee and Ohio State University have also made submissions.

Voting will continue for GrabLife GiveLife until an event reaches the 20,000-vote mark and for BolderBreak until April 15. ■

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OPINION

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OUR VIEW

Administrators must address inadequacies of current advising system

Sophomores in the College of Arts and Science must declare their majors by Friday. Ideally, this should not pose any sort of problem or challenge. By the middle of his fourth semester, a student should have some idea of his academic plans. However, in the real world, far too many students find themselves choosing a major without guidance, without advice and often without any contact with their respective advisers, save the dreaded semesterly meetings to acquire an OASIS registration code.

A frequent concern among undergrads is the seemingly arbitrary matching of new student to pre-major adviser. While no system will be perfect, surely there are many ideas superior to the status quo. The undergraduate course catalog claims, "Pre-major advisers are especially trained to help

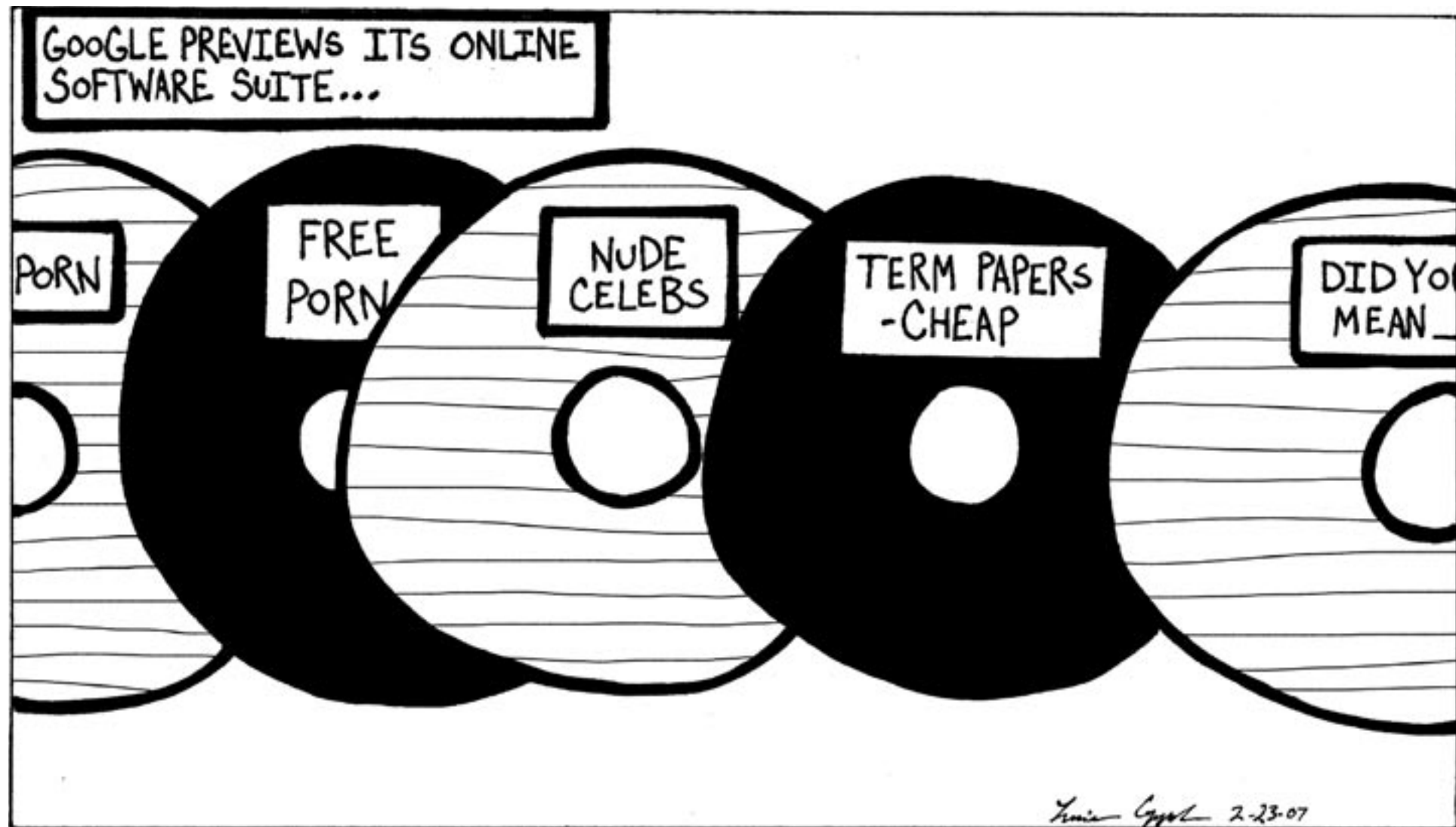
students move efficiently through the requirements of AXLE and the College Program in Liberal Education (CPLÉ)," but very few students complete their CPLÉ requirements by the second semester of their sophomore year, while a great many students suffer anxiety based on their choice of majors.

Even the notoriously arcane CPLÉ could be defeated with a few hours of careful schedule planning, provided one chose large classes offered repeatedly instead of seminar courses offered less frequently. AXLE was created as a response to CPLÉ's weaknesses, so it stands to reason that any student willing to put forth the effort to complete it in a timely fashion would require little aid from an adviser.

Concerns about majors, on the other hand, affect

very nearly everyone, and it seems a much better use of limited resources and time to focus the bulk of the pre-major advisory system upon pre-major advisory tasks, such as selecting the major. If AXLE truly does what the administration has claimed it will, questions about its completion should be few and the scope of the system may be safely changed in order to address overwhelming undergraduate anxieties.

As previous columns and letters have noted, the advising system is broken, and it must be fixed as quickly as is humanly possible. In order to do this, advisers must be moved from the role of holding our hands as we walk along the clearly stated graduation requirement trail into the role of guides through the morass that is major selection.



Louis Coppola—MCT

LETTER

IMAGE responds to criticism of flier campaign

To the Editor:

I would like to address Kimi DeMent's qualms with the philosophical content of IMAGE's flier, as expressed in her Feb. 26 letter to the editor entitled "IMAGE Week flier campaign works against its cause." Kimi, you criticize the statement, "Beauty is a subjective concept." You claim that making an objective statement about a subjective concept is invalid. Philosophically, your first claim is quibbling with semantics. From one philosophy major to another, where would we be without subjectivity? Following your logic, we would be unable to say, "Subjective concepts exist." Were we to universally ban objective statements about subjective concepts, all moral philosophy, not to mention philosophy as a whole, would be dead. Several statements you make in your own letter would be invalid. Is this really a philosophical stance you wish to enforce?

You also take issue with the second statement, "Question the status quo." The definition of "status quo" is "the existing order of things." Why can there not be an existing order of things for a subjective concept? It is a fact that our culture has certain opinions about beauty. Those opinions comprise the status quo we seek to change, for it is culture that does not recognize the subjectivity of beauty. Therefore, when you state that there is no status quo to challenge, you are ignoring empirical evidence and missing the point entirely. You further state, "merely questioning a status quo does nothing." However, note that questioning leads to the next step: changing. Before we can fix a problem, we must realize that the problem exists.

Third, you claim that IMAGE's discouraging people from allowing culture to determine how much they value their bodies means that we, IMAGE, are attempting to control that value instead. To argue against that would be time-consuming, though I must note that "control" is an exaggeration of the influence we'd like to have, so I'll agree with you. Yes, IMAGE seeks to help people value their bodies. We'd like to encourage that and tell you to love your body. Is that wrong or even controversial? The point is this: there is a problem in any culture when women and men alike are

encouraged to the point of both mental and physical illness to conform to a certain standard of appearance. You will have a hard time convincing me that having a positive body image is a bad thing.

You also take issue with our use of a rose. Perhaps we do not wish people to identify themselves with the clover flower; perhaps we wish them all to identify themselves with the beautiful rose. Had I used a clover flower, I'm sure you'd have griped about the implication that people not adhering to status quo were on the level of the arguably less attractive clover flowers. You say, "By using the rose to epitomize beauty, IMAGE merely reinforces the status quo they claim to want to destroy." I think the ideals of floral beauty and personal beauty are different. IMAGE does not wish to destroy every status quo; otherwise, murder and adultery would be acceptable. IMAGE wishes to question the status quo of people beauty. We leave the realm of flowers' beauty to the horticulturists.

The final claim of sexism in IMAGE's message and action is unsupported. However, I apologize to you if we were not able to make it into as many men's bathrooms as women's. Most of IMAGE and all of its executive board is female, and some were not willing to march into the men's bathrooms to hang the fliers. I myself did go into several, and you must have forgotten to look in the men's bathrooms of Tolman, Highland Quad and MRB III, where we did indeed post fliers. And you must not have attended the eating disorder survivors' panel, in which we had a male student speak about his battle against anorexia and bulimia.

I was not aware we are such a controversial group, and I apologize if we offended your philosophical sensibilities. I have tried to avoid the obvious argument: you're using your energy fighting against a group that tries to help people with eating disorders? Clearly, we struck a personal note with you. I invite you to take this energy and work with us, as you do seem to care about this cause.

Stephanie Rodgers
Vice President, IMAGE
Junior, A&S

LETTER

Bad plastic surgery is not fodder for comedy

To the Editor:

I was compelled to visit awfulplasticsurgery.com after reading "Plastic surgery has infiltrated U.S. society." The Web site headlines "Vivica Fox: cute girl with ugly tits" and "Meg Ryan AKA trout lips." Frankly, I'm shocked by Robyn Hyden's reckless commentary, and I'm not a crying liberal or even a member of IMAGE.

Hyden mentions that it is shameful for the American public to scrutinize celebrities and politicians under a skin-deep microscope. That is exactly what awfulplasticsurgery.com does. In fact, it goes beyond examination to utterly ruthless ridicule. Anybody should be ashamed to frequent that Web site, let alone promote it to a public already struggling with its image.

Groups like IMAGE support the human form, warts and all. It is a shame when celebrities are pushed to the surgical limit, but when they do and it goes awry we should all be glad that people are there to mock them.

Mark E. Storolis
Senior, 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. 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 issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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U.S. Sen. Bob Corker
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 225-4311
(615) 250-8160

Rep. Jim Cooper
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Washington, DC 20515
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(615) 736-5295

Rep. Brenda Gilmore
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35 Legislative Plaza
Nashville, TN 37243-0154
(615) 741-1997

Sen. Douglas Henry, Jr.
Tenn. District 21
11 Legislative Plaza
Nashville, TN 37243-0021
(615) 741-3291

Councilor Ginger Hausser
Metro District 18
521 Chesterfield Avenue
Nashville, TN 37212
(615) 783-0106

THE VERDICT

Stand and be judged by the Hustler opinion staff!

Cocoa		Cocoa rich in flavanols may increase blood flow to the brain. Finally! No more standing on your head for an hour before a math test.
Lunch boxes		One in five vinyl lunch boxes contains an unsafe amount of lead. First lead vessels poison the elites of the Roman Empire and now they're poisoning nerdy 12-year-olds.
DNA		New scientific evidence may provide a means to trap ivory poachers. Still, those elephants probably staggered up and died in front of the poachers coincidentally. Nothing of concern here.
Prince Charles		The Prince of Wales has suggested that banning McDonald's may be the key to improving public health. Given prohibition's excellent track record every time it has been tried, the irrelevant royal may be on to something!
Alternative energy		Oil has spiked to \$62 per barrel, but thanks to the miracle of alternative energy, Al Gore can use as much electricity as 10 average homes combined to power his Death Star or whatever else uses that much juice.
Stamps		The price of a first-class stamp may increase by two cents in the near future. If any of us mailed letters anymore, this would be a matter of serious concern.
MySpace hackers		Huzzah for fewer eye-searing designs, pointless rambling blog posts, Internet quiz results and terrible streaming pop songs!
Dell		The computer manufacturer will not sell computers with Linux pre-installed. Greasy nerds with wolf T-shirts and patchy neck fuzz are OUTRAGED.
Evolution		Cultures in which dairy farming was widespread developed higher rates of lactose tolerance. Now, only 8,000 years later, we have the latte. History is awesome.
Pigeons		Chinese scientists have installed devices in pigeons that allow the birds to be controlled remotely. It's no race to the moon, but we'll take it.
Honus Wagner		The Hall of Famer's baseball card sold to a California man for \$2.35 million. Being that valuable, even in card form, almost makes up for being named "Honus."
BitTorrent		The "BitTorrent Entertainment Network" promises a plethora of legal downloads. If college students cared about legal downloads, they wouldn't be as concerned about BitTorrent in the first place.
Connor McCreddie		The British 8-year-old has sparked a debate due to his weight: 15 stone, 8 pounds. Converting this into imperial measurements, McCreddie is 218 pounds — or tremendously huge.

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March 13
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Do you like your current apartment or suite? How about your roommates? Do you want to reserve your apartment or suite for the 2007-2008 academic year? **If so, students seeking to reserve their current lodges, suites or apartments must bring their current Vanderbilt identification cards and housing contracts to 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle between noon and 6:00 PM on Tuesday, March 13.**

In order to reserve a suite or apartment, there must be a sufficient number of current students agreeing to renew. The guidelines are listed below:

- **Carmichael Tower Suites:**
3 out of 6 current residents must be returning
- **Mayfield:**
5 out of 10 current residents must be returning;
Mayfield Living/Learning Lodges and RA lodges may not reserve their lodges
- **Morgan and Lewis:**
 - Efficiencies: 2 out of 2 current residents must be returning
 - 1-Bedrooms: 2 out of 2 current residents must be returning
 - 2-Bedrooms: 2 out of 3 current residents must be returning
- **Chaffin Place:**
3 out of 4 current residents must be returning

The remaining spaces must be filled by a returning undergraduate student of the same sex.

A group may reserve only the suite or apartment it currently occupies. All students in the group will be required to sign contracts binding them to the suite or apartment for the entire academic year, 2007-2008. Please remember that students currently applying for Vanderbilt Study Abroad Programs or internships outside of Davidson County are not eligible to participate in the suite and apartment reservation process.

Students wishing to reserve their suites or apartments or who are chosen to fill vacancies should bring their current Vanderbilt identification cards and housing contracts to the Office of Housing and Residential Education, 4113 Branscomb Quadrangle. To reserve the space, all residents of the suite or apartment – including new roommates – must be present.

At the time the suite or apartment is reserved, each student will be required to designate the room in which she/he will reside. The residents of the suite or apartment should decide who will live in which room prior to the reservation process.

Office of Housing and Residential Education
4113 Branscomb Quadrangle
322-2591

SPORTS

WHAT 2
WATCH 4

Upcoming Events

**Men's Basketball
No. 21 Vanderbilt at
South Carolina
Tonight
6:30 p.m. CT
104.5 The Zone**

The Commodores (19-9, 9-5 SEC) can clinch second place in the SEC Eastern Division and a first-round bye in the SEC tournament with a victory tonight in Columbia. Vanderbilt, which has won just two of seven road league games including blowout losses at Knoxville and Starkville, hopes that tonight is different. *Prediction: Vandy 70, South Carolina 65*

**Men's Basketball
Maryland at No. 14
Duke
Tonight
8 p.m. CT
ESPN**

A couple of weeks ago, there were doubts that either of these teams would make the tournament. Now, both are 22-7 and 8-6 in the conference and preparing for the Big Dance. When the game is a toss-up like this, you should always pick against the Blue Devils. *Prediction: Maryland 78, Duke 73*

**Men's Basketball
No. 6 Texas A & M at
No. 15 Texas
Tonight
8 p.m. CT
ESPN2**

Led by freshman Kevin Durant, the Longhorns have reeled off five victories in a row and are just a half-game behind the Aggies for second place in the Big 12. While the Aggies are probably the better team, three of their four losses on the season have come away from home, meaning the Longhorns have a decent shot at pulling off the upset. *Prediction: Texas 83, Texas A & M 80*

**Men's Basketball
Thursday
No. 2 UCLA at No. 13
Washington State
9 p.m. CT**

This should be a great one between the Pac-10's top two teams. The Bruins should have the title locked up as they hold a two-game lead over the Cougars with two games to play. UCLA won the team's first meeting by three, but expect Washington State to pull the slight upset. *Prediction: Washington State 65, UCLA 62*

**Men's Basketball
No. 21 Virginia Tech at
No. 25 Virginia
Thursday
6 p.m. CT
ESPN**

Who would have thought that these two teams would be tied for first place with two games to go in ACC play? I like the Hokies, who have a very respectable 4-3 record in league road games. *Prediction: Virginia Tech 77, Virginia 70*

RECORD: 62-39

NBA should remove age-limit policy



TERRY GILLIAM / AP Photo
Ohio State's Greg Oden would have been the No. 1 pick in last year's NBA Draft. Should he be forced to go to college?

GOOD CALL

by CHIP ROBIE

Sports Reporter

Many are lauding this year's crop of freshmen as college's best in the last 20 years. Spearheaded by Player of the Year candidate Kevin Durant and Ohio State center Greg Oden, this year's freshmen have contributed to make it an exciting season.

Many of the players who have made college basketball much more competitive would have been in the NBA by now, if not for the league's 19-year age policy. But is it our right to establish a minimum age requirement for entry into the NBA? No, it's nothing short of moral imperialism to prevent a player from entering the NBA Draft.

The onus is on the player, not the league, to decide if he's eligible to play, and it's an issue that has been blown way out of proportion. In the last 25 years, the NBA has only drafted 46 high-schoolers. Why are they picked? Well, they include the likes of Kobe Bryant, Lebron James, Tracy McGrady and Kevin Garnett.

General managers understand the principle of risk and reward. If an NBA ball club judges a player worthy of a draft selection, why shouldn't he be allowed to play? For star high school players, their future earnings are not a function of their educations. Their future earnings are decided by their prowess on the court. By waiting longer to enter the NBA, they could jeopardize their careers through injury, while, at the very least, they have fewer big-money contracts to entertain — something the owners are happy about.

It's also rather arrogant to proclaim that these young players shouldn't be allowed to collect a guaranteed contract of millions of dollars and that they must wait an additional year for the betterment of the college game and their own academic cultivation.

Young athletes have had significant impacts in many sports. Michelle Wie exploded onto the golf scene when she was just 13 years old. Jennifer Capriati was 14 years old when she reached the semi-finals of the French Open. Imagine what the NBA could be missing by discriminating against younger players. The prom-to-the-pros method worked for Lebron James as he met and exceeded lofty expectations by averaging over 20 points per game.

Proponents of the NBA policy parlay academics into their argument by saying the long-term benefits of education are significant. Let's be real: for NBA prospects that plan on staying in college for just a year, are academics really going to be a priority? If that is the NBA's goal, then they should increase the draft age to 22.

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski and Texas Tech coach Bobby Knight have publicly opposed the age requirement. Knight contends the policy has a detrimental effect on the integrity of the student-athlete. After basketball season is over, there's no incentive for the player to study, let alone go to class.

In short, the NBA doesn't need to be a high-schooler's parent. Pro basketball isn't so much a game as it is a business. Let the players declare if they feel they are ready, and let the general managers draft the players that will help their teams win, which will thus put fans in the stands. ■



TY RUSSELL / AP Photo
Texas freshman Kevin Durant said himself that he would not have not been ready to enter the NBA out of high school.

BAD CALL

by JARRED AMATO

Sports Editor

Opponents of the rule that says players must be one year removed from high school before entering the NBA often point to phenom Lebron James; they argue that no one should have had the right to make him spend two semesters in classrooms. However, players like James are the exception, not the rule. For every one of him or Kobe Bryant or Kevin Garnett, there are many more Lenny Cookes.

Cooke, a New York City star in high school, turned down offers to attend several schools, including North Carolina, and entered the 2002 NBA draft in hopes of making millions. Sixty-four players were taken on that fateful night in June, and Cooke was not one of them. Since then, he has played in multiple leagues around the world from Brooklyn to the Philippines to Shanghai, but never in "The League."

If Cooke had been forced to go to college for at least one year, there's a good chance he'd currently be living a lavish life with chartered jets and five-star hotels. But, because greedy agents convinced him that he was better than he actually was, Cooke now finds himself riding buses and crashing in motels with the rest of the players clinging to their dream.

Having seen too many stories like Cooke's, NBA Commissioner David Stern knew change was needed. Although this is just the first year of the rule, we're already seeing the benefits.

Many have argued that, like James, there was no reason for Texas freshman (and potential National Player of the Year) Kevin Durant to attend college. He was physically ready for the NBA and would have been one of the first players drafted. Yet, even Durant has said he would not have been mature enough to succeed a year ago.

"I'd have struggled, man," he told USA Today. "I would have wanted to spend all my money on stupid stuff. I'd have wanted to buy everybody else everything. It would have been a disaster, I think. Outside of basketball, I don't know what I would have done. I think my mama would have had to quit her job just to look after me."

When Durant arrives at the next level, he will be ready for it as he'll already know what it's like to live on his own. He will also be a better and more marketable player, quickly becoming a fan-favorite since all of college basketball has fallen in love with him. Looking beyond Durant, one sees that many of the players who would have likely declared for the NBA draft out of high school are realizing they aren't that good yet.

Instead of going to the league prematurely and being cut after three years, players will enter the draft when they are prepared and therefore have a much better chance of achieving long-term success.

While fans benefit from seeing a better brand of college basketball because of the rule, so do the players. Even if it's hard for them to realize in the moment, they'll be thankful later. You can bet Lenny Cooke would have been. ■

—Which side are you on? Cast your vote on today's "Good Call, Bad Call" on the front page of:

InsideVandy.com

Vandy will clinch first-round bye with victory

by JARRED AMATO

Sports Editor

It didn't take senior Derrick Byars long to begin thinking about today's game at South Carolina.

"We have to shift our focus to them really quickly," Byars said at the postgame press conference following the Commodores' 67-65 victory over Kentucky on Sunday. "They're playing great right now, at home especially, and we need to fix this road thing."

No. 21 Vanderbilt (19-9, 9-5 Southeastern Conference) has won 13 consecutive home games, but they have also dropped five road contests in league play. With a victory in Columbia, the Commodores will secure the No. 2 seed and first-round bye in the SEC Tournament next week. "It would be a great thing for our players, and we

would obviously be very excited to have a bye in the first round," said coach Kevin Stallings. "Winning three in a row in this league is hard enough, but winning four is way more challenging."

Stallings said he knows it won't be easy as the Gamecocks (14-13, 4-10 SEC) are "playing their best basketball of the season," having won two of their last three games — 81-64 over Tennessee and 76-63 over Ole Miss. Still, South Carolina coach Dave Odom said he didn't think much had changed since the Commodores beat his squad 78-68 two weeks ago.

"We are who we are, and Vandy is who they are, and who they are is an excellent basketball team that just keeps amazing people with really big wins," Odom said.

South Carolina, a mediocre team in a very tough SEC Eastern Division, features the league's leading

scorer, Tre Kelley. Second to Kelley is Byars, who has transformed himself from a very good player to a great one in his final season.

"He's combined his extraordinary talent with a much better consistency," Stallings said.

In addition to Byars, Odom is well aware of the fact that Vanderbilt has many players capable of stretching the floor.

"I am certain if you don't take away threes against Vanderbilt, you will have a very difficult time beating them," he said. "There's no secret. Our players are going after those 3-point shooters and whether we can stop them is the \$64,000 question."

For the Commodores to secure the No. 2 seed, the key will be to start strong, as they came out flat at Tennessee and Mississippi State en route to double-digit losses, said junior Shan Foster. ■

Nothing Minor about freshman

Pitcher throws eight shutout innings to lead Commodores.

by ROBERT WYNKOOP
Sports Reporter

The No. 1 baseball team earned its 11th straight victory beyond a dominating performance from freshman Mike Minor Tuesday, defeating Austin Peay 8-0 at Hawkins Field.

Minor earned his first collegiate win and was impressive in his third appearance on the mound for the Commodores. Minor lasted eight quality innings — surrendering only three hits while striking out eight and walking one.

“You know for a young kid that was as good of a game as I’ve seen pitched on the field,” said coach Tim Corbin. “It was more of an outing of a junior or senior ... a lot of strikes, pitching inside with his fastball, keeping them off balance with his changeup ... inducing weak contact throughout the game. That’s what a pitcher craves to do, and he did a good job of it.”

Corbin also cautiously compared Minor to Cleveland Indians starter and former Vanderbilt ace, Jeremy Sowers.

“He’s got a good mix for a young man, and he repeats his delivery. I don’t want to put any tags on him, because it’s not fair to him, but he’s similar in his approach to pitching as Sowers, probably. Whether he ever turns out to be that, we’ll see.”

After Minor had thrown more than 100 pitches, Corbin handed the ball to junior southpaw Cody Crowell in the ninth, who gave up no hits and struck out one. Minor said he did not mind not getting the complete game.

“I could have (gone another inning), but I had over a 100 pitches, which is a lot at the beginning of the year,” he said. “I knew they would just bring in the closer. I didn’t really worry about it.”

Center fielder David Macias started the game off with a leadoff single in the bottom of the first and scored on a Pedro Alvarez single. Dominic de la Osa then doubled to drive in Alvarez, giving the Commodores a 2-0 lead.

Alvarez was just a home run shy of hitting for the cycle as he went four-for-five with three runs scored and two RBIs.

In the third, the Commodores increased their lead as catcher Andrew Giobbi singled to right to score Brian Harris while Ryan Davis would reach on a fielder’s choice, scoring Alvarez.

Alvarez scored again in the fifth on a wild pitch by Austin



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
Freshman Mike Minor gave up just three hits while striking out eight in eight scoreless innings as No. 1 Vanderbilt beat Austin Peay 8-0 Tuesday at Hawkins Field.

Peay’s Ryne Mantooth. He also recorded an RBI double in the eighth to score Parker Hanks.

Left fielder Ryan Davis and first baseman Brad French also contributed RBIs in the victory. Austin Peay Senior Shawn Kelley took the loss for the Governors.

The Commodores continue their home stand Friday when they play against Xavier. The game starts at 4 p.m. ■

Four players earn

All-SEC accolades

HUSTLER STAFF REPORT

As the Vanderbilt women’s basketball team prepares for the Southeastern Conference Tournament, four players were honored for their success Tuesday.

Seniors Dee Davis, Carla Thomas and Caroline Williams each earned All-SEC honors, while junior Liz Sherwood was named the league’s Sixth Woman of the Year for the second consecutive season.

Thomas was one of five unanimous selections to the All-SEC first team, while Tennessee’s Candace Parker was selected as SEC Player of the Year.

Thomas had a career year for the Commodores, averaging 16.6 points and 6.6 rebounds per game. Davis joined Thomas on the first team. She led the conference in assists per

game and set the school’s career assists record this season while also joining the 1,000-point club.

Williams is one of eight players on the All-SEC second team. She has averaged 12.9 points per game this season while leading the nation in 3-point field-goal percentage.

For the second year in a row, Sherwood has been honored as the SEC’s Sixth Woman of the Year. She again leads the SEC in field-goal percentage, connecting on 64.8 percent of her shot attempts.

Tennessee coach Pat Summitt was named Coach of the Year after leading her team to an undefeated 14-0 league record.

The Commodores open SEC Tournament play Friday night, facing the winner of Mississippi State and Florida at 8:30 p.m. ■

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				7		3		4

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

2/26/07 SOLUTIONS

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

Coordinating **Overseeing** Managing **Publicizing**
Planning **Collaborating** Bridging *Serving*
IMPACTING

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Due March 1 at 5 p.m.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Comic Imogene
 - Flows out
 - Employment
 - Install, as software
 - Order to a broker
 - More kind
 - Surrounded by
 - Guilty or not guilty
 - Evil characters
 - Binge
 - Division word
 - Brooding place
 - Gave off bright light
 - Channel swimmer Gertrude
 - Was the designated one
 - Element 53
 - Hosiery hue
 - Individual
 - Actor Beatty
 - Flicker of light
 - Freed of obstructions
 - Firearm
 - Guarantee
 - Extremely
 - Tranquelize
 - American of Japanese descent
 - Rivulet
 - Billiards stroke
 - Depend
 - Lose traction
 - Editor's marks
 - Of age
 - Mine entrance
 - Pupil setting
 - Happen once more
 - Billfold fillers
 - Eyeball
 - Impolitely
 - Other side
 - Advantage
 - New Jersey NBA team
- DOWN**
- Set of students
 - Spirited vigor
 - Capital on the Nile
 - Addition to a contract
 - 6th sense
 - Those with faith
 - Kitchen device
 - Roofing material
 - One in Toledo
 - Inked
 - Farmland parcel
 - Turns right
 - Before, before
 - Pamphlet ending?
 - Baltimore's birds
 - Solitary
 - Jacks or better
 - Memo heading
 - do-well
 - Countercurrent
 - Ova
 - Mystery board-game
 - Peel
 - Cutting corners
 - Catcher's need
 - Pilot's field
 - Solo

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17				18				19					
20				21		22		23		24			
25				26				27					
28				29				30			31	32	33
34	35	36		37			38				39		
40				41			42			43			
44				45			46			47			
48			49				50			51			
52				53				54		55	56	57	
58	59	60		61				62					
63				64		65		66		67			
68						69				70			
71						72				73			

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2/28/07

2/26/07 SOLUTIONS

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

- Safe haven
- Mummy's three
- Uplift
- Suit fabric
- Long-legged wading bird
- Sibilant letters
- Hard to come by
- First garden
- Clare Booth or Henry
- Endeavor
- Either part of a fly?

VEGETARIAN Focus Group

Wed., Feb. 28
4:00pm

Rand Function Room (Sarratt - follow signs)
Hosted by Dining's Executive Chef



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