Read how the Dores made 'Big Baby' cry...

For more, see **Sports, page 6**



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The Handerhilt Hustler

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2007 • 119TH YEAR, NO. 8

THE WALL

compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

TODAY Web Spiders meeting

The Vanderbilt Web **Developers Group** (Spiders) will meet today in Sarratt 363 from 10 to 11 a.m. to discuss topics of interest to Web developers. The meeting is open to the Vanderbilt community only.

TODAY Blair Celebrates: 'An Evening of 21st Century Music'

The event will begin at 8 p.m. at the Turner Recital Hall at Blair and feature pieces such as Martin Amlin's "Sonata No. 2 for Flute and Piano," Richard Pearson Thomas'"Race for the Sky," Deanna Walker's "Trio for Sax, Flute and Piano," and Kevin Erneste's "Birches for Solo Viola and Electric Sounds." The event is free and open to the public.

THIS WEEKEND Last weekend for '365 Days/365 Plays'

This is the final weekend for Suzan Lori-Parks'"365 Days/365 Plays."The performances will be Jan. 26 on Library Lawn, Jan. 27 on Rand Terrace and Jan. 28 at the Neely Auditorium. All performances occur at noon and last about five minutes.

SATURDAY, JAN. 27 **Blair Symphonic Choir and Chamber**

Choir performance Saturday, Jan. 27 the Blair Symphonic Choir and Chamber Choir, directed by David Childs, will perform various works at 8 p.m. at Christ the King Church. The event is free and open to the

SUNDAY, JAN. 28 Dr. Kevin Kruse discusses his book 'White Flight'

public.

Princeton University Associate Professor of History Kevin Kruse will discuss his book "White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conversation" Sunday, Jan. 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pfeffer Lecture Hall inside the Ingram Science Building.

Compiled by staff from various sources. Check out http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu

Lady Vols outlast Vandy

VANDY GAMEDAY: TENNESSEE 67 VANDERBILT 57



Freshman Jessica Mooney attacks the basket in the Commodores' 67-57 loss to the Lady Vols Thursday night.

LIVE enlists support of Greeks, student government and faculty Organization to hold candlelight vigil today.

by ALLISON MALONE Editor Emeritus

The living wage movement campus continues to momentum, student government, Greek organizations and faculty members now information about the cause.

On Jan. 3, the union rejected the contract proposed by administration. Vanderbilt's which increased the base wage rate. Renegotiations are currently underway, making this point in time "crucial" for the movement, according to senior LIVE member Tim Bowles.

According to Kevin Myatt, chief human resources officer, the contract established a base rate of \$10 per hour within the second year of the contract, with a 3 percent across-theboard increase.

The union voted against the contract because they did not receive the 4 percent across-theboard increase they believed they deserved.

According to junior LIVE member Ellen McSweeney, LIVE works with the union because it is the most effective way to create positive change for workers, although the union did not ask for a living wage in the new contract.

"If Vanderbilt were to commit toalivingwagepolicycompletely outside of contract negotiations, that would be a really exciting thing," she said. "Other schools that have had successful living wage campaigns were decided through students' negotiations, not through union contracts."

The increased attention to the living wage issue at Vanderbilt mirrors the current debate on Capitol Hill. On Thursday, the Senate was six votes shy

of raising the minimum wage by \$2.10 an hour without tax breaks for small businesses. The vote follows the Jan. 10 approval by the House to increase the federal minimum wage.

LIVE members supporters will gather today on Library Lawn for a candlelight vigil at 4:15 p.m. to "draw the community together to offer support to workers and workers to offer support to our efforts," McSweeney said.

The tone of the vigil is to be "reflective, not rowdy," according to McSweeney, with a procession of participants holding candles assembled in front of Kirkland Hall, where speakers from local churches, LIVE, faculty, employees and Nashville organizations will give testimonies about the movement.

"I think we can get a few hundred people out to this," Bowles said, as members brainstormed ways to publicize the cause at Wednesday's LIVE meeting. "As a mass, we do have

LIVE has looked to gain support by reaching out to the Greek community. They sent a letter asking for the sororities and fraternities to attend the vigil and place a banner supporting the cause outside their houses.

Elizabeth Bennett, member education vice president of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, the only house that has displayed a banner, said a majority of sisters voted in favor of the campaign on Monday, although many may not fully understand the

"Most sisters have a loose grasp on the concept," Bennett said. "In general, politics are always going to be sensitive, Please see **LIVE**, page 2

Students embark on rolling history tour this weekend

News Editor

Some 190 participants will experience living history this Saturday when they join participants in the original 1961 Freedom Rides on a bus trip to Montgomery and Birmingham, Ala.

The Freedom Rides were a series of nonviolent demonstrations led by mostly college students to and in the segregated South. Office of Active Citizenship and Service Director Mark Dalhouse, who created the program this year, said the goal of Freedom Ride 2007 is to reconnect with Nashville's history through the experiences of those who fought to change it.

Vanderbilt undergraduate and graduate students were invited to apply for the trip. The program was originally limited to one bus; however, after gauging the interest, especially among faculty members and the news media, the trip was expanded to four buses. Chancellor Gordon Gee and Dean of Students Mark Bandas are among the participants.

At each stage of the trip, Freedom Riders, such as the Rev. Jim Lawson, a visiting professor, John Seigenthaler, founder of the First Amendment Center, and James Zwerg, recognizable from his appearances in the documentary "Eyes on the Prize," will rotate through the four buses and share their experiences and stories about the original Freedom Rides and the events that took place at each site.

"These people were college students just like the students on Vanderbilt's campus today, but they were playing an active role in the life of their country, demanding their civil liberties and valuing their citizenship," said Shaiya Baer, assistant director of OACS. "We will be visiting sites where (the original Freedom Riders) were victims of violence and put their lives in danger, paying a high price to leave the legacy that dictates our freedom today."

At an informational session held Wednesday, participants were given program outlines and advised how to handle the media on the trip. ■

The Freedom Riders will host an evening of music and discussion for students on Friday at the Fisk Memorial Chapel.

Students are invited to join veterans of the 1961 Freedom Rides for an evening of discussion and music Friday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. at Fisk Memorial Chapel, according to an announcement from Shaiya Baer at the Office of Active Citizenship and Service.

Civil rights leaders Bernard Lafayette, the Rev. James Lawson, Congressman John Lewis, Diane Nash, the Rev. C. T. Vivian, Jim Zwerg, Sallyn McCollum and John Seigenthaler will conduct a panel discussion moderated by Ray Arsenault, author of "Freedom Riders."

Music will be performed by Vanderbilt's Voices of Praise and prominent civil rightsera folk musicians Guy and Candie Carawan.

The event is free and open to the public. A bus leaving from Branscomb Quad at 6:30 p.m. will provide free transportation for students on a first-come, first-served basis.

Fisk Memorial Chapel is located on the Fisk University Campus at 1000 17th Ave. North.



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Sunny, 51/35

SATURDAY



Partly Cloudy, 55/27

SUNDAY



Partly Cloudy, 37/24

VUPD CRIME LOG

compiled by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI

Jan. 23, 2007, 12:49 a.m. -An arrest was made and misdemeanor citation issued for simple possession of drugs and narcotics at Edgehill and 21st Avenue South.

Jan. 23, 2007, 4:36 p.m. -An unknown suspect stole the catalytic converters on three separate vehicles at the Chestnut Warehouse.

Jan. 23, 2007, 9:42 p.m. -An unknown suspect broke a car window at 24th Avenue and Brandau. An iPod, calculator and two CDs were stolen.

Jan. 24, 2007, 2:09 a.m. -An arrest was made for simple assault on an officer, drunkenness, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest at the Mapco on 21st Avenue.

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

SERVICE GUIDE

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Hustler.

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours

IN THE KNOW

The news you need — in brief

WORLD

Attack on Iran's nuclear facilities would be catastrophic

In an indirect warning to the U.S. and Israel, the head of the United Nations atomic watchdog agency said Thursday that a military strike on Iran's nuclear facilities would have "catastrophic" consequences and only strengthen Tehran's resolve to make atomic arms.

Mohamed ElBaradei, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, cited intelligence reports that Iran may be only four years away from having the capacity to produce nuclear weapons, but stressed that agency inspectors found no firm evidence for such intentions.

In a clear warning of such possible intentions, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Wednesday that his country will respond to the threat posed by Iran's nuclear ambitions "with all the means at our disposal."

The U.S. naval presence in the Persian Gulf has also increased with additional aircraft carrier groups. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Tuesday that Washington was incapable of inflicting "serious damage" on Iran.

NATION

Chattanooga mayor holds homeless viewing of "The Pursuit of Happyness"

About 100 homeless people were guests at Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield's office Thursday for a private screening of "The Pursuit of Happyness," the real-life story of a homeless dad who worked his way to becoming a millionaire.

"Pursuit of Happyness" star Chris Gardner told The Associated Press that he wants homeless viewers to "take one thing away from those two hours: Chris Gardner isn't doing anything I can't do."

District of Columbia officials said they hoped the audience would be uplifted and gain hope from the film.

The crowd of mostly homeless adults and elderly people at the mayor's screening groaned at some of the familiar difficulties faced by Will Smith's character, Chris Gardner, and clapped at his triumphs.

Arafa Speaks, a 52-year-old homeless woman and longtime advocate who presented the idea in a town hall meeting last month, encouraged the crowd to keep hope, stay positive and work on using their talents. "This movie is a godsend," Speaks said.

Cheney spokeswoman contradicts Libby's account in CIA leak case

Vice President Dick Cheney's spokeswoman testified Thursday that she told I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby that a prominent war critic's wife was a CIA employee earlier than Libby has said he first learned it from a reporter.

Cathie Martin became the first member of Cheney's inner circle to contradict statements by Libby that led both to charges that he lied to the FBI and a grand jury investigating who leaked the wife's identity to reporters in 2003.

Libby alleges he learned of Valerie Plame's occupation from Tim Russert on July 10. However, one state department and two CIA officials testified earlier to conversations with Libby about Plame before that date.

Martin provided an inside look at how intensely Cheney, Libby and other administration officials worked on responding to the firestorm of criticism that developed following the beginning of the war in March 2003.

CAMPUS

Vanderbilt law professor Hersch compares skin color and salary

A new study by Vanderbilt University Professor of Law and Economics Joni Hersch found that legal immigrants in the U.S. with a lighter skin tone made more money than those with darker skin.

Utilizing data from 2,084 men and women who participated in the 2003 New Immigrant Survey, Hersch found immigrants with the lightest skin color earned, on average, 8 percent to 15 percent more than immigrants with darker skin tone.

Despite other factors such as language proficiency, work experience and education, Hersch said the effect of skin color even persisted among workers with the same ethnicity, race and country of origin.

Additionally, her research found that taller immigrants earned more as well, with every inch adding an additional 1 percent to wages.

Hersch concluded that discrimination is the strongest explanation for why lighter and taller immigrants make more money. She will present her research at the American Association for the Advancement of Science conference on Feb. 19 Source: Vanderbilt News Service

Raindrop research seeks to better understand soil erosion

In a study published Jan. 16 in the Journal of Geophysical Research, researchers from Vanderbilt and Arizona State University have dispelled a 50-year-old misconception about how rain splash transport works and have produced their theory for raindrop splash.

The process is called splash erosion and is of critical importance to agriculture. When raindrops strike the ground, they dislodge tons of soil per acre, which is then carried away by surface runoff. Essentially, it is the initial stage of water erosion, which causes an estimated \$27 billion in on-site economic losses in the U.S. annually. This process is also responsible for the geologic shift in the Earth's topography over time.

"The more we understand the basic physics of the splash erosion process, the better we can become at controlling it in the farmer's field," said study director David Furbish, professor of earth and environmental sciences at Vanderbilt. Collaborators included Mark Schmeeckle, assistant professor of geography at Arizona State University, Vanderbilt research associate Simon Mudd, and Vanderbilt students Katherine Hamner and Miriam Borosund.

LIVE: More coverage piques interest

Source: AP

and finding consensus among 180 women is nearly impossible."

The increased media attention has caused many students to seek out information about the issue, including Interhall President Devin Donovan and Student Government Association President Boone Lancaster.

"I shared with Interhall the update we got from Mark Bandas and Mark Petty as well as the LIVE newsletter and information I had about the candlelight vigil and other events," Donovan said.

Krish Vigneswaran, a member of the Vanderbilt Student Government executive committee and candidate for president, attended LIVE's weekly meeting on Wednesday after the VSG executive committee discussed the living wage at their meeting Sunday.

"I attended the meeting to find out more details for my own personal benefit, and as a candidate, this is one of the biggest issues," he said. "I wanted information from both the administration and LIVE."

Vigneswaran would not take a side on the

As far as securing a future endorsement from the newly formed VSG, Donovan said the issue is not up to her to decide.

McSweeney said LIVE would like to "see VSG encourage the administration to commit to the principal of living wage and its implementation."

Faculty are also getting involved with the

cause after LIVE began its outreach to faculty members this week.

Eric Schechter, an associate professor of mathematics, attended Wednesday's LIVE meeting and gave his input on how to reach out to other faculty members.

"I think a lot of faculty don't know about the living wage," he said. "Most Americans are good people, but they just don't know what is going on. This goes for faculty as well."

An organizing session for the faculty will be held on Feb. 2 to serve as a brainstorming session among the faculty members to decide the best way to gain the support of their colleagues.

Schechtersaiditishardtobringupapolitical issue in a non-political environment.

"They don't seem to talk about politics much in the math department, but I put the newsletter on my door," he said.

Although the topic is sensitive, McSweeney said she believes that their campaign has spurred a lot of interest and discussion.

"We definitely feel that the national media attention and increased campus awareness create really good conditions to draw the whole community into the issue."

Myattsaidhe "welcomes the opportunity for the vigil" but does not believe it is connected with the union negotiations.

"It's in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King and his desire for equity of pay," he said. "We have put together a packet that is fair and equitable and addresses the needs of the institution,"

Association defines board members' accountability

Statement released in response to governance concerns at private university.

by EVE ATTERMANN

Staff Reporter

The Association of Governing **Boards** Universities and Colleges released a statement defining the accountability of board members in both private and public higher education institutions.

released AGB statement in response to governance concerns at American University, prompted congressional review into the compensation for its former president. statement also appears on the tails of recent controversy surrounding a Wall Street Journal article about Chancellor Gordon Gee's spending and salary.

While reporting for the article, The Wall Street Journal asked Vanderbilt for Gee's salary and was legally denied access to the information because Vanderbilt is a private university. (The reporter later found Gee's salary

amount on a tax return.) The AGB statement is

notable because it suggests that boards at private colleges operate with as much openness as those at public institutions. statement The AGB

focuses on the fiscal integrity of institutions, how business, the educational institutions like ours can do quality of the institutions and the oversight of the It suggests that general information

about president's compensation package should be shared with all board members, and any trustee who wishes to see detailed information regarding the president's pay should receive it.

"Universities, including private ones such as Vanderbilt, incur a duty to be accountable to the public interest," said Bruce Barry, a professor of management and sociology at the Owen Graduate School of Management.

As for whether there is any

cause for concern regarding Vanderbilt's board, Barry said he is assured the school's governing practices are sound.

"I am not aware of significant problems with governance at Vanderbilt, but it is always worthwhile to think about boards conduct their own how boards of important what they do better," Barry

> The recent onslaught of trust issues regarding nonprofits and universities seems to echo the corporate scandals of a few years ago involving Enron, Tyco International, Peregrine Systems and WorldCom. These corporate scandals prompted the passage of Sarbanes-Oxley, a federal law that seeks to reform board ethics in a business

> setting. The AGB statement seeks to take the principles mentioned in Sarbanes-Oxley and apply them to boards at universities. ■

Tennessee charity asks for 'coats and caps' at weekend basketball game

by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHI

Asst News Editor

Cassen Jackson-Garrison is not just the starting tailback for the Commodores' football team anymore.

Now, he is also the honorary chairman of "Cassen's Coats and Caps for the Counties," a project that calls for donations of coats and hats for needy children across Middle

Students and Vanderbilt basketball fans have the opportunity to donate gently used or new winter gear at the men's Ole Miss game Saturday.

Coats and hats can be donated at the north, south or east entrances of Memorial Gymnasium prior to the games or can be dropped off at the McGugin Center.

"Here we have students within 100 miles

of the Vanderbilt campus with no coats or

anything," said Rod Williamson, director of

media relations for Vanderbilt athletics. "I would hope that the Vanderbilt community can fully fund the inventory need for this

The Community Foundation of Tennessee, the group that sponsors the project, was drawn to Vanderbilt several weeks ago after hearing of Jackson-Garrison's personal childhood story.

Eventually adopted by a couple that led his youth group, Jackson-Garrison sometimes went without food and wore hand-me-down clothing throughout much of his youth in Knoxville, Tenn.

"That story has been out there for a couple years, and the people at the foundation learned about that and saw that he would be an ideal fit," Williamson said. "They originally contacted our football program and heard Cassen Jackson-Garrison's personal story, and they made him honorary chair of this project." ■

Dance Marathon presents preview at halftime



Senior Brittany Adkins and sophomore Megan Ryan, both Dance Marathon organizers, take to the floor with a former patient of the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital during halftme at the women's basketball game Thursday night. Dance Marathon is scheduled for Feb. 23 and 24.

Changing Lives Award presented to former student at Wyatt Center

Fifty community members attend presentation on Peabody campus.

by CHRISTINE BROWN Contributing Reporter

Over 50 people filled the Wyatt Center rotunda on the Peabody campus for a lecture by the Rev. James Lawson

and the presentation of the Changing Lives Award. A powerful figure within the civil rights movement, Lawson was ousted from Vanderbilt as a student because of his activism, only to be asked to return as a visiting

Many members of the community as well as students from various classes in the Kipp Academy came to witness

"I work in the special education department, and I thought it was the perfect opportunity for one of my friends visiting to experience this exciting award that Vanderbilt has to offer," said Zina Yzquierdo, a research assistant professor at Peabody.

The Changing Lives Award was presented to Elaine L. Brown, a Peabody College graduate recognized for the 32 years she worked at the Tennessee School for the Blind and the impact she made on the lives of children with disabilities. She spoke about her struggles growing up in the segregated state of Louisiana and how she found her path as a teacher.

Administration launches new initiative to inform students of emergency procedures

'Enhanced 911' program increases VUPD efficiency.

by CAROLINE SCALI

Staff Reporter

"I don't even know which stairwell to use in case of a fire," said Isaiah Toback. a freshman who said he feels uninformed about Lynch said. "The overall emergency procedures and contact numbers.

It is for reasons like this that the university is launching a campaign to remind faculty and students how to report emergencies, Vanderbilt spokesperson Mike Schoenfeld.

The Vanderbilt University Department Communications Center dispatched officers in response to 65,000 calls in 155,000.

"With students bringing cell phones — and cell phone numbers — from all over the country, it is important for everyone to know how to reach VUPD," Schoenfeld said.

Students do not need to dial 9 for an outside line to initiate police, fire or medical emergency assistance, said Chief of Police Marlon Lynch. Dialing 911 directly from any Vanderbilt exchange phone will call the VUPD Communications Center.

If calling from a cell phone, however, students must dial (615) 421-1911.

Emergency that come in to the communications began displaying location of a call in November 2006, when introduced "Enhanced 911" service.

allows dispatcher to record the location in case the caller is unable to respond or the connection is lost prior to the caller being able to state their location," goal of (the) Enhanced 911 service is to improve emergency response times and provide better service for the Vanderbilt community."

Whether the emergency call is fire or medical, the center has direct phone link and radio equipment Nashville Fire Department and Emergency Medical

Sophomore Courtney 2006, receiving a total of Montello said she was "unaware any changes were made to the system, but is reassured to know that if there was an emergency, it would be handled swiftly and efficiently."

> The administration and VUPD have been working for the past two years with Interhall and the Student Government Association to form an effective emergency contact system imparting information to both current and incoming students.

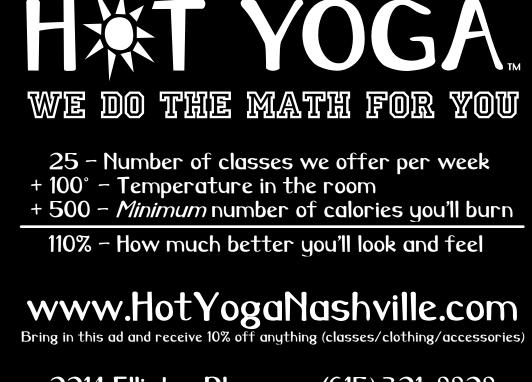
Nim Chinniah, deputy chancellor administration academic affairs, university's calls to educate students on emergency procedures is nothing new.

> "These actions are an ongoing effort. This is nothing new, and nothing ending — it is a continuous process," he said. ■

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OPINION

THE **VANDERBILT** HUSTLER

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OUR VIEW

VSG "experience barrier" prevents meaningful change

A plurality of the student body approved the Vanderbilt Student Government constitution last semester, and on the surface this appeared to be a beneficial action. Instead of having two organizations constantly vying for attention and supremacy, we will soon have one. In theory VSG should be slimmer, more efficient and more responsive than either the Student Government Association or Interhall could have dreamed of being.

Unfortunately, this VSG constitution is far from a perfect document. VSG's top posts, those of the student body president, executive vice president, speaker of the senate, speaker of the house and the chief of staff, each require a year of experience within the VSG machinery. This barrier to candidacy is a glaring black mark on what originally seemed like a true attempt at reform.

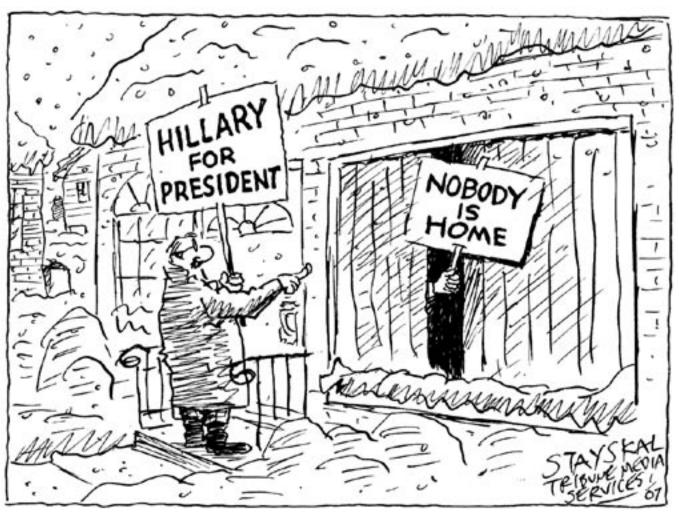
It should strike every Vanderbilt student as absurd that VSG requires experience within the organization from its president, while the United States federal government, the most powerful body in the world, does not require its presidential candidates to serve a term in the Senate or the House. There are good reasons for maintaining a certain openness of candidacy, and the best among

them is the prevention of corruption.

The VSG constitution will breed career politicians and nothing but career politicians. If, in order to seek a top post and thereby affect meaningful change, one must immerse himself or herself in the politics and backroom dealings of the organizations, there will never be an untainted presidential candidate. Every single candidate will have, at some point, compromised his or her platform as well as his or her principles in order to seek the Holy Grail that is the VSG presidency, making any attempts at reform all but impossible.

There will be no visionaries when it comes to making the organization better; those who have abused the system for their own purposes cannot credibly advocate

The SGA presidency was open to all comers, and SGA, for all of its flaws, recognized the ability of its voting constituency to select the right candidate for the job. To limit the pool of candidates to organizational insiders displays a clear lack of trust in Vanderbilt's voters; why, then, should these same voters trust VSG when it has already grown elitist and out of touch?



Wayne Stayskal—MCT

LETTER

Hustler editorial fails to address ethical issues of living wage

To the Editor:

I cannot be the only person who is exhausted by the parade of living wage-related opinion columns which stubbornly refuse to say anything of substance. In Wednesday's "Our View," The Hustler's editorial board took a stance that might be described as "fanatically moderate." They weigh the ethical questions that surround the living wage without any attempt to answer them. They assert that "both sides" of the living wage issue are steeped in "ideology and emotion." The inexplicable conflation of these two sides is not only totally uninteresting, but also inaccurate.

The Vanderbilt administration's stance on the living wage is not emotional and not very ideological either. Their refusal to implement a living wage comes primarily from their desire to spend as little money on labor as possible. This is a basic principle of running a business ("nonprofit" or otherwise) in a capitalist economy and, given such conditions, is an understandable principle. Their refusal also comes from the belief that student activists, union leaders and community advocates are naive and misinformed about economic issues, and that they are under no obligation to consider our opinions regarding their business decisions. Chancellor Gee and other decision makers are not evil, nor are they all ideologically identical. They have interests to protect. Ignoring this fact, as the recent "Our View" does, leaves the ethical landscape incomplete.

The Hustler performs a similar whitewash in calling LIVE's stance ideological. As I am sure The Hustler's editors are aware, "ideology" has become a pejorative term that suggests Please see MCSWEENEY, page 5

LETTER

Student body must protest unworthy student government

To the Editor:

To open this letter, I'd like to share a quote by philosopher Robert Paul Wolff, the author of the superbly written and delightfully concise treatise "In Defense of Anarchism." He writes, "Men cannot meaningfully be called free if their representatives vote independently of their wishes, or when laws are passed concerning issues which they are not able to understand. Nor can men be called free who are subject to secret decisions, based on secret data, having unannounced consequences for their well-being and their very lives."

While it is certainly exaggerating to state that the upcoming Vanderbilt Student Government elections will have such dire unannounced consequences for our well-being and lives, I would, following the axioms he has laid out, conclude that the Vanderbilt student body cannot meaningfully be called free so long as it succumbs to the clutches of VSG.

The reorganization of Interhall and the Student Government Association into VSG has done nothing other than to muddle the alphabet soup masquerading as the voice of the student body. No streamlining has taken place, nor does it appear to lie on the horizon: after all, VSG will have a budget at least that of the combined budgets of Interhall or SGA. In other words, VSG may get more money than its constituent parts ever did. That doesn't sound like streamlining to me, nor does the fact that the number of offices in the combined government has not shrunk significantly from the combined memberships of SGA and Interhall.

All of this, combined with the fact that only approximately 20 percent of the undergraduate population voted in the (heavily rushed) referendum to merge SGA and Interhall suggests that a rather large majority of Vanderbilt students either don't know or don't care.

I don't think that Vanderbilt students should stand for a student government that does not have the student body's best interests in mind. I believe that Vanderbilt deserves a student government that stands for freedom and fiscal responsibility.

Therefore, with this letter, I am formally announcing my write-in candidacy for the office of VSG president. However, I do not seek this office for myself — a technicality states that I have to have a year of experience to run, but bad statutes have never stopped the course of liberty — but I seek it for you, the student of Vanderbilt, who has put up with more excessive government than you ever have had inflicted upon you.

If elected, I would work not only toward addressing student problems through more direct means than a bloated student government, but also toward dissolving VSG entirely, ending the cycle of AcFee taxation with only marginal representation combined with arbitrariness in expenditures and election procedures.

A friend of my once asked, "What could SGA have done that a large enough group of concerned students couldn't have?" Likewise, I ask what Interhall could have done that the excellent existing resident-adviser programming infrastructure could not have. Why should we put up with yet more bureaucracy? Why should we put up with yet more officeholders? Finally, why should we, the students, continue to put up with a student government so out of touch with the rest of the undergraduate population that it now, in a bid to protect its own, requires that all candidates have a year of experience to run for its highest offices?

I'm not going to put up with that, and neither should you.

Write in Kevin McNish for VSG president on Jan. 30. You won't regret it.

> **Kevin McNish** Junior, A&S

OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, quest 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

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 quest 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.

President Boone Lancaster Student Government Assoc 1542 Station B sga@vanderbilt.edu Sarratt 359 (615) 322-8742

Interhall 7010 Station B interhall@vanderbilt.edu Sarratt 357

(615) 421-7515

President Devin Donovan

U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander **United States Senate** Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-4944 (615) 736-5129

U.S. Sen. Bob Corker **United States Senate** Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-4944 (615) 250-8160

Rep. Jim Cooper U.S. House of Rep. Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4311 (615) 736-5295

Rep. Brenda Gilmore Tenn. District 54 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

COLUMN

Rudeness to servers reflects an unpleasant personality

ANDREW SOLOMON

Columnist

One lazy Saturday afternoon about a month ago found me sitting at home, scratching my stomach and watching "American Gladiator" reruns. Just as the joust was about to kick off, my phone rang. Slightly aggravated that someone had the nerve to interrupt my meditation, I picked up the phone and grumbled, "What?" The voice on the other end was my good friend Matt's, and he had a

"Dude, Meghan is dragging me to P.F. Chang's again, and one of her friends is in town and tagging along. I need backup. Can you come?" I paused, assessed my current state of gainful employment and agreed to meet him a few hours later. I hung up the phone and returned to my busy schedule of seeing how many Beer Nuts I could consume before the commercial break.

At 7:15 p.m. I strolled into P.F. Chang's and found my friends seated at a booth near the back of the restaurant. As I approached the table I noticed that not only had Meghan brought a friend, she brought a rather attractive one. Lovely.

I sit down at the table and introduce myself. What happened next is something I still hear in nightmares. She opened her mouth, and for a second I mistook the sound that emanated from it for the sound of a Mack truck screeching to a halt outside the restaurant. This girl had the most incredibly annoying voice I have ever heard. Ever. I toyed with the thought of going out to buy earplugs but reasoned that I was being a jerk and should at least get to know her before I judged. I was sure she had a sparkling personality. We'll call

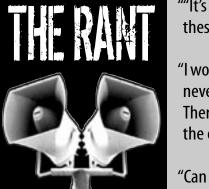
Our waitress approached, calmed the noise and took our drink orders. She returned about 10 minutes later with our drinks, two of which were incorrect. At this point, Julie took it upon herself to inform our waitress that she "sure had taken her sweet time to get our orders wrong." The waitress apologized, said they were very busy and took our food orders.

I spent the next 45 minutes or so listening to Julie, trying to ignore the screeching. And she talked. A lot. The fact that her voice was making small children near us begin to cry failed to register with her as she told me her life story.

The waitress appeared after a substantial wait and handed Julie her food. After examining her salad, she began to list all the things wrong with it. Our server was obviously exhausted and on the last leg of her shift, but she still listened. She apologized again for the wait and offered to take the food back.

"No, it's fine. I guess I'll just have to eat it. I don't want to wait another hour to eat." I looked across the table in utter amazement as to how anyone could say that to a waitress working in a packed restaurant who started her job there just three days earlier, as we later discovered. I excused myself to go to the restroom before I made the mistake of asking Julie if she considered muzzles a fashionable woman's accessory.

The fact that Julie's voice probably violated several noise pollution ordinances aside, I could not believe the way she treated our waitress. I've worked several jobs in the dining and customer service sectors, and anyone who has done so knows that the people who serve you deserve your respect at the very least. They're not sitting in the back betting how long it will take for you to get mad at how long you've been sitting there. They're trying their best to accommodate a large number of people in a short amount of time, and probably are getting yelled at quite a bit. And trust me: yelling at them does not help. I personally think everyone should work at least one service industry job, just to see how badly



What is on your mind?

The Rant is your place to anonymously sound off on

any issue you want. Send in your rants to with the subject

opinion@vanderbilthustler.

Compiled by Ceaf Lewis

"Rant" to:

""It's annoying that the Sudokus in The Hustler are so easy these days. Did the Peabody students complain?"

Friday, January 26, 2007

"I would just like to thank Kevin Stallings ahead of time for never showing up to a public event without his shirt on. There are ways of showing school spirit without making the entire college basketball fan base want to vomit."

"Can I just say that our basketball team is amazing? I mean, this isn't really a rant; well, maybe it's a good kind of rant. GO DORES!"

"I wish E. P. would stop ignoring me after three semesters and become my friend instead."

"I hate the Vanderbilt Office of Traffic and Parking. I'm pretty sure they have a picture of my car in their office with the caption 'Most Wanted."

"Bilotta and Gragg appear 10 times more attractive and winsome than Krish and Holmes do on the cover of Monday's Hustler, and that could be mistaken for partisanship. Not because Bilotta and Gragg are more attractive, but because the latter are subjected to terrible lighting!"

"I too have a job, and I understand the desire to get off work guickly at night. But the Rec turning off the lights a full 15 minutes before closing is simply inexcusable."

I returned to the table and spent the remainder of the meal switching between nice guy and caustic jerk. Some

"No, I know community college is tough. But hey, you could always be a waitress!" "Have you ever thought of taking up

voice acting?" "Sorry, I'd love to stay, but I have to go

home and floss my cat." I got up as soon as I had paid for my meal, said my goodbyes to Matt and hightailed it

out of the restaurant. That was miserable. I consider myself a patient person, but one of the few things I cannot stand is being condescending to waiters,

cashiers, etc. The only thing in their job

description is serving you. So be patient

the last time you or someone you were with got angry at a waiter. Did it make the food come more quickly? Was your meal tastier? I doubt it. So as a result, nothing changed except for the fact that someone else's day just became that much worse. Congratulations.

and let them do their job. Think back to

The lesson here is simple: don't be a jerk to the people who serve you. Not only is it incredibly rude and insensitive, but it makes you look like a complete tool shed. Shut up and be patient, and I promise the entire experience will be much more enjoyable. Unless your waitress is Julie.

-Andrew Solomon is a senior in the School of Engineering.

★alpha chi omega

- * leah benatar
- * dlex block
- *ahn brock
- *emily burton
- * allahy clauss
- * lauren engelbert
- * enin fahey
- * lauren gathany
- * chrissy helthaus
- * natalle Jones
- * lauren law
- * sarah mckibben
- * kartlin nares * lauren nichols
- * laura raminez
- *amy rothstein
- * katle schler *courtney stahl
- * Jennifer thomas
- * logan van meter *loven vidnovic
- *dani ward

- * leah bloch
- *enin bracco
- * lauren bruhs
- *manganet choo * Jessie cox
- * enin enalish
- *Imdsay ford
- * kerrie gleason
- * Jessica Ji
- * katrina korhonen
- * IIZ lehmah
- * kimmy mead
- * laura nemer
- *corrinne peterson
- * maggie reich
- * sanah Nussell
- * amelia schneider * emile strom
- * dlyssa van camp
- * robin voum
- **★lisa** vise
- * sarah wilsoh

is proud to welcome its newest members!

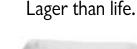
MCSWEENEY: Emotions should be important to policy making

intellectual rigidity and dogma. But LIVE's leaders have carefully informed themselves about the economic implications of a living wage and stay current on what is being written and said in today's debate on the minimum wage increases. Their convictions are challenged daily by living wage opponents. LIVE members are not all Democrats, nor are they all Socialists, nor are they all Christians. They are people from diverse backgrounds of religious, political and economic beliefs who have come to believe in a living wage. The group is nonhierarchical in its organization. Ideology has never been, and will not be, handed down to group members for memorization and repetition.

Finally, I would ask my fellow students to reflect carefully on what The Hustler's editors mean when they say that LIVE has made this issue an emotional one.

If they mean that we tell the stories of workers affected by Vanderbilt's wage policies, they are right. If they mean that we are personally moved to action by those stories, they are right. If they mean that we wish to dig beyond the x- and y-axes of Economics 100 to understand the economic fabric of our community, they are right. In a democratic society, our emotions can function as a critical ethical and intuitive barometer of our community's priorities and needs. In conjunction with so many other human endeavors, such as science, research, philosophy and engineering, human emotions have, and will continue to, shape policy. It is self-delusion to pretend that the wage floors and labor policies you discuss in your economics class do not have serious social and, yes, emotional implications.

Ellen McSweeney Senior, Blair





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SPORTS

WHAT 2 **WATCH 4**

Upcoming Events

Men's Basketball Ole Miss at Vanderbilt Saturday Noon **Memorial Gym**

Vandy (14-6, 4-2 SEC) looks to avoid a letdown as it returns home to host Ole Miss (13-7, 2-4 SEC) Saturday. The Commodores are clicking on all cylinders, and if coach Kevin Stallings is correct, they should be able to maintain the needed intensity to come away with a victory. Prediction: Vanderbilt 78, Ole Miss 71

Men's Basketball No. 4 North Carolina at No. 19 Arizona Saturday Noon CBS

This should be a great battle between two of the nation's most talented teams. The Tar Heels (18-2, 5-1 ACC) are led by freshman **Brandon Wright and** sophomore Tyler Hansbrough, while Arizona (14-5, 5-4 Pac-10) has a solid rookie of its own in Chase Budinger. North Carolina is playing great basketball lately and should come out on top. **Prediction: North** Carolina 83, Arizona 79

Men's Basketball Tennessee at Kentucky Sunday Noon CBS

Both teams are in desperate need of a victory. Kentucky (15-5. 4-2 SEC) has lost two straight, while the Vols (14-6, 2-3SEC) just got crushed by Ole Miss. Since the game is in Lexington, the pressure is on Tubby Smith in this one, but Bruce Pearl also has to keep his team together with Chris Lofton sidelined. Prediction: Kentucky

Men's Basketball Air Force at **Brigham Young** Saturday 5 p.m.

74, Tennessee 66

Air Force (19-2, 6-1 MVC) looks to tighten its grip on the Mountain West Conference with a difficult road test against BYU (14-6, 4-2 MVC). Watch out for underrated Air Force come March. Prediction: Air Force 85, **BYU 81**

Women's Basketball Vanderbilt at **Arkansas** Sunday 1 p.m.

Both teams are looking to rebound from losses. The Commodores (17-3, 3-3 SEC) fell to the Lady Vols, while the Razorbacks (18-4, 3-3 SEC) got beat by Louisiana State. Vanderbilt is a mentally tough team and should be able to bounce back. *Prediction: Vanderbilt* 74, Arkansas 72

OVERALL RECORD: 20-15

Dores geaux home happy

Vandy tames Tigers to win fifth straight against top-25 foe.

by ANDREW BARGE

Sports Reporter

The No. 21 Louisiana State University Tigers had won 19 straight home games against Southeastern Conference opponents heading into Wednesday night. They'll have to start a new streak after falling to Vanderbilt 64-53.

The win gives the Commodores a school-record fifth straight victory over a top-25 opponent, with the previous record being

Vanderbilt staved off a late LSU rally that cut its lead to 55-49 and sealed the victory with Shan Foster's driving layup and 3-pointer to put Vanderbilt up by nine.

Hoping to stun a ranked team for the third game in a row, the Commodores (14-6, 4-2 SEC) jumped out the gates to a 23-8 lead. A solid defensive effort from Vandy kept LSU from getting into a rhythm on offense, and the Commodores led the entire way. The only serious threat was LSU's run in the second half to cut the lead to six, and LSU shot just 32.3 percent for the game.

Derrick Byars led the Dores with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Byars snared five of Vanderbilt's 15 offensive rebounds as well. On defense, Byars seemed to grab every loose ball and contributed

"We were just flying everywhere on defense. We were just preaching, 'Let's get a stop on this end and try to get a score on the other end," Byars said.

While Byars had the best game on the stat sheet, the rest of the team chipped in as well. Dan Cage and Shan Foster scored 14 points a piece, while point guard Alex Gordon grabbed a career high 10 rebounds. Ted Skuchas had four blocks in just 12 minutes of play. Coach Kevin Stallings thought that Skuchas' size gave the Dores a much-needed presence on defense, especially against All-SEC center Glen Davis.

"Ted's impact of the game was vital. (His play) put them on a little bit of a defensive. He was blocking every shot that came into the lane."

Davis, last year's SEC player of the year, was held to just 12 points and seven rebounds. He spent most of the game battling with Vandy center Ross Neltner, who transferred from LSU after his

"They came out with intensity and punched us in the mouth," LSU forward Tasmin Mitchell said. "They were shooting well and had some great transition baskets. They hit us with something we weren't ready for, obviously."

The Commodores made 103-pointers on the night and shot 41.8 percent from the field. They take on Ole Miss Saturday beginning at noon at Memorial Gymnasium. ■



Louisiana State forward Darnell Lazare's shot attempt is denied by Vanderbilt forward Ross Neltner in the Commodores' 64-53 victory over the Tigers Wednesday night in Baton Rouge, La. LSU had won 19 straight Southeastern Conference games coming into the contest.

conversation SHAN FOSTER

After hitting clutch shots down the stretch in the Commodores' 64-53 victory over Louisiana State, the sweet-shooting Shan Foster took some time to talk to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

> THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER: What was the key to Wednesday's win? SHAN FOSTER: Whenever you're able to hold

somebody like Glen Davis to 12 points and for a stretch there, especially in the first half, they only scored five or six points, you've got to credit the

VH: As a Louisiana native, describe what it was like playing in front of your family and friends. How many fans do you think you

SF: It felt great. It was a very enjoyable experience. Somewhere between 60 and 70.

VH: When LSU cut the lead to six, you responded with a lay-up and a 3-pointer. You've hit other clutch shots against Tennessee and Kentucky. How much confidence do you have in late-game

SF: It helps my confidence just to know that my teammates are behind me and that they have great confidence in me to make the shots.

VH: It seems that this year's team loves playing together. Is that a result of the time you guys spent here over the

SF: We're very close. We're more together this year than we've ever been before. It is a result of all the hard work we put in with that this summer. We did a lot of different things together – bowling, throwing parties, just hanging and getting to know each other on a personal level, and I think that's showing dividends right now.

VH: After two games on the road, excited to be back home on

SF: Definitely. I miss our fans.

VH: Funniest player on the team?

SF: Easy. "Red" Gordon.

VH: One word to describe Kevin Stallings?

SF: Intense.

VH: Favorite song you're playing on your ipod?

SF: "You," by Lloyd, featuring Lil Wayne.

VH: Favorite basketball player?

SF: Michael Jordan, of course. Behind him, Steve Nash.

VH: Toughest player to guard? SF: Tennessee's Chris Lofton.

VH: *Toughest defender?* SF: LSU's Garrett Temple.

SEC NOTEBOOK

News and notes from the SEC and Vanderbilt hoops

by CHIP ROBIE Sports Reporter

REWARDED FOR SUCCESS:

Coach Kevin Stallings was named the Collegeinsider. com Coach of the Week after the Commodores defeated ranked opponents, then-No. 25 Kentucky and then-No. 10 Alabama. Due to great preparation, improved defense and an exciting offense, Stallings' squad has defeated a schoolrecord five ranked opponents in a row.

Meanwhile, Derrick Byars was honored as Southeastern Conference Player of the Week for his outstanding play against Kentucky. Byars also scored 18 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to help Vandy snap Louisiana State's 19-home game SEC winning streak Wednesday night.

Hoping to rebound after a loss to Vanderbilt, Kentucky blew a 17-point lead in losing to Georgia in overtime. Since Tennessee and Alabama have struggled since failing to the Dores, will the Wildcats be next?

The Commodores, Bulldogs and Wildcats are now in a three-way tie for second in the SEC East behind Florida.

THE STREAK CONTINUES:

The Commodores are ranked second nationally with 650 consecutive games with at least one 3-pointer. Dan Cage was four-for-six from beyond the arc, and Vanderbilt finished 10-for-25 as a team.

DE-FENSE:

It is time people close the door on the notion that the Dores cannot defend down low. After shutting down Kentucky's Randolph Morris, Vanderbilt limited Glen "Big Baby" Davis to just 12 points on five-for-15 shooting. As a team, the Tigers shot just 32 percent and were outrebounded 42-36.

Vanderbilt point guard, Alex "Red" Gordon, grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds, doubling his previous high. Gordon also scored seven points without committing a

HOME SWEET HOME: If the kiss cam isn't a good enough a reason to attend Vanderbilt basketball games, this should help: in SEC play,

Vandy's two victories.

road teams are a horrific 7-26 (.269), and that's including

BACK TO THE FUTURE:

How do you rekindle the magic of the Matt Freije era? You bring him back to the team. Well, not exactly. Freije spent this week practicing with the team, acting as Glen Davis in scrimmages. The idea obviously worked out for the Commodores.

Comeback attempt falls short

Spencer gives Lady Vols 12th straight victory over Commodores.

by MAX FRANKLIN Sports Reporter

Despite a valiant second-half effort, the Vanderbilt women's basketball team fell to the Tennessee Lady Vols 67-57 at Memorial Gymnasium on Thursday night.

Forward Sidney Spencer led Tennessee with 26 points, 15 in the second half, and Candace Parker added 19 points and 11 rebounds for the No. 4 Lady Vols (18-2, 5-0 Southeastern

Senior forward Carla Thomas led the No. 14 Commodores (17-4, 3-3 SEC) with 16 points.

"It's very frustrating," said Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb. "I feel bad for my players. I think they were prepared for this game; I think they worked very hard, that they have a lot of courage, and I think they're as frustrated as I am. We've been in a position to win and just haven't closed the deal."

The Commodores trailed at halftime, 28-21, despite a large lead midway through the half. Alexis Hornbuckle and Spencer sparked the Lady Vols, who closed the half on a 19-4 run to take a commanding lead.

Vanderbilt struggled with Tennessee's fullcourt pressure, giving away 17 of their 27 turnovers in the first half. Tennessee also held senior guard Caroline Williams, Vandy's second leading scorer, scoreless in the first half, keeping her in check on the perimeter while holding Thomas to only one-of-seven

"They pressed so we couldn't run our halfcourt offense, and in the half-court offense we were successful," Balcomb said. "That's how they got the lead in the first half; we didn't attack their pressure and did a poor job breaking the press, and you take Caroline Williams out of the game and take out halfcourt offense out of the game. They didn't let our best 3-point shooter get it off, but we let theirs, and Sidney Spencer had 26 points."

The Dores came out firing on all cylinders in the second half, sparked by great defensive plays from Williams and senior guard Dee Davis, which led to three driving baskets from



Senior Carla Thomas attempts to score on Tennessee's Candace Parker in the Lady Vols' 67-57 victory at Memorial Gymnasium Thursday night.

freshman guard Jessica Mooney.

Thomas scored off an inbounds pass from Davis to give the Dores their first lead of the second half and went back and forth with Spencer for nearly three minutes.

"We tried to go inside early and often, but we didn't finish too well inside," Thomas said. "We didn't open up our shooters outside as well as nine points and 11 rebounds in the loss. ■

we could have, and that hurt us down the

Williams hit a 3-pointer, her first basket of the game, to pull the Dores within one, and Thomas hit two free throws to give Vandy a 48-47 lead with three and a half minutes

That would be the last time the Commodores had the lead, as Parker took control down the stretch and the Lady Vols held a six-point lead from the final two minutes, pulling away at the end.

"The key for us tonight was being able to close out a game that was very physical," said Tennessee coach Pat Summit. "We played very physically defensively and were really able to limit them offensively. We did

Williams ended up with six points and Davis had nine points and three assists, giving her the school record, but she also had nine turnovers.

"Being a point guard and turning the ball over nine times in a contest like that, it's very frustrating," Davis said. "I'm taking full accountability for the turnovers. To come up short at the end of the game, it's really devastating. Myself, Carla and Caroline, being seniors, and not beating them on our home court our senior year hurts."

Tennessee has now beaten Vanderbilt 12 straight times, with the Dores' last victory coming in 2002.

"This game was huge for us and not just because of its significance in terms of the SEC," Summit said. "It was significant for us from a national standpoint as well in terms of keeping us in contention for a number

Vandy will have a chance for payback when it travels to Knoxville at the end of February to close out the regular season against the Lady Vols, but this weekend the Commodores must travel to Arkansas, where they fell last season.

"We have tonight to dwell on this, then we have tomorrow to get ready for Arkansas. We know what we have to do," Davis said.

Sophomore Christina Wirth chipped in with

Tennis wins opener

HUSTLER STAFF REPORT

The Vanderbilt men's tennis team (1-0) opened 2007 dual match season with a 6-1 win over crossstate rival Tennessee Tech (0-2) Wednesday afternoon at the Currey Tennis Center.

Commodores grabbed an early lead by sweeping the doubles event, holding the Golden Eagles to no more than four games per pro set.

Freshmen Lieberman and James Moye were the first to finish, defeating the Tennessee Tech tandem of Borja Zarco and Juan Pablo Gomez 8-2.

Freshman Vijay Paul earned the first singles point for the Commodores, keeping Tech freshman Alexander Ilyakhian to just three games in two sets (6-3, 6-0).

Vanderbilt senior Nathan Sachs followed with a straight set win over Gomez, allowing sophomore Nik Cromydas to clinch the match with his 6-2, 6-2 victory over Tech junior Zarco.

The Commodores will return to the court this weekend to face Western Michigan at 2 p.m. Saturday and Memphis at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Currey Tennis



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt senior Ted Skuchas (54) blocked four shots in the Commodores' 64-53 victory over Louisiana State. He, along with Derrick Byars and Dan Cage, are playing their best basketball.

Seniors making most of final shot

by JARRED AMATO

Sports Editor

For Derrick Byars, Dan Cage and Ted Skuchas, this is it. Realizing there is no more "next year" or "what-if," Vanderbilt's three seniors are holding nothing back, why is why the Commodores (14-6, 4-2 Southeastern Conference) are one of the hottest teams in college

"I think, for sure, that the three of us are playing the best basketball of our careers," Skuchas said. "It's the last time we're going to get to do all of this."

Block party

Wednesday night was Skuchas' last trip to Baton Rouge, and he made the most of it, scoring six points and blocking four shots to help the Commodores secure a 64-53 victory over Louisiana State.

Skuchas and company also limited Glen "Big Baby" Davis to just 12 points on five-for-15 shooting, and outrebounded the Tigers 42-36.

"It picks up our team, especially because we get called the team that has no inside game, no inside presence," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings. "I think it really excites the players on our team when Ted or Alan (Metcalfe) do things down there offensively or defensively that establishes a presence for us in the game."

But did Stallings ever expect to see Skuchas block four shots in a game?

"We knew he was a good defensive player, but not a guy that changed shots or blocked shots," Stallings said. "He's certainly had a couple games this year where he's made a big difference with his shot-blocking ability."

Skuchas credits his success to a better feel for the

"It's playing aggressively in a knowledgeable fashion," he said. "It's knowing when to push and when to give in, and knowing when to block a shot or go straight up, or when to fight and when not to."

Skuchas has also contributed on the offensive end, punishing teams with his hook shot.

"It's a shot that I've had for a long time," he said. "That hook is probably the thing I like to do best on the block."

Beyond the x's and o's, Skuchas, like most seniors, has approached basketball with a different mindset this

"It's my last go-around, so I've got nothing left to lose,"

Stallings added, "Sometimes, when those lights go on for those seniors, it makes all the difference in the world."

One of the main reasons the Commodores have enjoyed success is the willingness of each player to accept his

"My role is not to go out and score 25 (points), but to take advantage of situations and score when I know I have an advantage and to rebound and keep on playing defense," Skuchas said.

Stallings has taken notice.

"Ted has always been a very good positional defender, and so that's always been the strength of his game anyway, but he's just sort of elevated it," he said.

Like Skuchas, Byars and Cage have also elevated their games this season.

Byars, who had 18 points and 10 rebounds against the Tigers, has been spectacular on both ends of the court. In SEC play, he's third in scoring and 13th in rebounding.

Cage has been equally valuable, as he has averaged nearly 15 points per game and connected on 21 of 42 3pointers in six league contests.

"Teams that have good years or great years generally have their seniors playing at the best of their careers, and that's what our seniors are doing right now," Stallings

Stallings confident team will avoid complacency

by JARRED AMATO and WILL GIBBONS

Sports Reporters

For the past two weeks Vanderbilt has been the hunter. Saturday, it becomes the hunted. After three consecutive top-25 victories, the Commodores enter Saturday's game against Ole Miss as healthy favorites.

"I've got no reason to believe that they won't come out and play with everything they've got because that's how they practice, and I'm a firm believer that you do in games what you do in practice," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings.

After defeating Louisiana State in Baton Rouge on Wednesday, Stallings is not expecting a letdown from the Commodores (14-6, 4-2 Southeastern Conference), especially when they are playing defense as well as they are.

"In our first two road games of the SEC season, we just didn't defend well enough to win, and I think our defense has gotten better," Stallings said. "Provided that we continue to play with the kind of confidence and intensity that we've shown the past three or four games, then we will continue to have success."

In addition to its defensive efforts, Vanderbilt has found its rhythm offensively. Since SEC play began, senior Derrick Byars is third in scoring, while junior Shan Foster is fifth and senior Dan Cage is 13th.

Meanwhile, Ole Miss (13-7, 2-4 SEC) is coming off a 83-69 win over Tennessee



possibly best half of our season against Tennessee," said Ole Miss coach Andy Kennedy.

which

dominated the

"We're

second half.

coming

"We've

competitive and hadn't broken through until (Wednesday) in the second half."

Seniors Clarence Sanders and Bam Doyne lead the Rebels with 16 points per game. Dwayne Curtis is a load in the paint at 6 feet 8 inches and 290 pounds, and he

it has recorded seven double-doubles in the 12 games in which he has played.

While Ole Miss will undoubtedly do everything its in power to upset the redhot Commodores, Stallings' squad is not getting complacent.

"In this league, if you're not at the top of your game, you're not going to win and you're not going to have success," Stallings said. "I think our guys have taken that to heart and are doing all that

After playing its last two games away from Nashville, Vanderbilt is excited to play in front of its fans Saturday at Memorial

As senior Ted Skuchas said, "It's gonna be

a fun one." ■

INDEX

The Week Ahead

This week, you can have a religious experience at The Basement, go back to old New Orleans jazz country at the Frist, spend a day in the life of a Hollywood movie producer and take two musical trips to Montreal.

FRIDAY 1/26



The music of the Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band has been called a "rousing, hyper and authentic brand of blues." Peyton brings a little religion to a brand of music that sounds like anything but at The Basement tonight. The show starts at 9 p.m. and is 21+.

SATURDAY 1/27

Montreal band The Dears bring all their blacksuited glory to Exit/In tonight. With fused narratives, orchestral arrangements and pop sound, this band gives a performance in the truest sense of the word. Doors open at 8 p.m., 21+. Get tickets at www. ticketmaster.com.

SUNDAY 1/28

Spend some time at the Frist for the Nashville Jazz Workshop; it's FREE and starts at 3 p.m. If the history of jazz doesn't entice you, relax and enjoy some in real life. Halfbrass, a group of young jazz artists/ educators, will perform

MONDAY 1/29

Go take in a viewing of "Gimme Shelter," the documentary of Altamont, love-festival gone wrong, at the Belcourt. There's rock'n' roll and mavhem — this should not be missed. It will show at 7:30 p.m., with an introduction from Chris Dortch of the

Documentary Channel.

TUESDAY 1/30

Indie pop, neopsychedelia Georgia band Of Montreal releases their new album, "Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer?" today. The title alone is reason enough for a listen.

WEDNESDAY 1/31

Bluegrass band Mountain Heart performs today at The Station Inn. The band's fiddler, Jim Van Cleve, was recently nominated for a Grammy for "Nature of the Beast," from his debut solo record, "No Apologies." The show starts at 9 p.m.

THURSDAY 2/1

"Speed the Plow" features **David Alford as Bobby** Gould, a movie producer who has spent a career reaping what others sow, until he's forced to choose between his friend's sure hit and a beautiful girl's art-house project. Opening night is at the Johnson Theatre at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Call (615) 782-6560 for tickets.

THE HUSTLER PRESENTS....





When the 2007 Oscar nominations rolled in this past Tuesday, the Academy's choices were both predictable and surprising. While "Dreamgirls" led the pack with eight nods, it was snubbed for best picture, while the surprise-hit "Little Miss Sunshine" got the honor. Fans also cheered when its breakout star, 10-year-old Abigail Breslin, was nominated for best supporting actress. Meryl Streep's recognition for her performance in "The Devil Wears Prada" was also met with surprise, but she's up against tough competition for best actress; nominees also include veterans Judi Dench and Helen Mirren. Best actor honorees include Leonardo Dicaprio for "Blood Diamond" and Will Smith for "The Pursuit of Happyness." Yet, perhaps most notable about this year's nominations is that four of the films chosen for the best picture race were also nominated for best director: "Babel,""The Departed,""Letters from Iwo Jima" and "The Queen." Oscar night, which will air live on Feb. 25, will be hosted by comedian and talk-show host Ellen DeGeneres. Here, The Hustler's resident movie aficionado, Alex Chrisope, makes his predictions and shares his preferences for this year's winners.

> by ALEX CHRISOPE Life Staff Writer

And the nominees are...

BEST PICTURE



"The Departed" "Letters from Iwo Jima"



"Little Miss Sunshine" "The Queen"

BEST DIRECTOR

Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu Martin Scorsese "The Departed"



Clint Eastwood "Letters From Iwo Jima" Stephen Frears "The Queen"



Paul Greengrass "United 93"

BEST ACTOR

Leonardo DiCaprio "Blood Diamond"



Ryan Gosling "Half Nelson" Peter O'Toole "Venus" Will Smith "The Pursuit of Happyness"



Forest Whitaker "The Last King of Scotland"

BEST ACTRESS

Penelope Cruz



Judi Dench "Notes on a Scandal" Helen Mirren



Meryl Streep "The Devil Wears Prada" Kate Winslet "Little Children"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Alan Arkin "Little Miss Sunshine"



Jackie Earle Haley "Little Children" Dijimon Hounsou "Blood Diamond" **Eddie Murphy** "Dreamgirls"



Mark Wahlberg "The Departed"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Adriana Barraza "Babel"



Cate Blanchett "Notes on a Scandal" Jennifer Hudson "Dreamgirls"



Rinko Kikuchi "Babel"

Oscar predictions and preferences...

BEST PICTURE

Predicted — "The Departed" Preferred — "The Departed"

The Academy's boneheaded treatment of our greatest living filmmaker is well-documented — but so is their tradition of making up for these blunders with a late-career award. That "The Departed" was so phenomenal helps Marty's cause considerably. As for the major competition: those who were indignant over the upending victory of "Crash" last year will probably not pick the similarly fractured "Babel" nor the similarly tenacious "Little Miss Sunshine," a charming little film whose candidacy I still don't understand. But don't be surprised if "Letters from Iwo Jima" stages a last-minute surge — they love them some Clint Eastwood.

BEST DIRECTOR

Predicted — Martin Scorsese, "The Departed" Preferred — Paul Greengrass, "United 93"

The same logic holds for the best director award: the Academy is going to decide it's about time for Scorsese to win. And the Marty-partisan (Martisan?) in me loves this. But "United 93" took hold of its tiny audience in a way few films ever attempt — the movie theater became an extension of that plane, and one was forced to wonder how they would react in such an awful situation. Of course, the subject matter is still too touchy to be fodder for awards season, but Greengrass deserves props for his eloquent, tasteful and truthful handling of Sept. 11.

BEST ACTOR

Predicted — Forest Whitaker, "The Last King of Scotland" Preferred — Leonardo DiCaprio, "Blood Diamond"

BEST ACTRESS

Predicted — Helen Mirren, "The Queen"

Preferred — Meryl Streep, "The Devil Wears Prada"

These are my protest votes. I haven't been able to see "The Last King of Scotland" or "The Queen" yet, and by all accounts Forest Whitaker and Helen Mirren are astoundingly good as former dictator Idi Amin and Queen Elizabeth II, respectively. My protest has to do with a scurrilous new thespian trend — play a famous person with imitative detail and perceptive emotional depth. Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Jamie Foxx both won by such performances; Joaquin Phoenix, Will Smith and David Straithairn have all been nominated. Creating a similarly rich character from scratch is arguably even more difficult.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Predicted — Eddie Murphy, "Dreamgirls" Preferred — Jackie Earle Haley, "Little Children"

Eddie Murphy has fallen a long way since the supernova of his 1980s stand-up — fat suits and donkey voice-overs are his thing now. He slips comfortably into his James Brown-lite role in "Dreamgirls," and he keeps the motor chugging for the first third of the film. His fiery singing and dancing and the recent death of James Brown assure him the award. But Jackie Earle Haley's turn as a just-released sex offender cuts way deeper — he ends up more sympathetic than either of the main characters. The Academy won't recognize this indelible performance, but they should.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Predicted — Jennifer Hudson, "Dreamgirls"

Preferred — Jennifer Hudson, "Dreamgirls"

The most obvious pick of the whole lot. Former "American Idol" contestant Hudson simply blows everyone off the stage in "Dreamgirls" and will likely do so again come Oscar night. This should really be a lead nomination, but the producers must have lobbied for the more winnable nomination. Her rendition of the showstopper "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going" is simply mind-blowing: when you can upstage Beyonce, you know you've arrived.

'A Lesson In Crime' will leave you breathless and confused

Tokyo Police Club's debut EP uses hard electronica and random noise to create an entertainingly crazy effect.

by MICHAEL YOUNG

Life Staff Writer

I have never been a rocker. When I was younger, my parents made me play the piano for three years, and I complained so much they eventually let me quit. Even so, there are times I wish I had made an effort to learn to play a "cooler" instrument, like the guitar or the drums.



As it is, with my complete lack of knowledge on how to coax a chord from an electric guitar, any potential jam session I might have would be sure to include nothing more than me swinging my head like an idiot while plucking random strings in an attempt to generate some energy. Strangely enough, when I listen to the seven short tracks on "A Lesson in Crime," Tokyo Police Club's debut EP, I can't help but feel mindlessly jamming with no point or purpose is exactly what they are doing.

When other people describe Tokyo Police Club's music they use words

like "dance-punk," "spazzy" and "refreshingly jittery." To me, these words do nothing more than cover up the fact that the music has no coherence whatsoever. Each song consists of a series of haphazardly placed drumbeats, solos composed of electronica bloops and a very heavy dose of static. I wanted to find some knob I could twist to make everything clearer because it sounded like someone had left a static television

running in the background. And all this doesn't even include the vocals, which are, quite honestly, insane: "Ihave a microchip/implanted in my heart / so if I try to escape / the robots will blow me apart."

But despite how much I want to dismiss this album as garbage and move on with my life, I can't deny there is something inherently interesting about hearing someone go absolutely crazy. Even when the tracks were grating against my eardrums, I didn't want to turn down the volume because I couldn't help but be amazed by their unabashed enthusiasm. For better or worse, this music will grab your attention. Even the track names have little dashes before each one, which caused iTunes to boot them all to the top of my list when I sorted my music alphabetically. Is it a tacky and potentially annoying way to get people to notice your songs? Yes, but

Like I said, "A Lesson In Crime" is only a debut EP. Its seven tracks, each clocking in at less than three minutes, won't entertain you for long. But then

again, Tokyo Police Club's music isn't about running a marathon of



smoothly flowing melody - it's a sprint to the finish, and if your heart isn't pounding by the time the CD stops spinning, then you probably aren't someone who should be spending your time listening to music

However, the sound is definitely not for everyone. The confusingly loud tones will distract most people, and even those who try to listen deeper might be dissuaded by the vocals, which sound like someone singing into a walkie-talkie. Still, if you've got a passion for losing yourself in a gratuitous outpouring of energy, I strongly encourage you to push your way through the static. ■

'Nickel and Dimed' does not shortchange audience

by JONATHAN WHITE Life Staff Writer

historical frills, no artsy-fartsy, garde ambiguity — just straightforward, relevant and real. Such is the Tennessee Women's Theatre Project's production of "Nickel and Dimed" at the Z. Alexander Looby Theatre. The five actors' depiction of a low-wage life is an engaging and thoughtprovoking contribution to the Nashville entertainment scene. From its ensemble cast to the subtlety and wit of the script, the production is more than an amusing evening of theater — it is a call for introspection and a challenge to affect change.

The play is based on the best-selling book by Barbara Ehrenreich, "Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America." It depicts Ehrenreich, a successful investigative journalist, inspecting firsthand what the play itself calls "a strange planet: the working class." As she places herself in lowwage jobs and attempts to survive solely on her income from those jobs, her experiences contain disturbing, memorable and even comical encounters.

Beyond the play's content Group rates are available. ■

and plotline, its superb acting and bits of audience involvement add energy and class to this production. Director Maryanna Clarke prevents the show from crossing into "preachiness" through masterful staging. The production exposes the reality of the working poor in America but leaves the audience to consider for themselves what type of action, if any, is required of society by this reality.

The Tennessee Women's Theater Project presents "Nickel and Dimed" at an opportune time. With the minimum wage bill working its way through Congress and Vanderbilt's living wage campaign grabbing Hustler headlines, it would be nearly shameful to miss this production. The discussions and questions it provokes have the potential to transformaudienceopinions and modes of analysis. One would be hard-pressed to find a show more relevant to contemporary themes.

"Nickel and Dimed" runs at the Z. Alexander Looby Theatre Jan. 26 and 27. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students, and they are available at the door, online at www.twtp.org or by calling (615) 681-7220.

Decorate with Pride Kirkland Hall 18" x 24" Limited Edition Print by Joel Anderson See the Spirit of Nashville Exhibit in the E. Bronson Ingram Studio Arts Center Gallery (room 208) now thru Feb. 23. For more information about the Spirit of Nashville Collection, visit: www.spiritofnashville.com **NASHVILLE*** PRINTS & GIFTS ARE AVAILABLE AT: VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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'It's Gettin' Better All the Time' turns country-phobic Yankee into fan

Bowman showcases tender vocals in a classic bluegrass tradition.

by DARCY NEWELL

Life Editor

Before I begin, there is something you need to know: I'm from New Jersey. I grew up with friends who, when asked about their musical taste, would reply, without missing a beat, "Anything but country." When I announced to family and friends that I had decided to attend Vanderbilt, they'd scrunch their noses up at me and say, "You know what that means. You're going to have to listen to country. Sucks to be you!"



VANDERBILT

I panicked. I was going to have to listen to country! My roommate was likely to be a honky-tonk gal from Mississippi who blasted the likes of Alabama and Willie Nelson. I was going to be an outcast!

So, I decided to ease myself into this country business with pop-country artists like Rascal Flatts and Kenny Chesney. It was pretty good, nothing too radical so I packed up for Vanderbilt, equipped and ready to answer, proudly, that yes, I'm from the North and yes, I can handle

Since my arrival in Music City a year and a half ago, my tastes have expanded in every direction, most likely due to the wide variety of artists that come to Nashville. So, when I had the opportunity to review Ronnie Bowman, a bluegrass-country artist with a sizeable following, I jumped at it. I was to review Bowman's fourth solo album "It's Gettin' Better All the Time," and I was especially excited, as Bowman will perform at Station Inn on Friday, Feb. 2. So I popped the CD into my Mac and expected for the unexpected. What I didn't plan to do was love the album.

The album's first of 11 tracks is "On My Way Back Home." As the track begins, a mandolin begins to play, and soon after, Bowman's mellow voice comes on. Wait a minute — where is the studio-enhanced pop-country I'm used to? Where is the power ballad? I check the liner notes — in addition to the mandolin, there is a guitar, fiddle, bass, banjo and Dobro. There are a few background vocalists.

Yet, my surprise was almost immediately channeled into enjoyment. Bowman's soothing voice mixes well with traditional bluegrass strings. The "old" country sound somehow sounds modern, perhaps because Bowman's voice is so tender and un-imposing. No wonder a countrynovice Yankee can like it.

The album features eight original tracks and three diverse covers, as Bowman puts his unique spin on Dolly Parton's "Old Flames," Brooks and Dunn's "It's Gettin' Better All the Time" and Webb Pierce's "Walkin' the Dog."

"Old Flames" and "Gettin' Better" talk about the age-old subject of loves past and lost, but Bowman's soulful crooning is believable and real. "Walkin' the Dog", the album's final track, is lively and has quite the opposite tone, as the lyrics begin by saying "I'm walkin' the dog / ain't feelin' blue / I'm walkin' the dog / don't care 'bout you." Well, then. That settles it.

Bowman's original tracks are just as appealing: Some talk about love, but some, in the traditional style of country music, just talk about life. Those are my favorite. I especially liked the self-empowering "The Mountain."

However, some tracks don't exactly sell me. The album's fourth song "Build a Little Playhouse" is a bit cheesy, but perhaps I'm just not accustomed to the wide range of subjects country artists can cover. No matter. I'll listen to it again, and maybe I'll come around.

All in all, "It's Gettin' Better All the Time" is a great album and lives up to its hype. So whether you know who Dolly Parton is and can identify the Dobro's twangy sound, or are like me, a novice in bluegrass and country, pick up the album or go to the show Feb. 2 because Bowman is sure not to disappoint. ■

HUSTLER PICKS

Each week the Hustler staff will weigh in on a certain subject pertaining to arts and entertainment. This week, staffers and students choose their favorite awesomely bad song.



GLENNA DEROY

Editor-in-Chief Akon, "Smack That"

ALLISON SMITH

News Editor Natasha Bedingfield, "These Words"

CEAF LEWIS

Opinion Editor Harvey Danger, "Flagpole Sitta"

JARRED AMATO

Sports Editor Jojo, "Too Little Too Late"

DARCY NEWELL

Life Editor Jibbs, "Chain Hang Low"

ALLISON MALONE

Editor Emeritus Britney Spears, "Toxic"

READER PICKS

CHRIS CHA

Junior B*Witched, "C'est La Vie"

ALEX RIEGER

Senior Europe, "The Final Countdown"

Sophomore Hanson, "MMMBop"

LAUREN ALTERMAN

DIANNE WRIGHT

We Touch"

Junior Cascada, "Everytime

Next week, staffers will choose their favorite flavor of Ben and Jerry's ice cream. Readers are also invited to weigh in by e-mailing the Life editor at vibe@vanderbilthustler.com

ASK ME ANYTHING

Is there anyone buried on campus? And if so, who?

by DARCY NEWELL Life Editor

You've heard the rumors and the questions buzzing around campus. How many are there, and who are they? Where are they buried, and why were they buried on our

In an effort to dispel fact from fiction, I went on a wildgoose hunt to find out.

Evidently, you had to be a pretty big deal to be buried at



Vanderbilt. As of yet, the honor has been reserved for bishops, chancellors and, surprisingly, one very vivacious basset hound.

The first to receive the honor were two bishops, William McKendree and Joshua Soule, who helped Methodist found the Episcopal Church South. They were buried in the Bishop's Commons near the Divinity School. Actually, these two bodies

were moved to the Vanderbilt campus because of a special request from Bishop Holland McTyeire — he felt they were not given enough attention at their previous location.

Of course, it is only natural that when McTyeire died in 1889 he was also buried on campus with his wife Amelia.

When Vanderbilt's first chancellor, Landon Cabell Garland, died in 1895, he was buried in the Bishop's Commons as



McTYFIRE

well. At another location, the west wall of Benton Chapel, are Chancellor Harvie Branscomb and his wife Margaret.

However, my interesting discovery was the on-campus burial of George, a famous basset hound that served as the university's mascot in the 1960s. George arrived on campus in 1961 with his owner, Toby Wilt, whose parents asked him to bring

the dog to school. Witt, who later became the halfback for the football team, allowed the dog to live with him on campus.

However, George was fated for greatness — he eventually became the Commodores' mascot. George's most

triumphant act was during a 1966 football game against the University of Tennessee. During the game, George ran onto the field and chased the UT mascot, a horse, out of the stadium. Vanderbilt fans applauded George's performance, which gave the team a much-needed morale boost. The

> game ended in a 7-0 win for Vanderbilt.

a legend. He spent much

of his time at the Sigma Chi

fraternity house but was

eventually asked to leave

for sanitation purposes.

Yet the Vanderbilt campus

with

From then on, George was

sympathized



canine's plight and rallied to raise money for a top-ofthe-line doghouse, including carpeting, wallpaper and central heating. The final blueprint for the house estimated the final price to be \$2.000.

Unfortunately, the house was never built. The doghouse discussion came right in the middle of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement, and students felt that spending so much money on a luxury doghouse was wasteful and a bit misguided. However, a regular doghouse was donated anonymously.

In 1966, George died while chasing an ice truck. The entire



community mourned his death, and he was buried just north of Dudley Field as an homage to his legacy.

So now you have it. There are seven people and one dog buried on Vanderbilt's campus. Who knew? ■

—Katie Titus contributed reporting for this article.

insidevandy

InsideVandy.com is the online source for student media at Vanderbilt University. It serves the Vanderbilt Community by:

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- Allowing members of the Vanderbilt community to participate in the creation of content and connect with one another through an interactive Web site

Using the power of the Internet, Insidevandy.com aims to improve the way student media is created and dissemi-

- nated and to empower members of the Vanderbilt community to tell their own stories.
- Allowing visitors to read the Vanderbilt Hustler on line by going to Insidevandy.com and clicking "The Vanderbilt Hustler" button. With this interactive edition, our Hustler readership has dramatically increased now that readers off campus (5000 grad students, 18,000 local alumni, etc.) have access to the paper.

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Two large and two small tower ads will run down the right side of the home page as well as each of the subsequent click through pages. Ads will rotate placement in a random order. All on line ads will be sold in 4-week blocks. Each week officially starts Sunday and runs through the following Saturday.

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Contact George Fischer at 615-322-1884 or george.h.fischer@vanderbilt.edu

Blair's '21st showcases faculty's range

Faculty to perform 'accessible' modern music at Turner Recital Hall.

by ALEX CHRISOPE

Life Staff Writer

While modern music can sometimes be stereotyped by the conceptual experimentation of John Cage or the minimalist style of Phillip Glass, the four recent compositions to be performed at the Blair School of Music tonight promise to be

Part of the Blair Celebrates series, "An Evening of 21st Century Music" features four pieces, performed by Blair's distinguished faculty.

"Sonata No. 2 for Flute and Piano" by Martin Amlin will be performed by flutist Jane Kirchner and pianist Amy Dorfman.

"The sonata is quite difficult, but very rewarding to work on," Kirchner said. "It's highly rhythmic and quite exciting, full of energy." The program notes characterize Amlin's work as having "pungent tonality" and "tricky meters." "Birches for Solo Viola and Electronic Sounds" will be

performed by violist Kathryn Plummer, accompanied by a tape of electronic noises. The piece, written by Cornell University's Kevin Erneste, is a musical response to the Robert Frost poem of the same name and will include a reading. The third piece displays a homegrown talent: "Trio for Sax,

Flute and Piano" was composed by Blair pianist Deanna Walker. The performance tonight is actually a revision of a piece originally commissioned 11 years ago.

"Originally, it was written as a study in tempo and textures," Walker says in the program notes. "After a number of performances, I decided that I hadn't succeeded in the way

Perhaps the most buzzed-about work is the finale, Richard Pearson Thomas' Sept. 11-inspired "Race for the Sky." Originally performed in New York City on the first anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks, the four-movement composition includes vocal sections taken from poems reflecting on the catastrophe. The poems themselves are moving enough on paper; Gayle Shay, director of Vanderbilt Opera Theatre, is praised by her colleagues for her conveying word and music in her singing.

"An Evening of 21st Century Music" will be performed tonight at 8 p.m. in the Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public. ■



BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Best of the Web: Shop at the Century Music' Internet's most stylish Web sites

Life Staff Writer

Bergdorfgoodman.com

If you can't make it to Bergdorf's flagship location on 5th Avenue, shop their online store for equally as exciting trends and fashions. The Web site carries hot brands such as Milly, Marc by Marc Jacobs and Tory Burch. Looking for something a little pricier? Don't worry! Bergdorf's Web site also stocks up on high-end designer labels like Missoni, Prada and Gucci.



Bluefly.com

Bluefly.com is definitely one of the best discount shopping sites on the Web. With a wide range of last season's designer duds, you can always find something fabulous to buy on sale.

Everythingbutwater.com

With spring break rapidly approaching, be sure to visit this site to get trendy bathing suits, cover-ups and flipflops. Known as the Internet's official "swimwear source," everythingbutwater.com sells a wide variety of both styles and designers.



Girlshop.com

Updated on an almost daily basis, girlshop.com houses hundreds of new up-and-coming designers on their site. They sell everything from dresses to personalized stationary, so check regularly to see what hot items they have in store.

Like Bergdorfgoodman.com, you can find lots of highend designers as well as hot new trends on this department store's Web site. The site offers a great selection of designer shoes and handbags from labels like Isabella Fiore and Kate Spade. They even sell the always stylish but very-hard-tofind Manolo Blahnik stilettos. Are you still eying one of last year's designer bags or dresses? If so, be sure to check the Last Call section of the Web site at the end of each season for great sales and clearances.

Net-a-porter.com

Net-a-porter.com reminds me a lot of a trendy fashion or shopping magazine rather than a traditional Web site. While they sell high-end designers labels like Jimmy Choo and Chloe, the site also includes biographical information on each clothing line and designer they sell. Although some people have complained of expensive shipping rates from their base in Europe, don't let these prices stop you from shopping on their site; the Web site recently began shipping



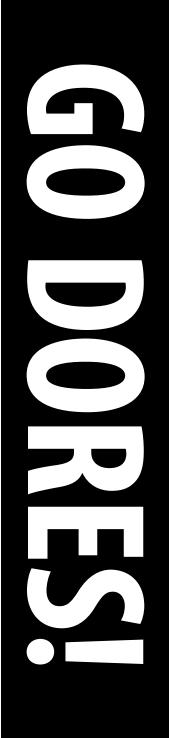
Shopintuition.com

If you have ever seen your favorite celebrity wearing a cute t-shirt or cotton dress in Us Weekly, it is likely that they bought it at Intuition, one of Los Angeles' best-known stores. In Hollywood, celebrities like Paris Hilton and Jessica Alba visit the boutique on a regular basis to stock up on basics like True Religion jeans, personalized necklaces and boy shorts. Because of the boutique's popularity, the store's Web site features many hot West Coast styles. For items like T-bags dresses and "Team Hilton" t-shirts, this site is a must.

Standardstyle.com

Besides standardstyle.com's designer duds, the best part of this Web site is their online magazine, Stylelab. Stylelab provides visitors to the site with designer information, CD recommendations and book reviews, as well as outfits similar to those of iconic Hollywood characters like Carrie Bradshaw. Don't forget to look at the Denim Bar section, which features over 32 pages of stylish designer jeans. ■





FUN & GAMES

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

1/24/07 SOLUTIONS

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

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides opportunities for graduating seniors, recent alumni, graduate students and scholars to pursue international graduate study, research, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.

Fulbright awards approximately 1,200 grants annually and currently operates in over 140 countries worldwide. English Teaching Assistantships are available in 25 countries. Grants generally provide funding for tuition and travel for one academic year.

SPRING INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wednesday, Jan. 31	noon – 1:00	Sarratt 189
Monday, February 12	4:30 - 5:30	Sarratt 189
Tuesday, March 13	noon – 1:00	Sarratt 112

Contact the Office of Honor Scholarships at 322-2750 to register for a session or schedule an individual appointment. For more information on Fulbright, go to us. fulbright online.org. To learn more about other opportunities for study and travel, go to ohs. vanderbilt.edu.

Crossword

- ACROSS 1 To pieces
- 6 Small branch
- 10 Soap film
- 14 Panel member 15 Cry of dismay
- 16 Trendy NYC
- area 17 Pop up
- 18 Go-between
- 20 For adults only
- 22 Moderately good
- 23 On the contrary
- 24 Royal decree 26 Baltimore player
- 28 Decorative pitcher
- Mustard in Clue
- 33 Spoke softly
- 35 Andes animal
- 39 Knack for
- music TV spiels 41 Sandra or Ruby
- 43 Candle material 44 Harsh of
- manner 46 Get rid of
- 49 Mozart offering
- Took a gander
- 52 Relief from distress
- Binding
- 57 Clay, nowadays 58 "Why _ Thou
- forsaken me? 60 Goldbrick
- 64 Hand extremity
- Boot-shaped country
- 68 At any time
- 69 Per unit 70 Feel
- Russo of "Tin
- Cup* 72 Tinted
- 73 Periphery
- DOWN Cleanser brand
- 2 Feline murmur 3 Vocal
- showcase
- 4 Lineups 5 Out on a limb
- 6 Male cat 7 Wolf call

- 9 Boy sponsored
- at baptism 10 Opposite of NNW

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- 11 Jazz group 12 Do-it-yourself
- mover Carlo
- 19 Marilyn's blonde
- part? Cubed
- 25 Waist cincher
- 27 Unwell 28 Rams' dams
- 29 Eh? 30 Irish homeland 32 Something
- unusual 34 Flair
- 36 Out of town 37 One of a pair
- 38 Chopped down 42 Cyberspace
- message TV brand
- 47 Crisscross framework
- 1/26/07 8 Chinese leader? 1/24/07 SOLUTIONS BOONE ALARM REMAINDER CARVE DES A S S E T F E A T S
 I L T S R E A S S U R E D TERSE SEVEN DETERMINE
 - LEANS RIDERS DEMEAN WEIRD CHAPERONE ETHER NOWIN
 - 48 Made ineffective 61 Long, hollow 50 Approached
 - 52 Not so dicey
 - 53 Martini garnish 54 Closet type
 - 56 Racket
 - 59 Hang around
- tooth 62 Besides
- 63 Some whiskeys 65 Senior test
- letters 66 High deg.

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