

Women's tennis has high expectations as season starts...



For a preview, see Sports, page 7

Administration flubs Ford class registration...

For more, see columnist Michael Wilt Opinion, page 5



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# The Vanderbilt Hustler

THE VOICE OF VANDERBILT SINCE 1888

FIRDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007 • 119<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, NO. 5

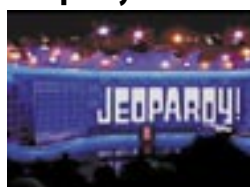
## THE WALL

**DUE TODAY**  
Intramural racquetball and co-rec volleyball due

Today at 5 p.m. is the deadline to sign up for intramural racquetball doubles and co-rec volleyball. Contact Carla Mahlberg at the Student Recreation Center.



**TODAY**  
Walker to star on "Jeopardy"



Senior Jeremy Walker will appear on "Jeopardy" tonight at 6 p.m. on UPN.

**TODAY**  
The VenUe presents "Casino Night"



Vanderbilt Programming Board will sponsor Casino Night tonight from 8-11 p.m. in the Student Life Center.

**SUNDAY, JAN. 21**  
An evening with Danish baritone Bo Skovhus

Returning from his appearance at the 2006 Salzberg Festival, internationally hailed baritone Bo Skovhus will appear Sunday, Jan. 21 at Ingram Hall. The event is free and open to the public.



**DUE THURSDAY, FEB. 8**  
McGill Project applications due

Applications for The McGill Project are currently online on the Office of Housing and Residential Education Web site. The application deadline is Feb. 8.

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

## Vandy rolls over Tide

VANDY GAMEDAY: VANDERBILT 94 ALABAMA 73

### Foster leads team past Bama.

by ANDREW BARGE  
Senior Sports Reporter

Another game at Memorial Gymnasium meant another upset of a top 25 opponent.

The red-hot Commodores could not seem to miss in their 94-73 victory over No. 9 Alabama in front of a crowd of 13,672 Wednesday night. They shot 58 percent from the floor and nailed 15 3-pointers.

"It seemed like they made every shot tonight," said Alabama center Jermareo Davidson. "If they missed one, I sure didn't see it. I'm not sure how you go about countering the way that they shot the ball. They were just hot."

While junior Shan Foster led the Commodores with 27 points, all of the starters contributed to the victory. Senior Derrick Byars scored 15, while Ross Neltner added 14 points to go along with six rebounds. Dan Cage and Alex Gordon also chipped in with 12 points each.

Even though the threes were falling all night, the Commodores relied on effective inside play to keep the Tide guessing on defense. Despite Alabama's 22 offensive rebounds, Vanderbilt outscored the Tide in the paint, 32-28. Vandy center Ted Skuchas had a solid game on the defensive end, adding four blocks in just 12 minutes of play.

Please see **BASKETBALL**, page 7



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Junior Alex Gordon and the rest of the Commodores held nothing back in their 94-73 victory over Alabama Wednesday night at Memorial Gymnasium.

## Ford's course opening mix-up still a mystery

Dean says all students notified, despite some students' complaints.

by ANNE MALINEE  
Staff Reporter

There are no plans to look into an alleged miscommunication between the Registrar's Office and students about registration for a political science course taught by Harold Ford Jr., according to Richard McCarty.

McCarty, dean of the College of Arts and Science, reiterated Thursday that e-mail notification was sent to more than 400 history, political science, public policy and American studies majors, despite several students' complaints that they received no communication from the university about the class taught by the former congressman and Senate candidate, which was added to course schedule Monday.

"I'm guessing some



FORD

students either didn't open it or deleted it," McCarty said.

When asked if he had any plans to look into the situation further, McCarty replied, "Absolutely not."

Sixteen out of 18 political science, history, public policy and American studies majors contacted by The Vanderbilt Hustler said they received no notification from the Registrar, but three of the 16 said professors or

advisors told them about the course. Two students, who are students in Peabody College with second majors in Arts and Science, said they did receive an e-mail about the course, which opened for registration Monday morning and filled up in half an hour.

Racquel Goff, assistant registrar for the College of Arts and Science, said she sent two e-mails to students Monday morning about the one-hour political science seminar.

The first e-mail, sent around 11:30 a.m. to about 410 students, was sent through the College of Arts and Science's bulk e-mail system, Goff said. The bulk e-mail system identified students in the four selected majors using Social Security numbers and VUNetIDs. A second e-mail was sent to about 70 students whose "home

school" is the School of Engineering or Peabody College, but have a second history, political science, public policy or American studies major. For some reason, Goff said, the bulk e-mail account did not identify these students. The e-mail, sent from Goff's personal account, was sent at 11:35 a.m.

While Goff said education privacy laws prevent her from revealing who ultimately enrolled in Ford's course, she confirmed that students whose "home schools" are the College of Arts and Science, School of Engineering and Peabody College are in the class, which she said seemed to indicate that both e-mails were successful.

"I think we did our due diligence, and short of having personal contact with all 400 of them,

Please see **FORD**, page 2

## VSG: Two additional candidates announce plan to run

Third ticket awaits SGA, Interhall approval.

by KRISTEN CHMIELEWSKI  
Asst News Editor

Two more tickets announced intentions to run for Vanderbilt Student Government president and vice president. The candidates join the Cara Bilotta/Perry Gragg ticket in the race.



VIGNESWARAN

Krish Vigneswaran announced his candidacy yesterday for VSG president alongside Ashley Holmes for executive vice president. Another set of candidates is still awaiting approval to verify whether they previously served in either SGA or Interhall, a prerequisite outlined in the new VSG constitution.

"We received their e-mail yesterday," said SGA Attorney General Elizabeth Scott. "But, as of now, we have not confirmed their membership to the respective organizations."

A decision is anticipated in the following days.

An extension for the declaration of candidacy was announced Tuesday.

Vigneswaran said he did not announce his candidacy until Thursday because he had thought about studying abroad.

"(Running for student government president) was something I had really wanted to do for a long time," Vigneswaran said. "Ashley also makes a great running mate. We're both on the same page and provide for a ticket that will push for the ideas that we think will benefit the student body."

Holmes, current VP of finance in SGA, three-year Peabody Senator and former organizational relations co-chair of SGA, had also thought about running as EVP, but did not take action on the plan until approached by Vigneswaran.

"We have worked personally together all of this year and last year. The things I see and the things he sees to be improved we can do together," Holmes said.

EVP candidate Gragg said he looks forward to running a healthy campaign, hearing ideas and making Vanderbilt better as a result.

Scott said the delay of candidacy will not affect the newly formed VSG.

"The meeting for the declaration of candidacy wasn't as highly publicized on campus," Scott said.

Boone Lancaster, student government president, said more publicity than the e-mail may have spurred more people to declare candidacy.

"Clearly the requirement of having served previously in either organization makes running a little different. Both groups of candidates we have now are

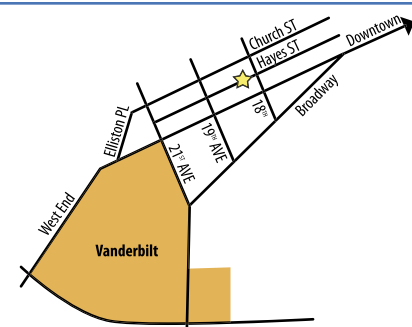
Please see **CANDIDATES**, page 2

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**WEATHER**

**TODAY**



Sunny, 45/30

**SATURDAY**



Partly Cloudy, 47/36

**SUNDAY**



Light Wintry Mix, 44/32

**MONDAY**



Partly Cloudy, 38/26

**VUPD CRIME LOG**

**Jan. 16, 2007, 2:20 a.m. —** Two students were arrested and issued citations for the illegal consumption of alcohol in Hemingway Hall.

**Jan. 16, 2007, 3:20 a.m. —** Two student roommates were involved in simple assault in Memorial Hall. Housing will handle the issue.

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

**SERVICE GUIDE**

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

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

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**CORRECTIONS**

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

**PRINTER**

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**BACK ISSUES**

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

**IN THE KNOW**

*The news you need — in brief*

**WORLD**

**New Pentagon manual eases conviction of suspected terrorists**

The Pentagon has drafted a manual for upcoming detainee trials that would allow suspected terrorists to be convicted on hearsay evidence and coerced testimony, and imprisoned or put to death.

A terror suspect's defense lawyer cannot reveal classified evidence in the person's defense until the government has a chance to review it.

Last September, Congress, then led by Republicans, sent Bush a bill granting wide latitude in interrogating and detaining captured enemy combatants. Now the manual could spark contention between the Bush administration and Congress, now led by Democrats, over the treatment of suspects.

The Pentagon manual is aimed at ensuring that enemy combatants "are prosecuted before regularly constituted courts affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized by civilized people," according to the document.

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Penn., and some Democrats have said the legislation will be shot down by the courts as unconstitutional because it bars detainees from protesting their detentions. Under the law, only individuals selected for military trial are given access to a lawyer and a judge; other military detainees can be held until hostilities cease.

SOURCE: AP

**Students settle for second-choice college due to high cost of education**

Half of this year's freshmen attending a second-choice school were accepted by their top pick but chose not to enroll — money appears to be a significant reason why.

The UCLA Higher Research Institute issued a report that surveyed more than 271,000 students at 393 baccalaureate colleges and universities. Of the students who got into their first-choice school but didn't enroll, about one-third said they couldn't afford it.

Average tuition and fees at four-year public colleges rose more than 6 percent last year to \$4,836, and prices are up 35 percent over the last five years, according to the College Board.

About two in three survey respondents said they had "some" or "major" concerns about their ability to finance college.

The survey comes as Congress focuses on college affordability. On Wednesday, the House voted 356-71 to cut interest rates on need-based student loans from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent over five years.

SOURCE: AP

**NATION**

**CVS employees face federal indictment**

Two former executives at drugstore chain CVS Corp. were charged Thursday in a federal probe into influence peddling at the U.S. District Court in Providence, R.I.

John R. Kramer, former CVS senior vice president for corporate affairs and public relations, and Carlos Ortiz, former vice president of government affairs, were both charged with 23 counts of fraud and bribery for allegedly paying former state Senator John Celona to dismiss legislation CVS opposed or sponsor bills the company supported.

CVS paid Celona \$1,000 a month under a consulting contract that started in February 2000. Kramer and Ortiz concealed the true nature of the relationship from other company officials.

Prosecutors said that after Celona entered the CVS payroll, he stopped supporting a bill CVS opposed that would have eased restrictions on where customers could get their prescriptions filled. He also opposed a bill that would have permitted Canadian pharmacies to become licensed in Rhode Island.

Celona also pled guilty to federal mail fraud charges this past year in a similar influence-peddling probe.

SOURCE: AP

**Census revision places 2005 Nashville population at 607,413**

Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell announced Thursday the results of the 2005 revision of the U.S. Census Bureau, which calculates Nashville's population as 607,413.

The new number reflects a 6.6 percent jump from the 2000 count of 569,891 — a figure Purcell called a reflection of health growth.

The revised estimate makes Nashville the 21st largest city in the U.S., behind Charlotte, Fort Worth and Baltimore, and in front of El Paso, Milwaukee, Boston, Seattle and Denver.

Nashville remains second in size to Memphis, which had 672,277 people in a 2005 census estimate. Knoxville ranked third with 180,130 and Chattanooga had 154,762.

A city's population impacts federal funds allocation, the attraction of businesses and corporations, and the zoning of schools.

Tom Jurkovich, director of the Mayor's Office of Economic and Community Development said, "Let the word go forth that Nashville is a very, very strong city."

SOURCE: AP

**CAMPUS**

**Software innovator Tuinenga joins Vanderbilt Space and Defense Institute**

Electronic industry entrepreneur Paul Tuinenga has joined Vanderbilt University as principal staff engineer and program manager for software development for the Institute for Space and Defense Electronics.

Tuinenga co-founded the MicroSim Corporation and Avista Design Systems and has previously worked as an engineering consultant for Mentor Graphics Corp. and Cadence Design Systems.

Tuinenga developed the popular electronic circuit simulation package PSPICE, a personal computer software program he created based on the industry-standard mainframe tool SPICE. He later developed CAD software for personal computers through his company Avista Design Systems.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

**CANDIDATES: Vote to be held Jan. 30**

From **CANDIDATES**, page 1

very strong tickets, and that might have been yet another hesitation to others who would have thought to declare candidacy," Lancaster said.

Interhall President Devin Donovan said she believes one of the factors that might have affected interest in candidacy was that both SGA and Interhall had recently been turned on their heads.

"Lots of changes were made in the positions available and the way the organizations function daily," Donovan said. "As a result, many potential candidates sought leadership within their other respective organizations."

Sill, Donovan said she was pleased with the decision to extend the deadline.

"We are excited to have two strong, qualified tickets in the campaign which will serve to streamline VSG and do what's best for Vanderbilt as a whole."

Among the issues important to the Vigneswaran/Holmes platform include continuing support for the College Hall plan.

As current SGA chief of staff and former multicultural co-chair for SGA, Vigneswaran says, "I have experience in promoting cultural awareness and diversity, and Ashley comes from a Greek background, so I think that we cover many facets of college life in our aim to carefully inform students about the benefits of College Halls."

In addition, they plan to focus on security issues, taking DoreWalks beyond solely SGA and working with ITS to improve the Vandy Vans system.

"In all," Lancaster said, "We are just always excited to have the student body presented with a choice in the election."

The general election, as of now, is slated for Jan. 30. If the other set of candidates receives approval, Jan. 30 will be the date for the primary election. ■

**Civil rights photo exhibit on display in Sarratt gallery**



LAUREN FONDRIST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Sarratt Visual Arts Committee collaboratively hosts the 22nd Annual Martin Luther King Commemorative Series: Harold Lowe Civil Rights Photographs, 1960-1964 in the Sarratt Art Gallery. The collection contains black-and-white photographs of civil rights activities in Nashville.

**FORD: E-mail causes confusion**

From **FORD**, page 1

there's no better way than to send e-mail," McCarty said.

"If departments were asked to do that (notify students), we would have had five potential sources of glitches, but this is the office that communicates with every single graduating student about graduation requirements," McCarty said. "They have to be spot-on."

"I don't know of any more accurate group in Arts and Science to make this communication available to students," McCarty said.

McCarty said students who reported they did not receive the e-mail may have deleted it because they did not recognize the address or notice the subject line, or they may have failed to check their Vanderbilt inboxes.

Some students, however, still say they think a communication failure occurred.

"I definitely have all my e-mail forwarded to Gmail, and I don't delete my mail, and I didn't have it," said senior political science major Elizabeth Ryan.

"Obviously there's some sort of disconnect between sending it out and not getting it," said senior political science major Corinne Cookson, who said she knows four or five

other political science students who say they were not notified.

"If nobody's getting it, they're probably wrong," she said.

"I think it does worry me both in general and in this case, because I would have really liked to take the class," Ryan said.

Some students, however, say that if a communication breakdown occurred, it does not worry them.

"My gut instinct is that if there was a problem this last time, it's not going to be a big problem in the future," said senior history and political science major Matt McCarroll, who did not recall receiving an e-mail. "I don't think it's a big problem at Vanderbilt e-mails not getting where there supposed to be from the people up top."

"I generally feel like I receive more (e-mail) than I want sometimes," said junior political science major Ashley Evans. "It doesn't overly concern me as far as university e-mail service goes."

"We did our best. We have a happy group of students. Life goes on," McCarty said. "We're thrilled to have Congressman Ford on our faculty this semester. We hope it's not the last time we have the pleasure of welcoming him." ■



# Art, dance sign-ups held



LAUREN FONDRIEST / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Students may stop by the Sarratt Art Gallery during the day to sign up for a variety of available studio art and dance classes. The courses are offered for a fee and last the duration of the semester. Registration for art and dance classes ends Jan. 20.

# Lack of experience may benefit Obama in campaign

## Freshman senator forms exploratory committee, intends to announce candidacy in Springfield, Ill., Feb. 15.

by ALLISON SMITH  
News Editor

Lack of legislative experience, widely considered Sen. Barack Obama's greatest weakness, may become his greatest strength in the 2008 presidential race.

Obama, who burst onto the political scene two years ago at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, filed paperwork for a presidential exploratory committee Tuesday.

Kelson Bohnet, Vanderbilt College Democrats, said he thinks critics will pick up on Obama's lack of experience and use it against him.

"But on the other hand, I think the same lack of experience could be used by Obama to give him this type of

'Washington outsider' image that could give voters a sense of idealism and hopefulness, and that is something that could resonate very strongly at the polls," Bohnet said.

Political science professor John Geer said that while Obama has just two years of experience, now is the time for him to run.

"He is never going to be more popular," Geer said.

Obama, 45, joins Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. of Delaware, Sen. Christopher J. Dodd of Connecticut, former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, former Gov. Tom Vilsack of Iowa and Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich of Ohio in the race.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York, who is expected to announce

candidacy this month, is already seen as Obama's biggest contender.

Clinton voted to authorize the use of force against Iraq in 2002, although she said a unilateral war was not a "good option." Clinton has already begun to clarify her position on the Iraq war amid concern among fellow Democrats that she is too conservative.

Obama, who had not yet been elected in 2002, has been vocally against the war since the beginning.

While Obama's lack of voting record may play to his advantage, Clinton has the advantage of being a seasoned campaigner.

Geer said Obama's biggest challenge now is seeing if he can withstand "the meat

grinder," the high levels of attention that come with a presidential campaign.

Geer also said it is important to not discount the other candidates, because if Clinton and Obama were to focus their campaigns only on each other, they could make way for another candidate to become the frontrunner.

Bohnet said he thinks the race will boil down to Clinton, Obama and Edwards, as the other candidates will not be able to compete financially or politically.

"Obama has been a media darling," Bohnet said. "He has received a virtual free pass from the media. It will be interesting to see what happens when the scrutiny heats up." ■

# mtvU names Wilskills top 10 finalists in Ecomagination

## Vanderbilt Biodiesel Initiative gains national recognition.

by HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY  
Asst News Editor

Wilderness Skills has been pushed into the national spotlight, as its Vanderbilt Biodiesel Initiative beat out more than 120 competitors to become a finalist in the Ecomagination Challenge sponsored by mtvU and General Electric.

Wilskills is an independent, student-run course "designed to integrate academic study with practical experience in the wilderness," according to its Web site.

The Vanderbilt Biodiesel Initiative is a Wilskills-proposed project to use biodiesel as a biodegradable, non-toxic alternative energy source.

Biodiesel is created when vegetable oils, such as those disposed of by Vanderbilt Dining Services, are run through biodiesel systems to produce a more environmentally friendly fuel.

When used in diesel-fueled engines, such as those that run student activity vans and landscaping equipment at Vanderbilt, biodiesel produces significantly smaller amounts of greenhouse gas emissions than petroleum-based fuels.

Part of the contest's final decision is up to online voters, and Derek Riley, team leader for the initiative, encouraged Vanderbilt students to support the university and the project by voting.

To vote and check out a project overview, proposal and informational video, visit [www.ecocollegechallenge.com](http://www.ecocollegechallenge.com).

Wilskills is in competition with many elite universities for the top prize, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of

Southern California and University of Virginia.

The contest winner receives \$25,000 to fund their project and an Angels and Airwaves concert on the winning university's campus.

Riley said he and a group of WilSkills members began researching biodiesel last summer when he became frustrated with high gas prices.

"We spent a lot of gas money on our van, so we looked into being more environmentally friendly, and we decided that biodiesel was a good way to go," Riley said.

Riley said his group was immediately receptive to the idea, which has since been expanded to serve the entire Vanderbilt community.

Riley also said he and his team are still churning out ideas, now researching waste methanol and its potential for reuse.

"We are researching whether we can reclaim it and use it in the biodiesel process," he said. "We're not aware of anyone else doing this yet, so this is pretty unique as well."

Steve Friedman, general manager of mtvU, said he sees the contest as a way to involve college students in solving environmental problems.

"They are trendsetters of what is new and possible, and we will look to them for the answers," he said.

Friedman said that Vanderbilt students should be proud of their initiative.

"I was very impressed by the video that the students at Vanderbilt created, and I hope students go out and vote," he said. "These students spent a lot of time, and it was exciting to read. It was exciting to read these ideas that will perhaps be emulated." ■

# Women's rights activist Dr. Rebekah Gee to speak at medical school

## Chancellor's daughter to lecture on the availability of contraception.

by ELLIE ATKINS  
Staff Reporter

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Chancellor Gordon Gee's daughter, will visit campus Monday for a lunch lecture, "Taking on Wal-Mart: A Physician's Story of Activism Reproductive Rights in Historical Context."

The lecture will be held in 208 Light Hall from 12-1 p.m.

"This is a great opportunity for students to learn about the changing health legislation and these important contraceptive drugs," said sophomore Ann Cowgill.

Gee, currently a Robert Wood Johnson clinical fellow at the University of Pennsylvania, combines activism with her career as an obstetrician/gynecologist. Her efforts to protect the right to contraceptives led her to co-author Massachusetts legislation to increase access to emergency contraceptives.

"I think it's important that Vanderbilt impart this knowledge to their students, particularly the female students," said sophomore Jason Zarrow. "It is Vanderbilt's responsibility as their

means for acquiring education to teach them about their health options, because ultimately many students will face tough decisions such as this."

Gee will speak about her role in the lawsuit filed against Wal-Mart pharmacists who would not provide and stock emergency contraceptives. The case was successful and led to a national Wal-Mart policy change to carry and supply the pills.

"The fact is that there's a lot of controversy surrounding contraceptives. Students should be informed about these issues so that they too can help change the laws, which will ultimately lead to lowering the abortion rate in this country," said Andrea Li, one of the Medical Students for Choice who has been working to bring Gee to Vanderbilt. "We want to make it easier for people to have more control over their health and their futures. That's why it is important for them to have access to the contraceptives."

The lecture is free and open to the public, with a lunch to follow. Reservations to attend the lunch are necessary and can be made by contacting Sara Risner-Adler at [sara.j.risner-adler@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sara.j.risner-adler@vanderbilt.edu). ■

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The Department of Psychology at Vanderbilt University is looking for subjects to participate in paid research studies.

Studies examine aspects of cognition, emotion and brain functioning.

To find out more about participating in studies, see <http://vanderbilt.sona-systems.com/>

## Vanderbuddies Sign up Spring 2007

Sign up to be a tutor at one of the community centers in Nashville.

Tutors will spend 1-1.5 hours/week helping children with their homework and supplemental academic work.

This will be a great opportunity to serve the community and have fun with the kids!

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Fill out the applications found at [www.vanderbilt.edu/vanderbuddies](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/vanderbuddies), and send it to [carolyn.a.ptynia@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:carolyn.a.ptynia@vanderbilt.edu) by Friday, January 19th. Tutoring will begin Monday, January 22nd.

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GEE

# OPINION

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- Asst. VSC Director  
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**Paige Clancy**

### OUR VIEW

## Majestic Memorial Magic would please Merlin himself

Previous installments of "Our View" have complained about apathy in the Vanderbilt community. Vanderbilt students have a reputation, in some cases a well-deserved one, for caring very little about a great number of concerns. There is one area in which the standard descriptions do not apply, however, and that area is Vanderbilt basketball.

Basketball stands among all sports as one in which fans can make the biggest difference in the outcome of a game. Players feed off the crowd's emotion and play at a higher level as a result. No, the Memorial Maniacs aren't the Cameron Crazies, but they are certainly close. The Commodores, who are 12-6 overall and 2-2 in the Southeastern Conference, have defeated three top 25 opponents in a row at home.

Vanderbilt is not like most schools in the SEC because it refuses to cut corners. It does things the right way, which makes each victory even more enjoyable. We know that when we are cheering for basketball players, we are cheering for our classmates, roommates and best friends.

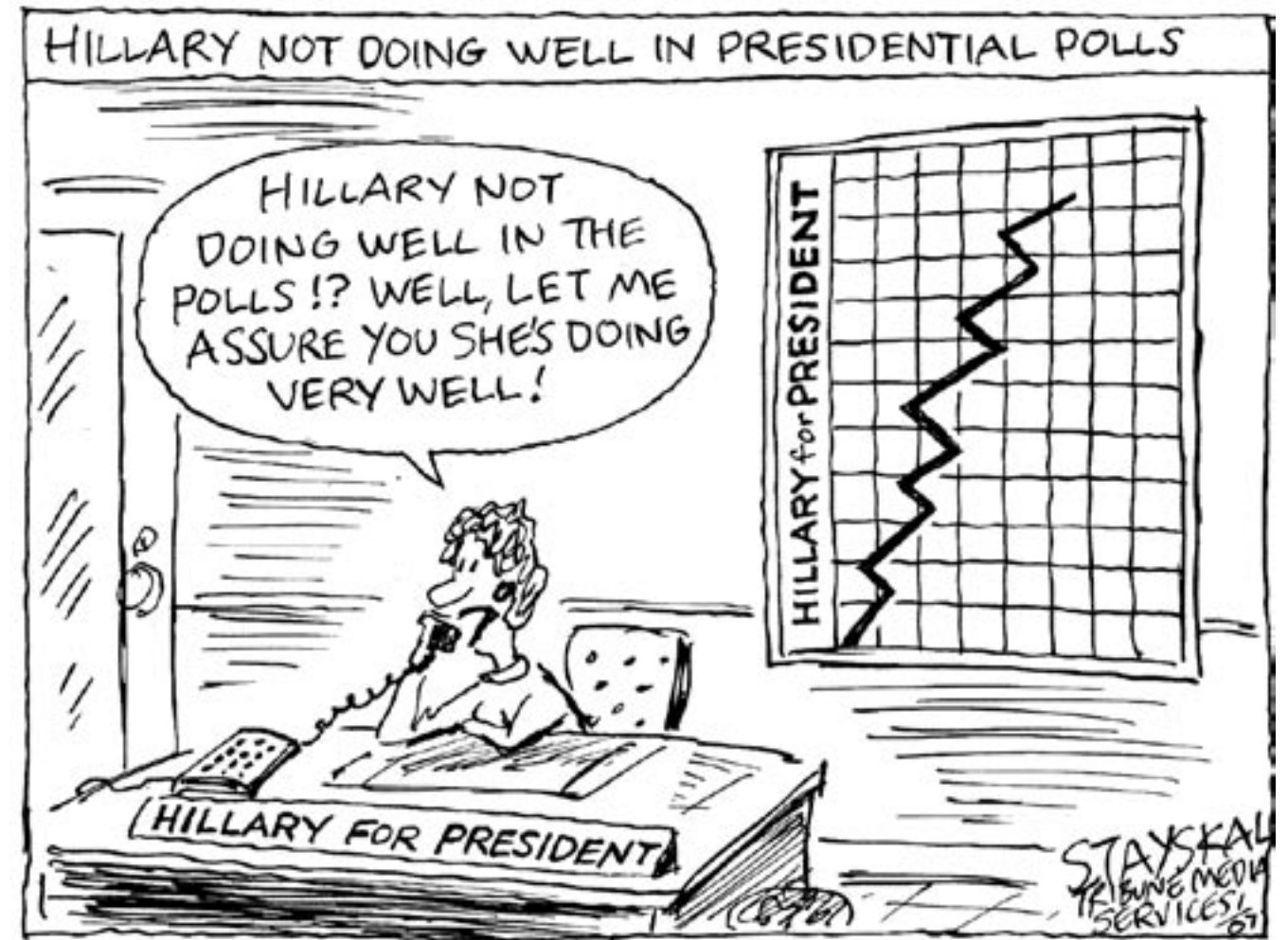
The players understand how important it is to have

a home-court advantage, and they acknowledge the fans after each victory. Before Wednesday's game against Alabama, junior Shan Foster sent students an e-mail, asking them to fill Memorial as they had during the Commodores' one-point victory over Tennessee a week earlier. "You all gave us the enthusiasm we needed to finish off an amazing game," Foster said, referring to the Commodores' win. And he meant it. With the student section packed once again, Vanderbilt trounced No. 9 Alabama, 94-73. Alabama and Tennessee were the sort of games which people will look upon years from now.

Opposing teams hate to play at Memorial Gymnasium, and for good reason. The benches are situated on the baselines, leaving coaches helpless as their players struggle on the other end of the court, and the playing surface is elevated. And then there are the fans, who motivate the players, pushing them to harder, better and faster feats of athletic achievement.

"It is really tough having to play in this environment," said Alabama guard Mykal Riley.

No kidding. Memorial Magic is real.



Wayne Stayskal—MCT

### COLUMN

## Synthetic environments permeate more deeply than one thinks

**JEAN SON**  
*Columnist*

Columnist Eddie Hearn wrote an opinion piece last Friday criticizing sorority rush and what he saw as the false promises of instant sisterhood. While this is far from being a provocative or even a true claim, Hearn warns in the last paragraph that the competitive and antiseptic environment that breeds such impossible expectations is one in which people are "relegated to the status of shining, smiling, perpetually happy automatons without feelings or emotions." How interesting.

Were I a full-fledged automaton, this column would end with the first paragraph. However, with a self-contradictory mixture of horror and complacency I have evaluated the extent of my own synthetic existence. I do this thing when I greet people where I twitch my head to the side and plaster on a huge, fake and seemingly good-natured smile. Then I wiggle my hand just so. Just because I do not, in fact, feel as happy as I may

look does not mean I am miserable, but this act I perform in order to seem shinningly happy all the time is an example of a deeper misgiving about authenticity with which many students at Vanderbilt also grapple.

I wonder sometimes at how affected I have become. "It was so great to meet you!" Hasty, are we? I barely know you. "How was your winter break?" Why bother asking when I already know that the answer will be in the range of a mild "good" or a more timid "okay"?

This forced chumminess I share with some of my oldest and closest friends makes me cringe. Conversations include, but are not limited to, exclaiming at length over foreign candy varieties, unnaturally loud and enunciated laughter, and stale inside jokes (I gave my phone number to one homeless heroin addict. Awesomeness transcends substance abuse problems). One of my friends has a habit of hurrying through conversations by questioning me on every detail of my life as though silence were the

plague. I love her to death, but ... well, no, I don't love her to death, actually. Do you see what I mean?

I feel much too mannerly these days when I think of how empty my words have become. There was a time not too long ago when I made friends with everyone from the above heroin addict to Buddhist rappers to cocktail waitresses to street break-dancers. Manners had nothing to do with any of that. I was desperately in love with life and every basic nicety was weighted with that manic emotion. I meant every word of "How are you?" with a voracity for human connection that was both scary and consummate. I would go out of my way to approach strangers, even if it was not in my best interest to do so. I have no idea how many people in New York City now possess my phone number. I cared so much about people. It was my way of gaining footing in my own life through others when the world seemed the least stable. I made reckless decisions, but at that time they were real ones.

Considering my own experiences and people to whom I have spoken, this experience of the world as new, good and fated is one that many survivors of trauma and loss experience as part of a grieving process. As far as I know, it is unique to those people.

So perhaps my anguish at how fake I feel lately is just another step in the process of re-acclimating to a world where I am the only uncertain variable. However, maybe it is not re-acclimating at all, but rather a refusal to accommodate a world that breaks so many hearts. Maybe I have spread myself too thin by caring, and then spread myself even thinner by merely wanting to care. Perhaps I should simply give myself up to being an automaton for now. There is always the off chance that one day I may ask, "How are you?" to someone who will say, "I am lost," with a grieving heart I can recognize as having once been my own. Once.

—Jean Son is a junior in the College of Arts and Science.

### COLUMN

## Interest in those around you paves the road to success

**ANDREW SOLOMON**  
*Columnist*

Earlier this week some friends and I decided to throw a little party at my house. Things started off relatively low key, but around 11 p.m. a large group of girls stumbled through the door. Dressed in jeans and tops that were probably too expensive to be stopping drink spills, they came into our living room and started socializing. I am happy.

Peering through the haze I had been plunging myself into over the past couple hours, I turned from my friends and approached the group. I introduced myself, but before I could even ask their names, a rather loud girl asked me if I had any liquor. Fantastic. I have never felt more valued in my life.

In the social climate in which we live at Vanderbilt, there are certain things I've come to expect. People say stupid things. Girls wear skirts in the winter. Guys pass out in bushes. These things are all mostly harmless if handled in a responsible fashion. But one thing I cannot get over is the concept of entitlement that seems to cover the campus social scene. It is not at all cool to come up to someone and ask for something of theirs without even taking the time to introduce yourself.

I stared at the girl who had just asked me for a drink and responded in my nicest Mr. Rogers voice:

"Sorry, I would give you something, but we forgot to pay the water bill last month. If you'd like something to drink, there's a hose outside of the neighbors house."

She did not think it was very funny. It may have been a juvenile way to respond to the question, but for such a juvenile question I feel like I answered in kind. The fact that this girl wanted a drink from me before she even knew my name was ridiculous. Girls, if you really want a drink from a guy, please do them

Please see **SOLOMON**, page 5

#### OPINION POLICY

The Vanderbilt Hustler opinion section aims to stimulate discussion in the Vanderbilt community. In that spirit, columnists, guest columnists and authors of letters to the editor are expected to provide logical argument to back their views. Unreasonable arguments, arguments in bad faith or arguments in vain between columnists have no place in The Hustler and will not be published. The Hustler welcomes reader viewpoints and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on our website.

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

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion. All submissions become the property of The Hustler and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which The Hustler is a division.

#### CORRECTION POLICY

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

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

#### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

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

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**U.S. Sen. Bob Corker**  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
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(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

## SOLOMON: Being sociable is an important part of achieving results

the favor of at least seeming to care who they are. If she had introduced herself and spent maybe thirty seconds talking to me about the weather or how tough her H.O.D. class is, I would have been more than happy to oblige her request.

It's not even limited to girls. I cannot count the number of guys that come up to me during the party and ask, "Hey man, where's the beer?" Oh yeah, we brew our own in our toilet. Here's a cup; have at it man. If you walk into someone else's house and plan to drink their beer, introduce yourself to a least one person who lives there and ask if it's okay if you drink. Nine times out of 10 it's totally fine, and now you don't look like a tool. Plus, it's a great way to meet people at the party.

And it's not just limited to parties or drinking. One of the great things about this campus is that it offers a top tier education without all the cutthroat competition of an Ivy League school. I'm an engineer, and I'll be the first to admit that my classmates

and the things they help me with allow me to pass my courses. We all work together, and we understand that favors are a two-way street. But we take time to talk to one another and identify with our common plight of being stuck in the engineering department. I've gotten everything from homework help to relationship advice from these people, and I know it's because they feel valued when I'm around them. Seriously, you guys rock.

We all want or need something from someone else. You can look at it as a block on the road to getting where you want to go, or you can stop and take some interest in the people around you. Not only will you find that it is much easier to convince someone when you take to the time to get to know them, but you also might meet someone with whom you can truly identify.

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

## THE RANT



What is on your mind?

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any issue you want. Send in

your rants to with the subject

"Rant" to:

opinion@vanderbilthustler.

com

Compiled by Ceaf Lewis

"I am so happy Harold Ford Jr. is teaching a class at Vandy (instead of being in the Senate)!"

"There is no good (direct) path between Featheringill Hall and the math building."

"Why are the card readers on the ordering stations in C.T. West upside down?"

"How is it that we can beat No. 25 Georgia Tech, No. 16 Tennessee and No. 9 Alabama, but then lose to Furman, Appalachian State, Auburn and Georgia? A little consistency now and then wouldn't hurt."

"I miss Taipei Cafe. I'm sick of Lunch Paper."

"Stalkers. Please stop."

"What is the point of the rotating pictures on the Webmail page? We already go here, Vanderbilt. You can stop advertising to us."

"I'm not really mad at anything right now."

"I don't like the phrase 'kill legislation.' I think 'abort legislation' would be better."

"Millions of polygons and there still isn't a better sports game than 'NBA Jam.'"

## COLUMN

# Ford class creates exciting opportunity for few

MICHAEL WILT  
Columnist

When I heard that former representative Harold Ford Jr. might be teaching at Vanderbilt this spring, I joked with a couple of people that if I took the class, it would be interesting to see how the distinguished Ford and I got along, as I had worked quite a bit this fall on his opponent's campaign. I was considering enrolling in the class pass-fail if it did open up and was not too many credit hours. It certainly would have been an opportunity, and I think those who are enrolled will learn quite a bit from Ford. His knowledge and expertise will surely benefit the Vanderbilt community, and I hope he stays on the faculty as long as possible.

Unfortunately I never did receive the e-mail, nor did many in the several departments who were supposed to receive it. We never had the opportunity to enroll in the class, and that is a shame. Technology

being what it is, we must accept that every now and then mistakes will be made. However, when an opportunity such as this is concerned, it was a far more glaring mistake to send out the only notification by e-mail, a notoriously unreliable form of communication.

To make matters worse, e-mail notification also gave those students who did happen to receive the email a "luck of the draw" chance to enroll in the course. If you happened to be sitting at your computer around 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 15th, when we did not, might I add, have the day off from classes, then you could enroll. If you did not check your e-mail until 2 p.m., but did get the message, tough luck; the class was filled. I also suspect that many seniors, who will not get the opportunity ever again to sit in a class with Ford, were not admitted to the course.

Vanderbilt's administration can and should do better. For example, it could have

been announced several days in advance that enrollment would begin on a certain day. It was common knowledge that the class would be immediately filled, but this delay of two or three days would eliminate the element of unfair chance involved.

The administration could have announced enrollment through The Hustler and through e-mail to the entire university community, allowing everyone ample opportunity to prepare themselves. Then on the specified day the class would be opened up for enrollment and those who woke at 8 a.m. could attempt to sign up for it. Finally, the normal process for enrollment should have been followed, with senior political science majors receiving the highest priority for the class, as the course is, after all, listed as an upper-level political science seminar.

There is nothing to be done now, but in the future the administration should take note of the frustration many students feel

about this and other such errors that have occurred over the course of the past several years. What can be done and what the administration should consider is to invite Ford to speak on campus to the greater Vanderbilt community. Thus there would be an opportunity for all Vanderbilt students to hear Ford discuss his experiences and his vision. When I saw him debate Senator Corker at Ingram Hall last October, as they stood twenty feet away, I knew that no matter the outcome of the election Ford had a bright future. Vanderbilt should take the opportunity to get to know one of Tennessee's own and learn from a man who one day may be our next senator, governor, or even president. This is an opportunity that none of us should ignore, even if only 30 students got into his seminar by chance on a rainy day in the middle of January.

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

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## SPORTS

## Commodores get defensive

## WHAT 2 WATCH 4

## Upcoming Events

**Men's Basketball  
Vanderbilt at  
Kentucky  
Saturday  
2 p.m. CT**

Vanderbilt (12-6, 2-2 SEC) looks for its first conference road victory, while the Wildcats (15-3, 4-0 SEC) seek to remain on top of the SEC East. The Commodores match up well with Kentucky center Randolph Morris but will need to play both mentally and physically tough to win this one. We think they will.

Prediction: Vanderbilt 78, Kentucky 76

**Women's Basketball  
No. 11 Vanderbilt at  
Georgia Tech  
Sunday  
2 p.m. CT**

Vanderbilt (16-3, 3-2 SEC) is coming off a road loss to Georgia, while the Yellow Jackets (11-6, 2-2 ACC) seek to rebound from a loss to North Carolina.

Prediction: Vanderbilt 82, Georgia Tech 75

**Men's Basketball  
No. 12 Arizona at  
No. 2 UCLA  
Saturday  
3 p.m. CT**

Washington State and Oregon are both playing well, but these two are out to show that the traditional powers still rule the Pac-10. The Wildcats (13-3, 4-2 Pac-10) are coming off a loss to Oregon, while the Bruins (15-1, 4-1 Pac-10) seek to keep up with the Ducks.

Prediction: UCLA 72, Arizona 68

**Men's Basketball  
No. 19 LSU at  
Arkansas  
Saturday  
2:45 CT  
CBS**

LSU (13-4, 2-1 SEC) is on top of the SEC West, while Arkansas (12-6, 1-3 SEC) needs to get on track quickly after three straight losses.

Prediction: LSU 70, Arkansas 66

**Pro Football  
New Orleans at  
Chicago  
Sunday  
2 p.m. CT  
FOX**

Given everything that the city of New Orleans has gone through, it's hard to pick against the Saints. They're also the better team, especially at the quarterback position. And no, the Bears aren't who we thought they were. The Saints aren't going to let them off the hook.

Prediction: New Orleans 27, Chicago 23

**Pro Football  
New England at  
Indianapolis  
Sunday  
5:30 p.m. CT  
CBS**

When all is said and done, you just can't pick against Tom Brady.

Prediction: New England 31, Indy 27

**OVERALL RECORD: 12-8**

by WILL GIBBONS  
Senior Sports Reporter

Senior center Ted Skuchas and former Vanderbilt player Matt Freije chatted after Wednesday night's 94-73 laughter over No. 9 Alabama.

"That's a good-looking man blocking all those shots," the former great jested.

Skuchas and his teammates all stepped up their defensive intensity to cruise to an easier-than-expected victory.

"We just haven't been able to lock down defensively," said junior guard/forward Shan Foster. "Tonight, we came together and made a statement that we were going to come out and play (tough defense). The faster we can decide to do that every night, then those (ranked teams) are the types of teams we'll be able to beat."

Giving up 73 points may not seem like a stellar defensive performance, but consider this: Alabama shot just 36.1 percent from the field and hit just nine of 29 3-pointers. In the second half, the Crimson Tide connected on just 12 of 40 field goals. Just three days prior, the same Commodores surrendered 55.2 percent shooting to Georgia in an 85-73 loss.

The three-headed monster of Alabama's Jermareo Davidson, Alonzo Gee and Ronald Steele went a combined 11-40 from the field.

"I thought (Alex Gordon's) defense on Steele was terrific," said coach Kevin Stallings. "He was able to keep (Steele) in front of him."

The Commodores were also able to make it difficult in the interior for Davidson and Richard Hendrix, who are two of the SEC's best big men.

"Our big guys came out and took it personally (about the way we played) at Georgia on Saturday," said forward Derrick Byars. "They were up for the challenge tonight against one of the best frontcourts in the nation."

Combined defensive performance with 15 3-pointers, the most in 11



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Ted Skuchas, who had four blocks in Vanderbilt's 94-73 victory over Alabama Wednesday night, fights for a loose ball with the Tide's Ronald Steele while Dan Cage tries to call timeout.

years, and the Commodores coasted to a win. The hot shooting was enough to overcome a 42-31 deficit in rebounding.

"When they shoot the ball the way they did tonight, they have the ability to cause you all sorts of problems," said Alabama coach Mark Gottfried. "We came out in a zone and then switched to a man, and they shot us out of the man. We just didn't have any answers tonight."

Foster was able to break out of a

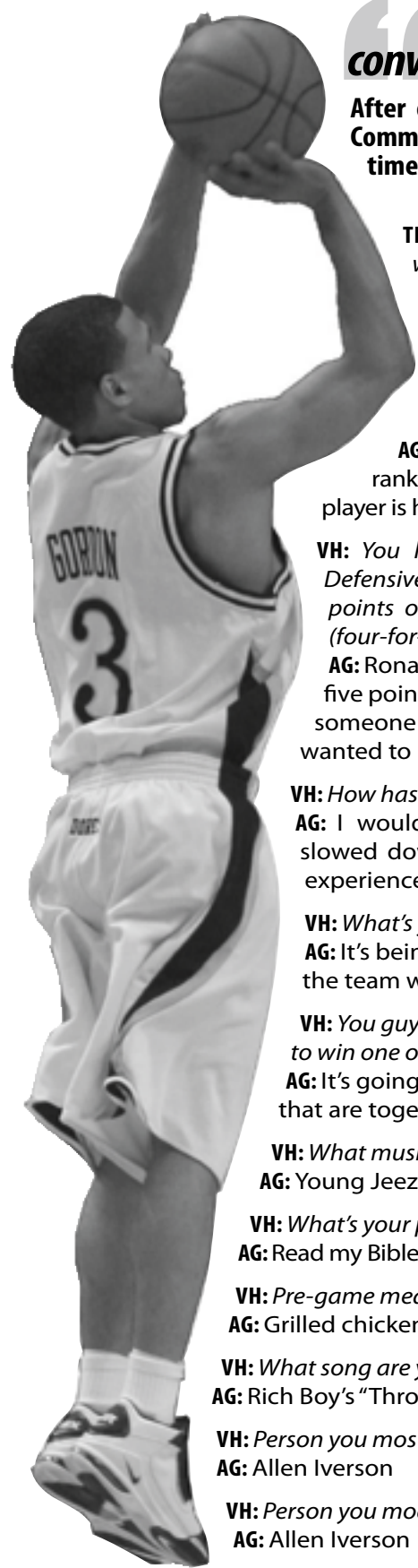
two-game shooting slump by hitting five of nine 3-pointers and seven of his first 10 shots.

"Coach and I have had a lot of conversations," Fostersaid. "I said, 'I want you to have fun this year,' and he said, 'You're not living by your own words. I did my best to have fun tonight.'"

Now the challenge for Vanderbilt becomes taking this kind of performance on the road. There are not very many road trips more difficult than the ones to Kentucky and

Louisiana State, which are the next two matchups for the Commodores.

"Last year, we won on the road and we couldn't win here," Stallings said. "I have no explanation other than everyone is finding it tough to play on the road. Our league is unlike any other league in that, in other leagues, you can look at the schedule and say we'll beat this team twice. (Everyone) in our league is capable of competing well. There are no bad teams, and that makes for a difficult league." ■



## friday conversation ALEX GORDON

After outplaying Alabama point guard Ronald Steele in the Commodores' 94-73 victory Wednesday, Alex Gordon took some time to talk to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

**THE VANDERBILT HUSTLER:** How much fun is it to play in a game where it seems like nobody can miss?

**ALEX GORDON:** It was a lot of fun. I first want to say that the fans were amazing. It was just one of those nights where almost all the shots went in and just having the fan support that we did, it was amazing.

**VH:** Is shooting contagious?

**AG:** Definitely, especially in a big game like that, against a ranked team, everybody's hyped and ready to go. Once one player is hitting, everybody else shoots it with more confidence.

**VH:** You had to be pleased with your performance Wednesday. Defensively, you held preseason All-American Ronald Steele to five points on one-for-11 shooting. Offensively, you scored 12 points (four-for-six from 3-point range) and dished out five assists.

**AG:** Ronald Steele is a good friend of mine, and he's one of the top five point guards in the country, so anytime you're playing against someone with a big name like that, you want to perform well. I just wanted to play the best I could to help my team win.

**VH:** How has your game progressed over the past three years?

**AG:** I would say that I'm more comfortable and the game has slowed down a lot since my freshman year and that comes with experience.

**VH:** What's your role on this team?

**AG:** It's being a leader, doing whatever at any given moment to help the team win. Whatever it takes.

**VH:** You guys have beaten three top 25 teams at home. What will it take to win one on the road?

**AG:** It's going to be a hostile crowd, but if we go up there with 13 guys that are together and that want it, we'll come out with a victory.

**VH:** What music are you listening to right now?

**AG:** Young Jeezy, Lil Wayne and Jay-Z.

**VH:** What's your pre-game ritual?

**AG:** Read my Bible, and I try to sit down and think to myself for 20 minutes.

**VH:** Pre-game meal?

**AG:** Grilled chicken and a baked potato.

**VH:** What song are you guys listening to in the locker room before games?

**AG:** Rich Boy's "Throw Some D's."

**VH:** Person you most want to meet?

**AG:** Allen Iverson

**VH:** Person you model your game after?

**AG:** Allen Iverson

**VH:** Something people might not know about you?

**AG:** I'm a good listener. I know there are times when it doesn't look like I'm listening, but I am.

## SEC NOTEBOOK

*News and notes from the SEC and Vanderbilt hoops*

by WILL GIBBONS AND CHIP ROBIE IV  
Sports Reporters

- **THREE IN A ROW:**  
Wednesday night's victory was Vanderbilt's first over a top-10 opponent since their 66-60 win over Kentucky in 2004. It marked its third straight victory over a top-25 team.
- **BYARS COMES UP CLUTCH:**  
Derrick Byars had a relatively quiet game, but when Alabama cut the lead to 76-67, the senior rose to the occasion. In a 16-0 run that put the game out of reach, Byars scored eight out of the 16 points.
- **HOME-COURT ADVANTAGE:**  
He did not say it outright, but it was apparent that Alabama guard Mykal Riley has probably liked other gyms better. "It is totally different playing here. It is something that I have never experienced before. I mean, the coaches are all the way over on the other side of the floor until the second half. It is a real weird gym. I have never played in a gym like this."
- **SKOOCH:**  
Ted Skuchas had a career high four blocks, drawing much praise from the Vanderbilt faithful.
- **WILDCATS NO EASY TASK:**  
Kevin Stallings is well aware that Kentucky is beginning to reach its potential. "They look like Tubby's kind of team. They defend and play roles very well. They have great players and we have a huge task ahead of us. Going to Rupp is never an easy proposition. We feel good about how we played last night and we hope that we can continue it."
- **MORRIS COMING INTO HIS OWN:**  
Kentucky's Randolph Morris is finally starting to live up to expectations, and in doing so, he is carrying Kentucky back into the top 25. His 16 points per game combined with his eight rebounds per game are impressive enough, but his 60 percent field goal percentage and 2.2 blocks per game put him in the upper echelon of big men.
- **VOLS SLIDING:**  
Tennessee has been in a spiral since succumbing to some Memorial magic against Vanderbilt. Auburn defeated the Vols 83-80 Wednesday, giving Bruce Pearl's squad its third straight loss by a margin of three or fewer points. Tennessee suffered another heart-breaking loss Saturday when Ohio State's Ron Lewis's three-pointer gave the Buckeyes a 68-66 victory.
- **FOOTBALL, BUT BASKETBALL TOO?**  
In the AP poll, the SEC leads all conferences with five teams ranked in the top 25 (No. 1 Florida, No. 10 Alabama, No. 16 LSU, No. 22 Tennessee and No. 25 Kentucky). The ACC and Big 12 each have four teams ranked in the top 25.

# Vandy welcomes expectations

## No. 12 women's tennis sets sights higher than Sweet 16.

by FRANKLIN PETR  
Sports Reporter

The new semester brings with it many things: fresh starts, final pushes and spring sports. And while many around campus might be focused on the ups and downs of Memorial Magic or the return of Commodore baseball, there is a group of girls with their own high aspirations.

With six returning netters and a promising duo of freshmen, the women's tennis team looks to improve upon last year's success.

Last year saw a second-place Southeastern Conference finish and a trip to the NCAA Sweet 16, but still the Commodores see more. They mustered three first team All-SEC players and the SEC Player of the Year, yet they know they can do better.

"It's great to be back for dual matches," said coach Geoff Macdonald. "The fall was very productive, but we're excited for this spring."

Leading the charge for the Commodores will be Amanda Fish, captain and the lone senior on the team. In 2006 Fish led the team at the top singles spot, posting 20-6 record including phenomenal wins against some of the country's best. Her play garnered her recognition as an All-American.

"Amanda has been great," Macdonald said. "She's had a terrific career here, and her senior presence has led us very well. Her teammates have a little extra motivation this year since it will be her last shot."

And then there is junior Taka Bertrand, who earned SEC Player of the Years last season after going undefeated in conference play.

Amanda Taylor and Caroline Ferrell round out the junior class. The two played consistently well all season helping Vanderbilt to a 10-1 conference record. Taylor was the third Commodore selected to first team All-SEC, while Ferrell provided a solid presence throughout the season and was ranked No. 5 in singles.

The Commodores also return two



The Vanderbilt women's tennis team, which hosts Louisville today, has high hopes for the season. MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

sophomores who were pivotal not only in singles play but on the doubles court as well. Courtney Ulery and Liberty Sveke lost only one match all season in their doubles pairing, and both contributed significantly in singles where Ulery was named second team All-SEC.

The newcomers are Catherine Newman and Hannah Blatt who, although inexperienced in collegiate play, have already proven their mettle.

"I'm so pleased with the freshmen," Macdonald said. "They've been so hard-working, and they had a brilliant fall."

Newman opens as the highest-ranked individual on the squad after upsetting the seventh-ranked player in the nation, while Blatt won seven matches in a row this fall.

Though this season looks to be a

great one, the Commodores know it will not be easy. In addition to an extremely tough conference season, the Commodores must also take on Georgia Tech and Notre Dame, two of the premier programs in the nation.

"We start earlier so we can improve more," Macdonald said. "And we know we can't get better if you don't play those tough matches, so we're looking forward to them."

And so a new season of tennis begins. The Commodores know that past success entitles them to nothing, but they are certainly not shirking from the challenge. ■

### Upcoming home games

Tonight: Louisville (5 p.m.)

Sunday: East Tennessee (noon)

# Bowlers continue to climb in rankings

## Commodores excited to return to lanes for first time since early December.

by WILL GIBBONS  
Senior Sports Reporter

The Vanderbilt bowling team, ranked No. 2 nationally, heads to Springfield, Mo., this weekend for its first competition of 2007.

"I don't know if there's an added pressure playing with the ranking," said coach John Williamson, whose team trails defending national champion Farleigh Dickinson by only eight points for the top spot.

"The players carry plenty of pressure on themselves regardless," he said. "I think the biggest issue is that we haven't competed as a team since the beginning of December."

Vanderbilt will bowl in dual matches tonight against Arkansas State, Elmhurst, Fontbonne, Minnesota State-Mankato and host Central Missouri. It will then compete in the Central Missouri Invitational on Saturday and Sunday, competing against the same teams along with Southern and Nebraska.

"What we're trying to do is put ourselves in a position to be competitive and stay competitive," said sophomore Michelle Peloquin. "I think that the rankings are more for spectators and followers, not really for the players. It's just the opinions of the coaches; there's no

extra pressure on us."

The team ended 2006 by winning two straight tournaments with strong individual performances by many of the youngsters on the squad.

Freshman Josie Earnest leads the team with a 194 average, sophomores Karen Grygiel, Tara Kane and Mandy Keily have all won tournament honors this season, and last year's Freshman of the Year Peloquin is due for a breakout performance. Sophomore Kaitlin Reynolds, coming off a strong round at the last tournament, and freshman Ashley Belden will also compete this weekend.

"I think the layoff comes into it a little bit," Peloquin said. "We've been back and had a week and a half of practice, where some teams haven't even started school yet, so that should help us out."

This weekend's matches are the first of six tournaments the team will play in before the NCAA championships in April.

"We will continue to see the same teams over and over, and these teams will be at the NCAA tournament," Williamson said. "To be consistent against these teams builds confidence for our players, which is important on a younger team. With a strong performance we can achieve the results we're looking for." ■

# BASKETBALL: Foster leads Dores past Bama

From BASKETBALL, page 1

Byars credited the interior play as one of the main reasons Vandy was able to come out with a win.

"I have to give it to our big guys tonight, including Dan Cage, who's down there fighting it out with their big men," he said. "(Our big guys) were up for the challenge tonight against the best frontcourt in the nation."

On top of effective interior defense, the Commodore guards also held their own on the perimeter. All-SEC point guard Ronald Steele was held to five points for Alabama, who shot only 36 percent as a team.

Vandy has now won three straight games against ranked opponents, all of which were at home. Like most opponents recently, the Crimson Tide struggled in Memorial. Alabama has not won in Nashville since 1990.

"It is really tough having to play in this environment," said Alabama guard Mykal Riley, who led the Tide in scoring with 21 points. "It is something that I have never experienced before. I mean, the coaches are all the way over on the other side of the floor until the second half. I have never played in a gym like this."

For the Commodores to build off this momentum, they have to find a way to win on the road. Vandy has dropped both conference road games and will travel to Kentucky Saturday. After that, it is off to Baton Rouge to take on the No. 19 Tigers of Louisiana State.



Junior Shan Foster, who scored a game-high 27 points, was virtually unstoppable in the Commodores' 94-73 victory Wednesday over Alabama at Memorial Gymnasium. MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

But don't expect Vandy to be intimidated. Taking down ranked team after ranked team has helped the hot-shooting Commodores realize that defense is the name of the game.

"Tonight, we came together and made a

statement that we were going to come out and play (tough defense)," Foster said. "The faster we can decide to do that every night, then those (ranked teams) are the types of teams we'll be able to beat." ■

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# LIFE

## INDEX

### The Week Ahead

**Combat back-to-class blues with a variety of musical and theatrical performances. Local bands rule this week, performing everywhere from Mercy Lounge to City Hall. Also keep an eye out for art exhibits at the Frist and performances at the Belcourt.**

**FRIDAY 1/19**  
Mercy Lounge celebrates four years in action, hosting local bands like The Plastic Clap (featuring a Vanderbilt alum), Left Can Dance, Panty Raid!, and Jeremy Lister. Admission is 21+ and is FREE!

Ann Taylor, Frist Center curator of interpretation, gives a walk-through discussion of "Extraordinary: the Everyday Object in American Art" at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

**SATURDAY 1/20**  
Grammy-nominated musician Vasti Jackson, a genuine Mississippi blues man, plays tonight at the Bourbon Street Blues and Boogie Bar at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for a 21-and-up crowd.

**SUNDAY 1/21**  
 photo provided

Catch the last weekend showing of the gothic fairytale "Pan's Labyrinth" at the Belcourt on Sunday. Guillermo Del Toro's epic is sure to terrify and mystify. Show times at noon, 2:20, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45.

**MONDAY 1/22**  
Looking to perfect your singing voice? Join the Master Class with Danish baritone Bo Skovhus at the Turner Recital Hall from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**TUESDAY 1/23**  
Lain York, a Nashville-based artist, presents abstract images inspired by artifacts from non-Western cultures. See his show at the Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and Museum of Art.

**WEDNESDAY 1/24**  
Strap on your skates and head over to Mercy Lounge for "The Nashville Rollergirls' Bout Benefit Extravaganza featuring Les Honky More Tonkies, Porter Hall Tennessee and others. \$5 minimum donation.

**THURSDAY 1/25**  


New Orleans funksters Galactic play with Papa Mali tonight at City Hall. With what The New York Times calls "lean bass lines ... and melodies like bluesy epigrams," this is not a show to miss. Tickets are going for \$18 and the show starts at 7 p.m.

# Q & A

## WITH ROY NEEL



The Vanderbilt Hustler's Kristen Chmielewski sits down with Vanderbilt's adjunct political science professor Roy Neel for some one-on-one questions. Neel, who graduated from Vanderbilt in 1972, served as President Clinton's chief of staff and works with Al Gore in his efforts to curb global warming. He answers questions about everything, from how Vanderbilt has changed to running for the 2008 presidency.

- VH:** I understand you attended Vanderbilt University. How would you compare the Vanderbilt you attended to the Vanderbilt of today?
- RN:** The most dramatic change is the role of women at Vanderbilt. *WHEN I WAS HERE IN THE '60s*, men outnumbered the women about 2-to-1 — you couldn't get a date with a Vanderbilt coed; they were so selective. And, as throughout the South, Vanderbilt women were stuck in the '50s — still wearing raincoats, walking across campus in shorts, no men allowed in rooms, all the stuff totally blown up by the sexual revolution that was about to happen.
- VH:** Previously, you mentioned you intended to pursue a pre-med career. What made you change your plans?
- RN:** An F in Physics 101. Actually *I HAD NO BUSINESS IN PRE-MED*. I hated chemistry, and it hated me. I was a born English and art history major. Society is much better off without me in an operating room.
- VH:** What was the first job you held after college?
- RN:** *I WAS A NAVY PHOTOJOURNALIST*, then a sportswriter for the Nashville Banner. I loved sports writing — it was like stealing money. How hard is it to write 400 words about a basketball game?
- VH:** How did you ascend to become chief of staff for Al Gore's vice presidential campaign?
- RN:** That was a natural progression — I had been his chief of staff in the Senate, and I knew a lot of Clinton's campaign people, so I was the logical choice to be integrated into the Clinton campaign as Gore's guy. It was the most fun I have ever had in politics — maybe in any job of my life. It helps to win.
- VH:** Can you explain your experience with the stress of the 2000 election?
- RN:** It was surreal, and I will never get over it. The political and legal rollercoaster during the Florida recount was one of the most extraordinary events in U.S. political history. I am absolutely convinced that Gore won more votes than Bush in Florida, and, had the U.S. Supreme Court not stopped the recount, he would today be in his second term as president. And the catastrophic invasion of Iraq would never have happened. It's hard to blame Bush and his people for the shameless tactics used to stop the process — that's modern politics. But those U.S. Supreme Court justices who threw the election have a lot to answer for. They dishonored the Constitution.
- VH:** What influenced you to write *YOUR BOOK, "DYNAMITE! 75 YEARS OF VANDERBILT BASKETBALL"*?
- RN:** A friend of mine, John Bibb, the sports editor of The Tennessean, had a contract to write such a book and decided he didn't want to do it, so I figured what the hell, I could do that. It was great fun, digging up all those memories of players and coaches and fans that lived for Vanderbilt basketball games, as I did for several years. And it helped me get sports writing out of my system. I needed to grow up.
- VH:** Amid all your duties in Washington, what made you decide to teach at Vanderbilt?
- RN:** Chancellor Gee was kind to encourage me to come back to Vanderbilt after the 2000 presidential election. It was a perfect way to refocus my political attention after the residual bitterness of that election's outcome. It forced me back into research and teamed me up with one of Vanderbilt's best, John Geer, with whom I've taught all my courses. He does the real work and I just tell stories.
- VH:** What class will you teach and what is its focus?
- RN:** John Geer and I are teaching a class on the American presidency — history, politics, transitions to power, leadership. We will have a lot of guest speakers from politics and journalism, which will make it fun.
- VH:** What projects are you currently working on?
- RN:** *AL GORE'S WIDE-RANGING AGENDA* to ignite a public demand to solve the global warming crisis. And John Geer and I are writing a new textbook on the presidency, which we hope every political science department in the country will require so I can recoup some of the fortune I've spent on my own children's textbooks over the past decade.
- VH:** Why have you not *RUN FOR PRESIDENT* yourself?
- RN:** You must be kidding. I'm not a politician. But now that I think of it, the 2008 race is wide open and Al Gore is unlikely to run, so maybe I'll think about it after this semester is over.





# Ott fills debut album with mildly relaxing but sadly uninspiring sounds

by MICHAEL YOUNG  
Life Staff Writer

Over the past few years, there has been a rising trend of mainstream television shows featuring music by aspiring artists in lieu of typically yawn-inducing original scores. While this can certainly be an effective way to entertain the ears of viewers for a reasonable price, it has also led to the creation of a subgenre of music that often seems naked and inadequate when listened to independently of the television program.

Carey Ott is a poster child for artists in this category, as his album "Lucid Dream" suffers from its mainstream aspirations.



OTT

The result is a collection of perfectly decent, albeit soulless, songs that do nothing to excite the emotions.

The album's lead track, "Am I Just One," was featured on "Grey's Anatomy" twice during the second season and is representative of the collection as a whole. Through a combination of acoustic guitar, breathless vocals and lyrics about lost love, Ott does an exemplary job of creating a relaxing track that soothes the mind. Indeed, this was the point of the track, and when it serves as a background to other activity, the effect is remarkable. On its own, however, the song feels empty and boring, and the theme of passion long gone seems cliché.

Only three of the other 11 tracks break from this trend, the best of which is "Shelf Life." Although it promotes the same tired theme, "Shelf Life" has something the other tracks lack: a hook. Its refreshingly brutal chorus — "Love is a dog fight/ You're losing your shelf life" — plays a game with the ears, and it's fun to hear Ott's soothing voice take a more cynical view of love for a change.

Even though it isn't quite as different and fresh as "Shelf Life," the comparatively energetic track "I Wouldn't Do That to You" is also worthy of mention.

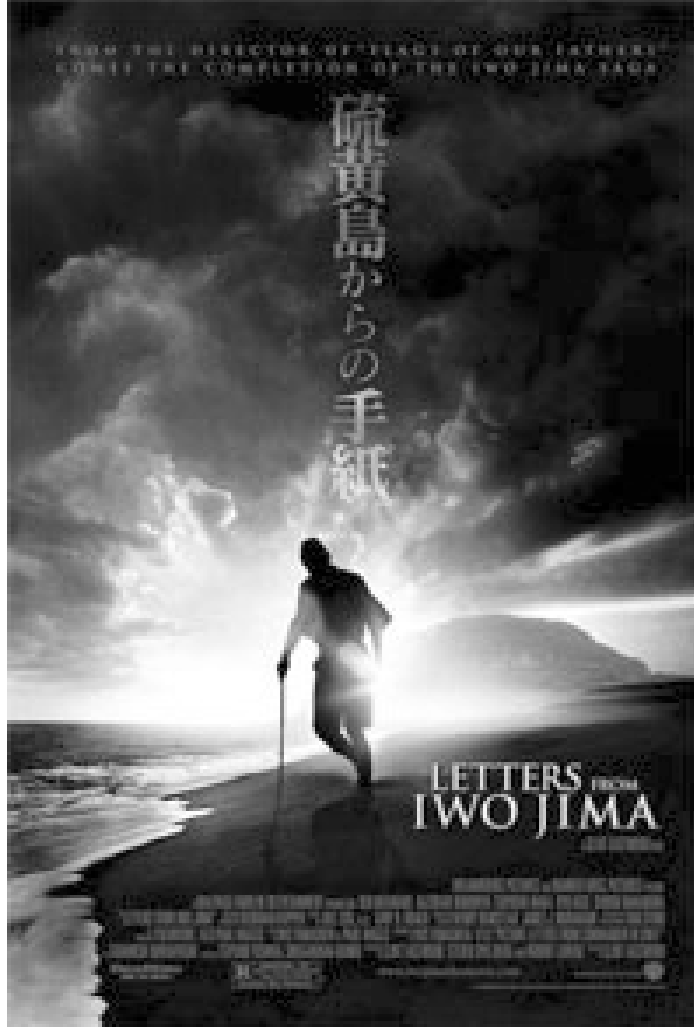
By far my favorite part of the whole album takes place in the last minute of the last song, "Lucid Dream." The song itself maintains the mellow, apathetic vibe of the rest of the collection, but at the very end a surprisingly strong beat picks up seemingly out of nowhere. Immediately the tone of the song changes and the vocals even appear to become a little less down, maybe even more hopeful. I wouldn't say it saves the album, but it's certainly an interesting way to go out, and I respect Ott for straying from the path in this final track.

It's tough to criticize "Lucid Dream" for accomplishing what it set out to do: make Carey Ott famous by getting his music on a television show. But despite the reality that product differentiation was never Ott's goal, it remains true that the tracks he did create lack substance, a meatiness of feeling that other musicians strive to obtain. As it is, "Lucid Dream" is exactly what it intended to be: delightful background music and not much else. ■

# "Letters" offers moviegoers fresh perspective on WWII

by ALEX CHRISOPE  
Life Staff Writer

Last fall, "Flags of Our Fathers" made an ephemeral appearance in theaters. Helmed by Clint Eastwood and produced by World-War-II-obsessed Steven Spielberg, "Flags" was a well-made, dignified film — as if it could it be



otherwise — about how the public face of war can butt up against the actual horrors of combat. Not content with telling half the story, Clint returns with "Letters from Iwo Jima," an entirely distinct movie from the Japanese perspective.

Taking formal inspiration from "Saving Private Ryan," "Letters from Iwo Jima" follows five Japanese men as they prepare for the defining battle of the Pacific Theatre. General Tadamichi Kuribayashi (Ken Watanabe) arrives on the sacred island to build up their defense: if the Americans take Iwo Jima, they will have a strategic foot in the door, and invasion of the mainland will be all but guaranteed. Lacking adequate equipment and isolated from reinforcements, Kuribayashi accepts inevitable defeat against the U.S. technological might. However, while his officers suggest conventional techniques for holding the beaches, the general implements more creative strategies, utilizing the caves and tunnels embedded in Suribachi, the mountain on the southern end of the island. The idea is to stretch out combat as long as possible, for, as Kuribayashi says, "one more day of death here is one more day of safety at home." Battle soon begins, and the men must grapple with concepts of honorable death and patriotism.

Screenwriter Iris Yamashita and the individual actors do a splendid job of fleshing out the five main characters, despite the language barrier — the movie is in Japanese with subtitles. Kuribayashi is a historical figure whose letters inform much of our knowledge about the battle. He is accurately portrayed as a clever and compassionate man torn by the war: he studied in America and knows the decency of its people, but he is loyal to his country above all else. His tendency to ignore custom leads to suspicion that he is an American sympathizer, but the audience never doubts his devotion to his regiment. Lt. Ito (Shidou Nakamura) is his exact opposite — a coward who hides his fear in conformity. Baron Nishi (Tsuyoshi Ihara) is a suave horse-riding star — think Japanese Clark Gable. Shimizu (Ryo Kase) is the story's wild card, a would-be military policeman with a shameful episode in his past.

But the heart of the film is the ordinary baker Saigo (pop star Kazunari Ninomiya). Saigo begins as a comic fool, digging trenches and getting whipped for making jokes about dysentery. However, he jokes because he is scared, and only speaks words of joy because he must. Yet his desperate eyes tell another story.

The filmmaking here is superb, as is to be expected from Eastwood at this prolific stage of his career. The elegiac photography follows the same muted color scheme as "Flags," creating an almost black-and-white feel. Also notable is the evocative score by Kyle Eastwood and Michael Eastwood. And thankfully, Eastwood avoided gimmicky crossover moments: Ryan Phillippe doesn't randomly show up, and only eagle-eyed viewers will spot the famous flag-raising on Suribachi.

The only problematic aspect of "Letters from Iwo Jima" is its unrealistic portrayal of suicide. History has made clear the rigidity of the Japanese military, which encouraged the long-held tradition of honorable death through suicide. That the Battle of Iwo Jima lasted 40 days demonstrated the tenacity and loyalty — some say viciousness — of the Japanese. But a prominent scene has a half-crazed officer directly disobeying the general's order to retreat, instead commanding his men to "die honorably." The manner of death is shocking, but Eastwood is clearly making a statement that any person, no matter his conditioning, would be terrified or doubtful in that situation. All of the sympathetic characters consider suicide useless in



the course of battle; I just keep wondering whether this is accurate or a concession to make a totalitarian regime easier to swallow for an American audience.

"Letters" is far from perfect, and it is not the best movie of the year. However, it is very good and certainly worthwhile in offering a fresh perspective on a familiar subject. ■

# Vanderbilt alum gives sold-out show at the Fine Arts Gallery

McSpadden's exhibit of paintings to remain on display until Feb. 15.

by CAPP WILLIAMSON  
Asst Life Editor

The Fine Arts Gallery's current exhibit, "American Reflections: Recent Works by Kate McSpadden" is the fastest exhibit to ever sell out the gallery. McSpadden, who earned her bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt in 2005, opened her exhibit Jan. 11.

Upon graduation, McSpadden was bestowed with the Margaret Stonewall Woolridge Hamblet Award and earned a \$20,000 grant. The award is selected annually by a panel of outside jurors and is open to graduating seniors each spring. The grant is traditionally used for travel and study, and culminates in an exhibit at the Fine Arts Gallery. McSpadden decided to use her grant to travel around the country painting pieces that would inevitably become her "American Reflections" exhibit at the Fine Arts Gallery.

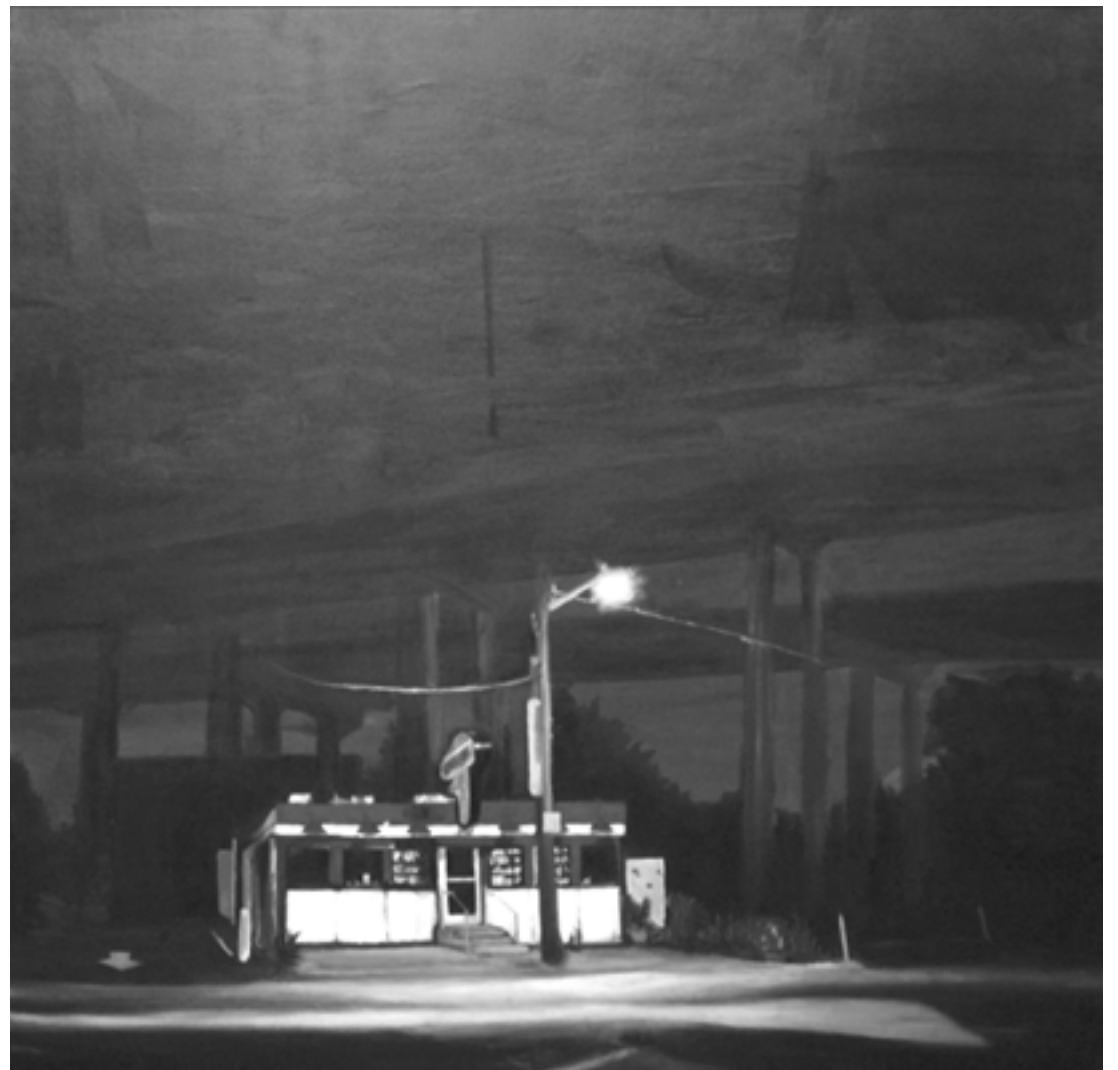
Throughout "American Reflections," McSpadden takes the observer through her year of rural travel and exploration. Many of the pieces are painted from a roadside point of view, and the streaked brushstrokes make the viewer feel as if they could be seeing the paintings from the back seat of a motorcycle. "Marathon" shows a roadside trailer and a stretch

of highway, while "Dryden" gives us a picture of an old downtown theatre. The beautiful yet haunting "Ninth Ward" uses intense turquoise coloring and a close-up viewpoint to depict the destruction of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The piece became the first painting to sell in a show that would set a new standard for the Fine Arts Gallery.

Amy Pottier, the gallery's assistant curator, explained that McSpadden wanted to paint traditional American locales in a modern medium, showing how urban, rural and natural surroundings are changing. McSpadden wanted to explore how these landscapes, long considered quintessential Americana images, can be interpreted from subjective viewpoints.

"What makes Kate's work recognizably 'modern,' I would say, has to do with her brushwork, which is sometimes loose and expressive, and at other times reinforces an underlying compositional structure," Pottier said.

"American Reflections" will be displayed at the Fine Arts Gallery until Feb. 15. For more information on McSpadden's work or the gallery, please visit the Web site at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/gallery>. ■



Interested in writing about a variety of topics: food, fashion, movies, music, art and travel?  
E-mail [editor@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:editor@vanderbilthustler.com) or call 322-2424.

# Let it rain, let it rain, let it rain

The acquisition of fashionable rain gear — umbrellas, rain boots, raincoats and hats — is a rite of passage for every Vanderbilt student.

by KATIE FINNERAN  
Hustler Fashion Columnist

As a New Yorker, I saw my venture south as a refuge from harsh winters and snowstorms. When January of my freshman year brought 35-degree temperatures and incessant rainstorms, I felt somewhat deceived. I remember walking out of Wilson completely unprepared for the downpour, only to see every other



Vandy student casually whip out an umbrella. It was then I learned the secret to surviving January at Vanderbilt: carry your umbrella with you as ritually as your Commodore Card. While it can't buy you dinner at Cabana, it can prevent your hair from looking like an '80s Madonna video.

Yet rain-savvy Vanderbilt students need to know more than the location of their trusty umbrella. Here are some helpful guidelines for surviving those rainy days.

**Know the difference between water resistant and waterproof:**

A friendly tip shopping: water and waterproof interchangeable.



**Anglophile:** The constant rain and damp weather of London make the British synonymous with well-made rainwear. In desperate

need of jackets, umbrellas, boots and hats guaranteed to keep you dry? Burberry offers a myriad of durable yet panache rain attire.

**Raincoat best finds:**

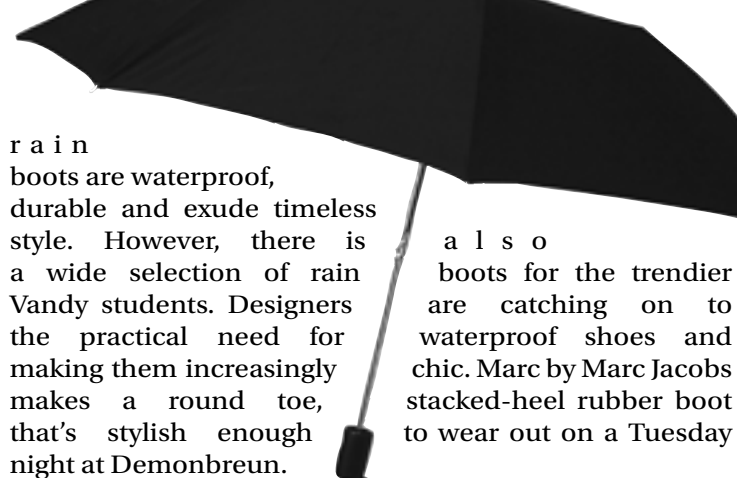
Even an umbrella doesn't completely shield your hair from the rain, so to ensure you don't end up looking like you should star on "Saved by the Bell," opt for a jacket with a hood. Try Burberry's "Brittany" raincoat with a cozy hood. Another favorable option is Vineyard Vines' "Nor'easter" jacket. Not only is it waterproof, but it also has a stowaway hood that enables you to transform it into a windbreaker on a whim.

White trench coats are always fashionable and don't look ridiculous if the weatherman is wrong — which he generally is — and it doesn't rain. A great way to accessorize a trench coat is to tie a scarf around your

**Rain boot best finds:**

Remember to tuck your jeans into your boots. It'll prevent you from getting that miserable feeling of wet pants and still make you look fashionable. Target offers affordable yet colorful and stylish rain boots. Some of their trendiest boots include prints in houndstooth, leopard and skulls. The prepster will find a wide selection of boots at J. Crew or Burberry.

The Burberry classic plaid



rain boots are waterproof, durable and exude timeless style. However, there is a wide selection of rain Vandy students. Designers the practical need for making them increasingly makes a round toe, that's stylish enough night at Demonbreun.

**Avoid the mid-**

It may be dark outside, mood don't need to some color to your rain bold print umbrella.

**Umbrellas:**

Little-known secret: ALWAYS carry an umbrella you in January in Nashville. If you're like me and always seem to be caught in the wrong wind to blow out your umbrella, invest in cheap classic umbrellas.

If you're somewhat more graceful, there are a plethora of stylish umbrellas to shield you from the winter storms. Try Burberry's "Ladies Stick Umbrella" or Juicy Couture's "Cloud Umbrella." Feeling bold? Try a Pucci print umbrella.

**Carry a hat:**

Wearing a coat without a hood? Opt for a hat. Sport a Vandy baseball cap to cover your head and ensure the 45 minutes you spent straightening your hair don't go to waste five minutes out the door. Also try the Burberry quilted reversible bucket hat. It's

adorable and water resistant!  
**For those in-between days:** When it's not raining, Nashville's January is generally dark and foreboding.

The weatherman tells us there is a "chance of showers," and the sky seems as indecisive as John Kerry. These are the kind of days where you feel ridiculous wearing rain boots all day because it could end up being sunny and in the mid 50s; yet you don't want to take the chance of ruining your UGGs — which, contrary to popular belief, are not water resistant. Sperrys and patent leather ballet flats are the best options for these days. The Vineyard Vines quilted "Nancy" coat is perfect for those misty — but not quite rainy — days. And as always, carry an umbrella in your bag!

Once you're dressed for the weather you can somewhat embrace the rainy winters of Tennessee. Use the rain as an excuse to stay in comfy covers and UGG slippers while watching an "America's Next Top Model" marathon with friends or perhaps as an excuse to stay at a friend's room or even a bar until the storm passes. But for those inevitable classes that compel you to leave the comfort of your bed to walk across the Peabody bridge, use the above tips to ensure you remain as fashionable and as dry as possible. ■

## Eat here ... if your picky girlfriend says she's tired of Cabana and Sunset

CASUAL BUT ELEGANT, FLYTE WORLD SERVES UP ORGANIC ENTREES IN A ROMANTIC SETTING

by ELLIE MIX  
Life Staff Writer

If you're on the lookout for a new casual but elegant venue to enjoy artistically prepared meals in satisfying portions, journey down Division Street to Flyte World Dining and Wine. The restaurant is a true culinary adventure that will undoubtedly be the new date spot when you've tired of Hillsboro's too-frequented restaurants.

Upon walking into Flyte, you're enveloped in bright, lively colored walls dimmed by low-set lights reminiscent of a European art gallery. Live piano music sets a relaxed but refined mood with elaborate variations of Gershwin and Carmichael pieces, and as you arrive at your candlelit



table, you'll realize by the various menus that a truly unique dining experience has just begun.

The restaurant's name "Flyte" is derived from the wine term "flight," which indicates three to four small servings of wine, beer, and, in the case of this restaurant, salads, soups and desserts for taste testing. Flyte even offers a make-your-own antipasto menu, so any time you visit there, you will always have a wide variety of choices in food and drink — the bar offers more than 30 international wines — to excite your palate. Because these flights are offered,



it is highly recommended you take full advantage of them. The salad flight was absolutely superb, consisting of three small portions of their unique salads — my favorite was the caramel apple — whose serving sizes are ideal to be shared by two.

The winter menu offers 100 percent organic entrees that range from \$16-\$35. Exotic entrees include everything from grilled vegetable Wellington to fresh swordfish to the highly recommended file of cherry-chipotle venison, which, to be quite honest, was the most perfectly

prepared "medium" steak I have ever eaten. All the entrees are served with your choice of herbed potatoes or mixed vegetables.

However, if the wistful artwork of the food, music or paintings scattered around the restaurant are not enough to entertain your thoughts and conversation, then the dessert menu certainly will. By the end of dinner, the only thing better looking than my date was the Orange Dream Flyte, consisting of orange custard, chipotle tuile and a shot of hot orange white chocolate.

While a meal at Flyte World Dining and Wine tends to be expensive, the meal is well worth the price, especially considering the exquisite presentation and fine quality of the dishes. So if you're searching for the new hotspot for romantic dining, spend an evening at Flyte and feel worlds away from Nashville the moment you walk in the door. ■



Address: 718 Division Street  
Phone: (615) 255-6200, reservations recommended.

# Vanderbilt participates in 365 National Festival theatrical event

## University theater selected to showcase one-of-a-kind work of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright.

by ANGELINA CAVALLI  
Life Staff Writer

Vanderbilt has been selected to take part in Pulitzer Prize-winning author Suzan-Lori Parks' 365 National Festival yearlong event. The project involves one of Parks' works being performed somewhere in the country. Vanderbilt University Theatre is one of over 600 groups selected to produce the plays. Performances will begin Jan. 22 and take place every day in various public locations on campus.

In November 2002, Parks had the idea to compose a new play every day for one year. On Nov. 13, 2002, she began writing and proceeded to write a play every day for the next 365 days. The resulting work was titled "365 Days/365 Plays" and consists of 365 brief works, some only a line or two long. She then decided to have each of these plays performed at various locations around the country.

In light of this one-of-a-kind project, the 365 National Festival was launched in order to spread this testament to the daily artistic process across the nation and around the world. The festival is a grassroots event, assigning one week of plays (as well as three regular plays to be performed by all groups) to different major regional theaters, as well as to community and university theater groups all across the country.

After going through an application process this summer, VUT was one of over 600 groups across the U.S. selected to produce the plays. Jessica Bergholtz and Brielle Bryan, the student coordinators for the 365 Festival, have been hard at work planning the event since November.

"It will be great for people to come out and see works by this amazing playwright," Bergholtz said.

Bergholtz described the acting that will occur as "theater happening spontaneously." She also said a student "could be on his way to class and stop to catch a few minutes of a performance and then go on (his) way," as the plays are generally only a few minutes in length.

A unique aspect of the event is the amount of autonomy the directors have when deciding how to produce the play. Bergholtz said the directors and actors have "complete freedom to choose when, where and how to interpret the writing."



PARKS

She also said because there are three plays all groups will perform, students could potentially "go to any of the sites across the country and see the same play." According to the festival's Web site, the festival "is not building a new community; it is revealing community where it already exists."

Performances will begin Jan. 22 and will happen every day in a public place on campus. The event will culminate at noon on Jan. 28 with a presentation of all 10 plays in Neely Auditorium. All performances are free and open to the Vanderbilt and Nashville community. For more information on the 365 National Festival, please visit its Web site at <http://www.365days365plays.com>. ■

## HUSTLER PICKS

Every week the Hustler staff will weigh in on a certain subject pertaining to arts and entertainment. This week, staffers and students choose their guilty pleasure TV show.



**GLENNA DEROY**  
Editor-in-Chief  
"Laguna Beach"

**JARRED AMATO**  
Sports Editor  
"Grey's Anatomy"

**ALLISON SMITH**  
News Editor  
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**DARCY NEWELL**  
Life Editor  
"Flavor of Love"

**CEAF LEWIS**  
Opinion Editor  
"My Name is Earl"

**NICOLE FLOYD**  
Focus Editor  
"Flavor of Love"

## READER PICKS

**JONATHAN GRUSHKIN**  
Sophomore  
"American Idol"

**IVIE BAKER**  
Sophomore  
"Sex in the City"

**TACARA HARRIS**  
Freshman  
"Making the Band"

**GRAFTON DAY**  
Sophomore  
"Seventh Heaven"

Next week, staffers will choose their favorite awesomely bad songs. Readers are also invited to weigh in by e-mailing the Life editor at [vibe@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:vibe@vanderbilthustler.com)

Make theater. Make history.

**365 DAYS PLAYS**  
JAN. 22 - 28

EXPERIENCE THE LARGEST THEATER FESTIVAL IN US HISTORY. VUTHEATRE PRESENTS A WEEKLONG CYCLE OF SHORT PLAYS BY PULITZER-WINNING PLAYWRIGHT SUZAN-LORI PARKS.

All Performances are **FREE**.

Performance everyday at **NOON**.

<b>MONDAY, JAN. 22</b>	"Between the 1 <sup>st</sup> Rehearsal and the 2 <sup>nd</sup> " & "Remember Who You Are"	Benson Hall steps
<b>TUESDAY, JAN. 23</b>	"The Wagon" & "Inaction in Action"	Wilson Terrace
<b>WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24</b>	"Barefoot and Pregnant in the Park"	Lawn next to Rand Wall
<b>THURSDAY, JAN. 25</b>	"Channel 5 Weather"	Fleming Yard
<b>FRIDAY, JAN. 26</b>	"Another Play in the House Called 'House of Jones'"	Library Lawn
<b>SATURDAY, JAN. 27</b>	"Fatigue" & "Action in Inaction"	Rand Terrace
<b>SUNDAY, JAN. 28</b>	"The Arrival of the End"	Front of Neely Auditorium
	<b>MARATHON OF ENTIRE WEEK'S PLAYS</b>	<b>NEELY AUDITORIUM</b>

All plays are approximately 5 minutes long.

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# FUN & GAMES

## SUDOKU

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

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

### 1/17/07 SOLUTIONS

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

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**  
 1 Tent site  
 5 Flesh mark  
 9 Collect  
 14 All through  
 15 Walk with worry  
 16 Send money  
 17 Barney and friends  
 19 Chopin opus  
 20 Total  
 21 Brown tint  
 23 Red or Dead  
 24 Came up with  
 26 Writing table  
 27 Outdoor exercise  
 30 Is able to  
 31 Hint for Mr. Moto  
 33 Dangling ornament  
 35 Sites of worship  
 39 Second-story man  
 40 Hooch  
 41 Spiny-finned lake dwellers  
 44 Agony  
 46 Sound reflection  
 47 Wish undone  
 48 Pop  
 49 Ski lift  
 52 Downright  
 55 Grog  
 56 Madras land  
 57 Some turns  
 61 Citified  
 63 Third wheel  
 65 Tiptoe  
 66 Big event  
 67 Wee  
 68 Wander off  
 69 Snow-day ride  
 70 Trebek or Karras

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
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33			34				35			36	37	38
39								40				
41				42	43		44	45				
			46				47			48		
49	50	51		52		53			54			
55			56				57		58	59	60	
61		62			63		64					
65					66			67				
68					69				70			

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1/19/07

- DOWN**  
 1 Musical ending  
 2 Zealous  
 3 Fix up  
 4 Like a peacock  
 5 Health resort  
 6 Bringing about  
 7 Farming plots  
 8 Esteem  
 9 Neighborhood  
 10 Came across  
 11 Tickle one's fancy
- 12 Competing teams  
 13 Filet mignon, e.g.  
 18 Precise  
 22 Inactive  
 25 Panel truck  
 26 Terminal  
 27 New York team  
 28 Diamond Head's island  
 29 Smile broadly  
 32 Bumbershoot  
 34 Pass on (to)  
 36 Blaring  
 37 Poet Pound  
 38 Ranked contender  
 42 Turn away from  
 43 Franks  
 44 Foot lever  
 45 Roth book, "\_\_\_ Gang"  
 49 Structural support  
 50 Heated to a crisp  
 51 Yellowish brown

### 1/17/07 SOLUTIONS

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

- 53 Of ocean motion  
 54 Lip-flapping woman  
 56 Very black  
 58 Keep from succeeding  
 59 Melody  
 60 River of no return?  
 62 Narrow shoe width  
 64 Nutty as a fruitcake

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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 disseminated 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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Full Tower Ad	Half Tower Ad
120 px wide by 500 px tall	120 px wide by 240 px tall
\$600/month for 1 month	\$400/month for 1 month
\$500/month for 3 months	\$350/month for 3 months
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### FLASH/ANIMATED TOWER ADS

Full Size Flash Tower Ad	Half Size Flash Tower Ad
120 px wide by 500 px tall	120 px wide by 240 px tall
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\$600/month for 6+ months	\$450/month for 6+months

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](mailto:george.h.fischer@vanderbilt.edu)