The women's basketball team relies on defense to pull away from Florida in the second half... For a recap, see Sports, page 6



Vanderbilt should recognize Martin Luther King Day with a day off from school...

For more, see columnist Michael Wilt **Opinion, page 4**





Check out Bid Day pictures in the InsideVandy Life photo galleries...

For more, see InsideVandy.com/drupal/gallery



MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2007 • 119th YEAR, NO. 3

THE WALL

TODAY Bishop Jose

Bishop Joseph Walker MLK Day address at Benton Chapel

The Fisk Jubilee Singers will start the evening



at 6:30, WALKER followed by Bishop Joseph Walker's speech. A candlelight vigil will follow the address.

TODAY

Hustler informational meeting

The Hustler is seeking interested writers, photographers, editors and designers. The meeting will be held in Sarratt 363 at 6 p.m.

TODAY TACEP Mentoring Program interest meeting

Undergraduate students interested in serving as mentors at three public, high-poverty, lowperforming high schools should attend an interest meeting session at the Community Partnership House

Maximized options lead to successful Bid Day



The new members of Kappa Delta sorority listen as new sisters lead them in song Sunday afternoon in the Student Recreation Center.

MARK BENEKE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

IFC chapters extend invitations to some 240 new members

Sigma Nu, Phi Delta Theta to give out bids at later date.

> by ALLISON MALONE Editor Emeritus

Approximately 240 fraternity membersreceivedbidstoInterfraternity Council fraternities Friday night.

Approximately 400 men registered for IFC recruitment. The number of men who accepted bids at each of the 17 chapters ranged from two to 26 new members.

Boyce Adams, president of Alpha Tau Omega, which has 21 new members, said this year's recruitment was standard for the fraternity.

"It went well just like any other year. There were not really any major changes this year compared to last," he said.

Sigma Phi Epsilon, which started only two years ago, recruited 14 new members this year.

"We're proud of our incoming class, and we are confident that the fraternity will continue to grow," said Zane Ullman, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon. According to Adams, Bid Day, which was on Friday, began with a meeting of potential fraternity members in Sarratt Cinema. "The Greek Life office went through a list of names and called each person," Adams said. "Each guy goes to the fraternity he wants a bid from. Between 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. all the guys show up. We had a ceremony, they signed bid cards and pledgeship officially began." Alpha Tau Omega's eight-week pledge period is based on "becoming immersed in all that is ATO," Adams said. "Basically, they start the process of learning about the fraternity's local and national history and begin to know the brothers of the house better." According to Director of Greek Life Kristen Torrey, the IFC community can be expected to grow in the coming semester. "Sigma Nu has not extended their invitations yet, nor has Phi Delta Theta because they are in the middle of recolonization efforts," she said. The fraternity recruitment system is not as "orchestrated" as the Panhellenic recruitment process, and fraternities ask potential members to attend recruitment events at their chapter all fall semester, Torrey said. "Fraternities make individual decisions about whom they want to extend bids to," she said. "At the beginning of the school year, we held rounds where potential members visited each fraternity, but it was not mandatory."

from 8 to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16

'Seeing the Big Picture' lecture at Wyatt Center, Room 223 at 4 p.m.

David Uttal, professor of psychology and education at Northwestern University, will give a lecture titled "Seeing

the Big Picture: Spatial Symbols, Spatial Thought, and Spatial Education". A

reception will follow.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17 Last day to change course status

Undergraduates and Peabody professional students have until Wednesday to add or drop a course without an entry in their record or register for pass-fail status in a course.

Eighty-five percent of participants accepted invitations to join.

by ALLISON MALONE

Editor Emeritus

Vanderbilt's 10 Panhellenic sororities offered invitations to 434 women Sunday at the annual Bid Day event in the Student Recreation Center.

Five members of each sorority waited patiently in the recreation center for their new members to rip open their bid envelopes and run to meet them.

Although more women registered for sorority recruitment this year than last year, the percentage of women actually placed in a sorority decreased to 85 percent of the 508 participants.

According to Director of Greek Life Kristin Torrey, of the 74 women who did not join a sorority, 50 withdrew from the process and the rest were not placed in one of the houses they indicated they would be willing to join. If a potential new member ranks every house she attends on preference night, she is guaranteed a bid, Torrey said.

"The main reason potential new members were not placed on Bid Day is those women did not maximize at preference round," she said.

Quota, which Torrey said is "the number used to provide parity in the Greek community," was set at 44 women per sorority this year. Eight of the ten houses met quota and received 44 or more new members.

While 82 percent of women were placed in their first-preference sorority, not everyone was initially pleased with Bid Day's outcome.

Greek Ambassador Ashley Getz said she explained the realities of Bid Day to her group of potential new members and told them "it is understandable to be upset."

Please see SORORITIES, page 2

Speakers Committee announces spring 2007 addresses

by NICOLE FLOYD Staff Reporter

The Vanderbilt Speakers Committee has announced that actress Jamie-Lynn Sigler, CNN personality Lou Dobbs and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich are among the speakers the group will invite to campus this semester.

Jamie-Lynn Sigler, best known not yet on sale.

for her role as Meadow Soprano in the HBO series "The Sopranos," was originally scheduled to speak at Vanderbilt on Nov. 15 but cancelled several days in advance due to a last-minute shoot on the set of "The Sopranos."

Sigler has been rescheduled to speak about her struggle with anorexia on Feb. 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Student Life Center. Tickets are not vet on sale.

Senior Nate Meltzer, co-chair of the Speakers Committee, said that the main reasons they decided to bring Sigler to campus this semester were the overwhelming response from students when she was cancelled in November and the importance of her message.

"We think it is great that she is a positive role model and is a spokesperson for the National Please see **SPEAKERS COMMITTEE**, page 2



WEATHER



Rain, 58/30



Mostly Cloudy, 40/27



Sunny, 47/33

VUPD CRIME LOG

There is no crime to report.

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

NOTABLE **Kidnapped teen found** alive in St. Louis suburb after four years

After more than four years, Shawn Hornbeck, now 15, was found in the home of Michael Devlin, the man accused of kidnapping him from his bike when he was 11 years old.

While Hornbeck seemed to have had every chance to escape, left alone for hours to ride his bike, play video games and walk past missing-child posters showing his own age-progressed image, mental health experts say this troubling case is hardly so simple. Hornbeck was likely kept mentally shackled by terror and domination from Devlin, a 300-pound pizza parlor manager, they say.

SOURCE: AP

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 peri-



WORLD

More than 200 killed in clashes between nomads, farmers in Darfur

More than 200 people have died in clashes between ethnic African farmers and nomadic Arabs in South Darfur in the past week, leading the Sudanese government to send emissaries to try to reconcile the tribes involved, officials said Saturday.

The fighting was the latest outburst in a nearly four-yearlong conflict that has caused more than 200,000 deaths and 2.5 million people to flee from their homes in Sudan's vast Darfur region, where nomadic tribes and farming communities have long wrangled over access to scarce water. The war began when ethnic African rebels took up arms against the Arab-dominated government in February 2003. The Khartoum regime is accused of responding by unleashing Arab paramilitary groups known as Janjaweed that have been blamed for the worst atrocities in the conflict. The Sudanese government rejects the allegations.

SOURCE: AP

Secretary of State says she hears Abbas' demand for stronger U.S. push on Mideast peace

President Bush's top diplomat tried to assure Palestinian officials on Sunday she has heard their demands for a stronger U.S. hand to guide peace efforts with Israel. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, however, offered no new plans and gave few clues to how she views recent initiatives proposed by others.

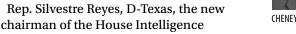
"I have heard loud and clear the call for deeper American engagement in these processes," she said after meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. "You will have my commitment to do precisely that."

Seeking to strengthen Abbas in his power struggle with the Palestinian Hamas faction, Rice said it is time "to look at the political horizon and begin to show to the Palestinian people how we might move toward a Palestinian state." SOURCE: AP

NATION

Cheney: Credit checks aren't illegal

Vice President Dick Cheney said Sunday the Pentagon and CIA are not violating people's rights by examining the banking and credit records of hundreds of Americans and others suspected of terrorism or espionage in the United States.



Committee, said his panel would be the judge of that. National security letters permit the executive branch to seek records about people in terrorism and spy investigations without a judge's approval or grand jury subpoena.

SOURCE: AP

Study linking gene to risk of Alzheimer's disease may help find treatments

A huge international study has identified a gene that apparently can raise the risk of developing the most common form of Alzheimer's disease. The discovery may help scientists develop new treatments.



Freshman Allie Button, a new member at Chi Omega sorority, embraces a friend after learning of her bid Sunday.

SORORITIES: New members spend day off campus

From SORORITIES, page 1

"For the most part recruitment was positive, but it's an overwhelming process so there is bound to be some shock," Getz said.

Panhellenic Greek Ambassador Coordinator Ashley Wood said that Greek Ambassadors are "not only beneficial but necessary" for the recruitment process.

"Recruitment can be stressful, and it's nice to have someone who has not only been through the process but understands it to guide them," she said.

"They made sure everything ran smoothly, girls were accounted for and the recruitment process ended on a good note."

After the women received their bids, they boarded buses that took them to their sorority's Bid Day venue to meet the

Dana Kitzes, new member coordinator for Kappa Delta, planned the activities for her sorority.

"We're going roller skating and arcade gaming," Kitzes said. "It's so great to see all the girls so excited to be KD."

Freshman Jane Slatton, a new member of Chi Omega, said she was excited for the day's activities as she walked to the bus with her pledge class.

"I had no idea I would react as crazy as I did, and I haven't been able to wipe the smile off my face all day," Slatton said.

According to Suzi Bryce, president of the Panhellenic Council, many other women had the same reaction as Slatton.

"There were so many women who were just thrilled, and the Greek community is excited to have so many new members," she said.



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

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BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

Scientists analyzed DNA from more than 6,000 people from a variety of ethnic groups and found evidence implicating certain versions of the gene, called SORL1.

It's too soon to tell how much those versions raise the risk of getting Alzheimer's, or what percentage of cases they account for, the researchers said. They said the effect on risk appears to be modest.

SOURCE: AP

CAMPUS

School of Nursing's Susan Cooper named **Tennessee's Commissioner of Health**

Governor Phil Bredesen named Susan Cooper, an assistant dean at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Commissioner of Health for Tennessee. After taking the oath on Jan. 20 she will be the first nurse to hold that position.

"We are delighted for Susan and for all Tennesseans," Colleen Conway-Welch, dean of the School of Nursing, told Vanderbilt University Medical Center's public affairs office. "Susan is a nurse at her core and tackles every challenge through a patient-centered lens.

Cooper joined the state government in 2005 as a health advisor and helped develop Tennessee's Health Care Net. She also led Project Diabetes to try to find a cure for Type 2 diabetes and promoted programs that preached a healthier lifestyle.

The Department of Health administers several community health programs, licenses health care professionals and maintains medical records.

SOURCE: VANDERBILT NEWS SERVICE

Vanderbilt participates in national theater festival

During the week of Jan. 22, Vanderbilt University's theater department will stage short plays written by Pulitzer Prizewinning playwright Susan-Lori Parks on campus. The production is part of 365 National Festival, an ambitious attempt to perform all of Parks' 365 plays, one-aday, in a yearlong stretch.

"It's kind of crazy logistically because there are so many people involved," Brielle Ryan, a student coordinator for Vanderbilt and a senior majoring in theatre, communications, and sociology, told the Vanderbilt News Service. "We've got more than 40 actors and 10 different directors we're working with, at eight different locations." Performances will be near Benson Hall on Jan. 22, Wilson Hall on Jan. 23, Rand wall on Jan. 24, Fleming Yard on Jan. 25, the library lawn on Jan. 26, Rand Terrace on Jan. 27 and in front of Neely Auditorium on Jan. 28, followed by a performance of all the week's plays inside.

rest of their new sisters.

"We are going to San Antonio Taco Company downtown and having a fiesta," said junior Elizabeth Marshall, a member of Alpha Omicron Pi. "Then we'll go back to the house for pictures and Bid Day presents."

LizWarner, vice president of recruitment for Panhellenic, made sure every detail of recruitment went smoothly throughout the entire semester, especially during the past week.

"It's a long week with great rewards at the end for all involved," Warner said. ■

SPEAKERS COMMITTEE: IMPACT to feature discussion of current political climate

From **SPEAKERS COMMITTEE**, page 1

Eating Disorders Association," Meltzer a "professional political commentator said. "Her message is one of high quality for students on campus and is very applicable at Vanderbilt, being that it is a very body and image-conscious school."

Dobbs and Gingrich will be the featured speakers for the annual IMPACT Symposium held March 19-21.

Traditionally, IMPACT Symposium has revolved around a specific topic. This

year, however, speakers will free to be speak on the topics of their choice. Meltzer said

the decision to invite Dobbs and Gingrich

came after the committee did a lot of are not yet available. brainstorming.

"We knew we wanted to bring a political speaker, as well as a speaker to provide commentary about the current political climate and the next presidential election," Meltzer said.

Dobbs, whom the committee saw as and someone who routinely digests what political players are doing," will speak on March 19.

Meltzer said Gingrich was chosen due to his name recognition, his experience level and the fact that he is a potential contender for the 2008 presidency. He will speak on March 20.

"We thought he would do a good job

of sparking discussion on campus," Meltzer said. Both speeches will take place at 7 p.m. in the Student Life Center. Tickets

—Nate Meltzer, Co-chair of the Speakers Committee

According to Meltzer, although nothing has been confirmed, students can expect the Speakers Committee to bring an additional speaker to campus later in the spring. 🔳

www.insidevandy.com

We knew we wanted to bring a political

speaker, as well as a speaker to provide

commentary about the current political

climate and the next presidential election.

Duke sexual assault case weakens

Administration critic now teaches in English department at Vanderbilt.

> by ALLISON SMITH News Editor

At the request of District Attorney Michael Nifong, the North Carolina attorney general's office will take over the Duke lacrosse sexual assault case.

The case started to unravel last month when Nifong dropped the rape charges filed against three members of the Duke lacrosse team.

"The case has fallen apart completely at the fault of the prosecutor," Duke Student Government President Elliott Wolf said. "There are certain components of the case that raise legitimate issues about the part of Duke in Durham and the environment on campus, but at this point the case is complete garbage."

As the case continues to deteriorate, media outlets have begun to turn their attention to other aspects of the story.

Last week The Tennessean published an article about a Vanderbilt professor they reported was "hired after leaving (his Duke) job in protest." On Jan. 10, The Tennessean ran a correction stating Houston A. Baker "did not leave his former position at Duke University in protest of the school's handling of the lacrosse rape case."

Baker, who is currently on leave, became involved with the case after he wrote a letter to Duke administrators March 29, condemning the administration's "culture of silence."

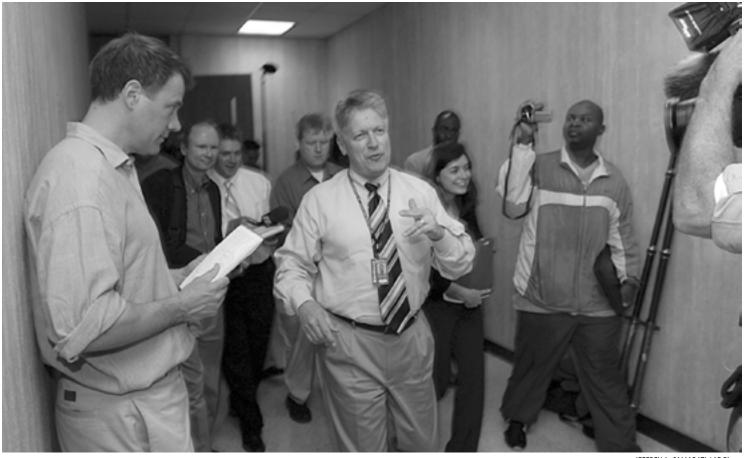
Vanderbilt spokesperson Mike Schoenfeld, an alumnus of Duke University, said he "wants to get it straight" that Baker's recruitment to Vanderbilt began more than a year before the Duke scandal.

"He has been quoted saying his decision to come to Vanderbilt was separate and distinct from whatever happened at Duke," Schoenfeld said. "Discussions and mutual conversation between Vanderbilt and Houston began in earnest long before the lacrosse situation."

Controversy at Duke was raised again Jan. 3 when Duke President Richard Brodhead reinstated indicted former lacrosse players Collin Finnerty and Reade Seligmann. The third indicted member of the team graduated last May.

According to an article printed Jan. 11 in The Duke Chronicle, the faculty response "took two very different forms."

While 19 members of the economics department wrote a letter to The Chronicle saying they would not discriminate



IFFFREY A CAMARATI / AP Photo

Durham County District Attorney Michael Nifong, center, walks down the hallway of the Durham County Judicial Building in Durham, N.C. Facing ethics charges that could lead to his disbarment, Nifong, the embattled district attorney in the Duke lacrosse sexual assault case, has asked the state attorney general's office to appoint a special prosecutor to take over the case.

Initiative's subcommittee on race, which was created after the scandal to examine and improve the culture of Duke's campus, resigned in protest of Brodhead's decision.

Stephanie Balint, a sophomore at Duke, said some people

If it didn't have such far-reaching consequences for the university and people involved, it would be a positive learning experience. But it does so it's an absolute mess.

---Elliott Wolfe, Duke Student Government President

at the university felt that certain teachers were "not being completely objective when it came to lacrosse players as students."

"That's what people thought. I don't know if it was true," she said.

Wolf, president of Duke Student Government, declined to appear on CNN last week because he said the network wanted him to comment on what the student body thought. He said student opinion was too divided for him to comment.

'We all have different thoughts about it," Wolf said. "If against the indicted players, the chair of the Campus Culture it didn't have such far-reaching consequences for the

university and people involved, it would be a positive learning experience. But it does so it's an absolute mess."

Wolf said while he doesn't agree with the professors who have made it clear they disagree with the administration, he said, "I'm interested in going to a school where the faculty is willing to express themselves."

Duke freshman Timi Adegoke said most people professors and students - consider the case an isolated incident.

"I don't know if they aren't allowed to talk about, but most professors haven't brought it up," she said. "But if they have most have said it was an isolated event."

Vanderbilt sophomore Chris Cooley said he was "very suprised" that the Duke administration acted so quickly to "kick the students out of school and cancel the season."

"Of course it's easier to say that now in light of the recent revelations in the case, but the university almost ruined the lives of these students."

The investigation began after a 28-year-old student at North Carolina Central University, who was hired to perform as a stripper at a party hosted by the Duke lacrosse team, alleged that three players gang-raped, beat and directed racial slurs at her.

Charges of kidnapping and sexual offense still stand against all three players.

-Glenna DeRoy contributed reporting to this article.

U.S. military arrests five **Iranians in Iraq**



STUDENT DISCOUNT EVERY DAY

by LAUREN FRAYER Associated Press

Five Iranians arrested in northern Iraq last week were connected to an Iranian Revolutionary Guard faction that funds and arms insurgents in Iraq, the U.S. military said Sunday.

The five were detained by U.S.-led forces Thursday in a raid on an Iranian government liaison office in Irbil, a city in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq 217 miles north of Baghdad.

"Preliminary results revealed the five detainees are connected to the Iranian Revolutionary Guard, Qods Force (IRGC-QF), an organization known for providing funds, weapons, improvised explosive device technology and training to extremist groups attempting to destabilize the government of Iraq and attack coalition forces," the U.S. military said in a statement.

Tehran denied the five detained Iranians had been involved in financing and arming insurgents in Iraq.

"Their job was basically consular, official and in the framework of regulations," Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini said Sunday during his weekly media briefing. "What Americans express was incorrect and hyperbole against Iran in order to justify their acts."

Hosseini said the Iranian representative office where the five men worked was established in Irbil in 1992 to facilitate the visit of Kurdish businessmen and medical patients from Iraq to Iran.

"Then, both countries agreed to promote it to consular level," he said. "Agreement for formation of the Iranian consulate section was exchanged in the current (Iranian) year."

The United States accuses Iran of helping to provide roadside bombs that have killed American troops in Iraq, and a bitter standoff already exists between the two countries over Iran's nuclear program. Iran has rejected the allegations.

Hosseini accused the United States of resorting to "hostility and conflict toward neighbors of Iraq" because he said the country did not want to acknowledge it had failed to bring stability to Iraq.

"The United States should release all the five persons, prevent possible similar acts and compensate damages," Hosseini said.

-Associated Press writer Nasser Karimi in Tehran contributed reporting to this article.





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OPINION

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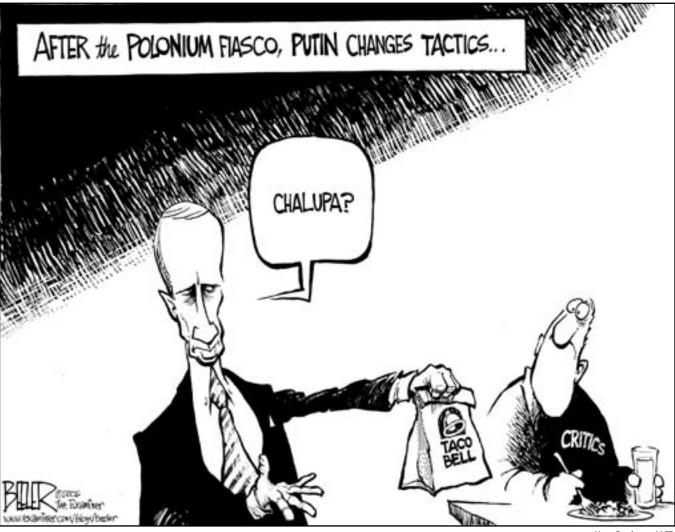
OUR VIEW **Dining's treatment of student** concerns should be commended

There are aspects and adjuncts of university bureaucracy that have earned reputations as unresponsive Leviathans completely unresponsive to student opinion. OASIS, for example, gives students conniptions every semester, and as a general rule, campus organizations and departments tend to offer less information when they should be offering more. Students ask questions or complain, only to be met by a blank wall of indifference. This is a problem so widespread that were it an outbreak of the plague, Vanderbilt would have been declared a federal disaster area long ago.

Dining, however, is a welcome exception. In response to the Jan. 12 "The Rant" and its slurry of dining-related complaints, Director of Dining Services Lida Horna contacted The Hustler. As surreal as it may be to consider campus administrators reading "The Rant," Horna's response shows an admirable interest in addressing student concerns. That said, Dining is not, in fact, irritated by having to retrieve iced tea refills, nor do they mind providing sandwiches without oregano upon request.

Even the operation of the campus Varsity Markets is generally beyond reproach. The yellow student comment cards are answered in a timely fashion and the responses are usually prompt, hilarious or both. All manner of student requests are accommodated, save those for truly impractical foodstuffs such as celery, sides of beef or solid gold sandwiches. If a student wants an item, chances are it will be in stock as soon as possible, which is no less than impressive.

Is Dining perfect? Of course it is not. However, it stands head and shoulders above its counterparts in its level of service. Dining's dedication to the student community should serve as a model to other Vanderbilt institutions. Absolutely every campus institution would benefit from greater transparency and greater responsiveness to student concerns. The first step to greater transparency, however, begins with questions. Campus institutions exist to improve the lives of students; if they are not doing so, it is the right and, indeed, the duty of the Vanderbilt community to ask why.



COLUMN

Inconsistency provides a prescription for **Gregory House's success**

BRENNAN McDAVID Columnist

"House, M.D.," seems to be the show for everybody. With its zany diagnosis twists, medical ethics conundrums, illicit love affairs and triumph of man over disease, each week's episode could vie for the title of Hospital Epic. However, epics consist of good guys and bad guys, Jedi and Sith, Harry Potters and Voldemorts. But Gregory House is no Harry Potter. And however awful his crankiness, addiction and sociopathic tendencies, he's not quite Darth Vader either. He's somewhere in the middle. Dr. House is simply conflicted, right?

Wrong. He is conflicted, true, but there isn't anything simple about it. House is playing a tug-of-war with himself, pitting his rationality against his emotions to dramatize the tired but ever classic dichotomy of the head and the heart. According to House's perspective, rationality is the good guy, emotion the bad. Refusing to let the irrational sentimentalities of his patients and colleagues interfere with his efforts to save lives, House will lie, manipulate and stop short of nothing to solve the complicated medical puzzles he encounters every day. He will even disregard hospital policy and legal advice to reach his ends. His job is to save lives; if a life in need of saving is brought to him, why shouldn't he do everything in his power to save it?

Because he's insensitive. He makes people feel bad about their selves and increases his own arrogance with every step — or hobble, if you prefer. According to Dr. Wilson, House is developing a Godcomplex. Cuddy is undoubtedly preparing to lose the entire hospital in a legal dispute, not to mention her recent personal entanglement through perjuring herself. "You make everyone around you worse for being there," she says.

With these criticisms and House's obvious instability, it is no wonder that viewers can take comfort in deciding that rationality is the bad guy. If only House could give into his emotions, he could realize his love for Cameron, have a fulfilling friendship with Wilson and end his war with the wronged detective. His problems would dissolve. I think, though, that this easy conclusion begs a lot of questions. The conflicts and perspectives we are led to assume as we watch the show seem to be built on a shaky foundation. There isn't any consistency in House's character. The way he approaches his work is entirely different from how he approaches his personal relationships. The show emphasizes the charm and greatness of his success in being as rational as possible with diagnoses, but simultaneously suggests that he ought to suspend reason and embrace pure emotion in his personal life. Maybe he is supposed to morph into a Dr. House-and-Mr. Hyde type of character to divide his work from his other pursuits entirely. But like that classic, it seems bizarre that both A and not A can be the cause of and reason for Dr. House's well-being, both rationality and non-rationality could make him whole and kill his love of Vicodin. I don't know what the show has in store for Dr. House. Perhaps we will see him battle between his head and heart until the end. What is clear, however, is the solution to his problems probably lies somewhere outside of sharply dividing his personal and professional work. Rationality can't possibly be evil. After all, it is the tool utilized in saving lives. And emotion, to the extent that it is inevitable as presented in the show, can't be evil either. Perhaps this is still clearer: House is a jerk and we all kind of like it.

-Brennan McDavid is a senior in the

Cappi Williamson

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Vanderbilt needs to recognize MLK Day

MICHAEL WILT Columnist

COLUMN

"Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee," Martin Luther King Jr. declared in 1963 from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in his "I Have a Dream" speech. The voice he gave to millions of people that day and throughout that decade continues to resonate with this country — indeed, with the entire world. We look to the man with great appreciation and with a sense of pride, knowing it took courage and character to stand up for what was right and what was just. The equality of all men and women is a salient feature of the American dream, but when King stood on those famous steps for that famous speech, America was not living up to its creed.

Today we honor King across the country: everywhere, it seems, except Vanderbilt. While federal offices, the postal service, colleges, secondary schools and

the man's dedication to his cause and the changes he brought to this country, Vanderbilt charges on with another day of school as if nothing ever happened in Memphis in 1968. Even our peer schools differ with us on this issue: in fact. Notre Dame begins spring classes on Tuesday, and Emory has no classes on Monday. Neither do Brown, Rice or Johns Hopkins. In fact, within the top 20 national universities, Vanderbilt has the distinction of being the only one that does not observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which falls this year on what would have been King's 77th birthday.

I write this not because I want a day off from school. For my first three years here, I always thought it was a little odd that my friends across the country had the day off, that a good deal of the country had the day off, but it did not bother me because I always figured that most people did not truly observe the day for the purpose for which it was

many businesses close to honor intended. Is the failure to celebrate King's legacy a distinction we wish to possess, especially considering Vanderbilt's place in academia, in the South and in the history of this country?

> Prior to the early 1960s, Vanderbilt had a policy of discrimination in its admission practices and did not African-Americanswerenotadmitted into the undergraduate program. In addition, former divinity student and civil rights activist James Lawson, who helped bring King to Memphis, was expelled from Vanderbilt for his involvement in attempts to desegregate Nashville. It took courage on the part of The Hustler's editor-inchief Lamar Alexander and an SGA senator named John Sergent to get the ball rolling on efforts to integrate the university in full. A student referendum to urge the university to allow African-American admissions actually failed as a result, but spurred further action by the faculty, who recommended integration to the Board of Trust.

> > Please see WILT, 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. Letters via e-mail must either come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editor-in-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a quest column at the editor's discretion.

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

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CORRECTION POLICY

Accuracy is our profession. As the "Voice of Vanderbilt," we are committed to ensuring our work is fair and accurate. Errors of substance will be corrected. With very rare exception, these corrections will be listed on Page 2. Bring corrections to The Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@vanderbilthustler.com. You may also report them by telephone to the news line at 615-322-2424 or the editor-in-chief at 615-322-3757.

College of Arts and Science.

COLUMN

Underage promiscuity should be discouraged

<u>ANDREW SOLOMON</u> Columnist

The overweight mother next to me shoots a pudgy, disapproving glare my way as I try my best to keep from laughing.

The curtain has just lifted on my 9-year-old sister Olivia's dance recital. Her whole troupe is standing onstage in skintight sequined leotards with matching top hats and boots. At this point, I begin to wonder whose idea it was to let Elton John do costume design. But as the crowd goes silent and the bass line from "My Humps" hits the speakers, the real show begins.

For the next 3 1/2 minutes, my sister and her team nailed a routine that left me speechless. Aside from the fact that it was well choreographed, her routine probably would

have had her kicked out of most high school proms. The dance consisted of so many sexually suggestive hip swings and hair flips that I had

to turn away for the last 30 seconds of the performance.

Once the music stopped, I turned to see the troupe take their bows, but got a face full of size-18 jeans instead. The woman next to me was actually standing and clapping furiously for her daughter. And it wasn't just her. The whole auditorium had burst forth with applause. I sat in my seat, amazed at what I was watching. It was as if I had happened upon the commencement ceremony for Tramp High and all the girls had just thrown their bras into the air.

From where I stood, I had just witnessed my 9-year-old sister display a part of sexuality that she didn't even fully understand to a large group of people. These girls had absolutely no concept of the sexual connotations associated with their dancing. From their point of view, they were just performing a routine for their parents. They, as well as those around me at the recital, saw nothing wrong with what they had done.

But the girls are not to blame. Although I School of Engineering.

can't speak for everyone, I would argue that very few 9-year-old girls have even a slight grasp on what their sexuality means and how it should be respected. All they were doing was dancing.

The true fault lies with the dance instructor and the parents. For some reason, they were okay with the fact that their young students and daughters had just participated in a Pussycat Dolls audition. That in itself was far more disturbing than the dance ever was. As anyone who has seen "Little Miss Sunshine" can attest, seeing parents participate in this kind of mindless adulation is funny, but also pretty creepy.

Perhaps I'm being a bit narrow-minded. I am extremely protective of my youngest sister, and fully plan to be at home to introduce myself - and my vintage baseball bat collection

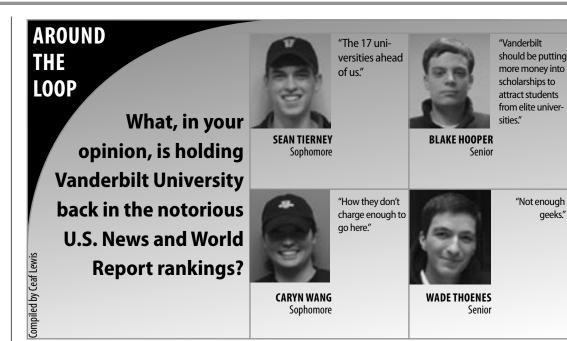
> — to her prom dates. I am also not a parent, and cannotfullyrelate to the desire to watch my son or daughtersucceed whatever in

activities they pursue. And judging the dance strictly from a performance aspect, I was pretty floored by how good it was.

However, there is a larger issue here. The fact that these girls are being taught at such an early age that flaunting their sexuality is a path to acceptance and popularity seems completely twisted. Instead of being concerned with how their daughters were maturing as people, these parents seemed more worried about how well the girls could impersonate Fergie. I know it sounds trite, but I truly believe the path to happiness is learning to accept yourself as a person, not as an object.

I'm not saying that all promiscuous dancing is deplorable. I'm all for it. I'm just saying that until these girls are old enough to fully understand their sexuality and its ramifications, they should be discouraged from learning how to bump and grind.

-Andrew Solomon is a senior in the



WILT: Jan. 15 represents more than just a day off

From WILT, page 4

Despite Vanderbilt's history and distinct place in relation to the civil rights movement, and its stated desire to be a university comparable to schools such as Harvard, Yale and Princeton, all of which observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we continue to send our students and faculty to class. I applaud the Divinity School for canceling classes, and I applaud the university for hosting the weeklong commemorative. But the fact remains we continue to refuse to observe the day as a holiday itself. I have heard the excuses. Observing this day would require shortening some other of Arts and Science.

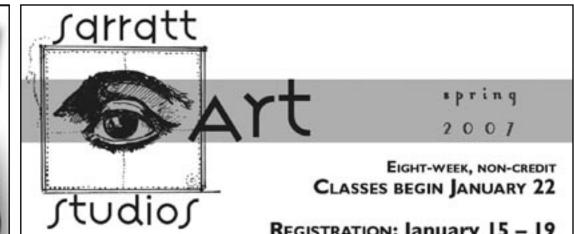
break, such as Winter Break, or starting classes a day earlier. So what? It is worth it, I think, to show that Vanderbilt is a university both conscious of its place in history and prepared to ensure its bright future.

There just doesn't seem to be any rational excuse for why we do not officially celebrate the day. I hope that in coming years, in coordination with the commemorative series, the university will finally adopt the third Monday of January as an official university holiday.

-Michael Wilt is a senior in the College

The Hustler wants you! Seeking opinionated, intelligent columnists. If interested, please attend an informational session Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m. in Sarratt 363.





I'm not saying that all promiscuous dancing is deplorable. I'm all for it. **J**

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VANDERBILT

SPORTS

WHAT 2 Vandy comes back to chomp Gators WATCH 4 **Upcoming Events**

Commodores count on defense to overcome five-point halftime deficit.

Men's Basketball San Francisco at Pepperdine 10 p.m. CT Monday

ESPNU Make sure to check out tonight's game between San Francisco (6-11, 2-0 WCC) and Pepperdine (4-15, 0-3). Bill Simmons, the wellknown "Sports Guy" columnist for espn. com, will be a guest commentator. I don't know much about each team, but I'll take the Waves (what a great nickname). Prediction: Pepperdine 70, San Francisco 65

Men's Basketball No. 22 Connecticut at No. 7 Pittsburgh Tuesday 6 p.m. CT ESPN2

Pittsburgh (16-2, 4-0 Big East) has already distinguished itself as the best team in the conference, and a victory over the Huskies will only add to that. Connecticut (13-3, 2-2 Big East) will have to play its best game of the season to come out on top. Prediction: Pittsburgh 77, Connecticut 65

Men's Basketball Texas at No. 10 **Oklahoma State** Tuesday 8 p.m. CT ESPN2

The Longhorns, led by freshman phenom Kevin Durant (who is better than Greg Oden, by the way), are playing well, while the Cowboys (15-2, 1-1 Big 12) are coming off a blowout loss to Kansas. Texas (13-3, 3-0 Big 12) is on the road, but I still like them in a close one. Prediction: Texas 76, Oklahoma State 74

by JARRED AMATO Sports Editor

Relying on its defense to create its offense, the Vanderbilt women's basketball team overcame a five-point halftime deficit to defeat Florida 82-69 Sunday afternoon at Memorial Gymnasium.

The Commodores (16-2, 3-1 Southeastern Conference) fed off the season-high crowd of 8,511. All tickets were \$1, and players and staff stayed to conduct a post-game clinic and sign autographs as part of the "Jam the Gym" promotion.

"When we made big plays in the second half, the crowd gotusemotionallyonanother level," said Vanderbilt coach Melanie Balcomb. "When you jam the gym like we did tonight, it's a lot of fun to play in."

Sparked by guard Jennifer Risper, the Commodores went on a 16-4 run early in the second half to take a 49-44 lead. The Gators (6-12, 0-3 SEC) cut the lead to three once but could get no closer. "We got tight on offense and so we needed to get more offense off our defense and we needed to create more up-tempo and Jen Risper will do that for us," Balcomb said. "She can attack the basket and she can get steals and she can create offense off her defense."

Risper, who had seven points, four rebounds and two steals, was even more productive than the stats indicate.

"I was just trying to come in and pump up my team and play hard," Risper said. "By picking up our pressure, it allowed us to score and run and get more intense."

Trailing 40-33, sophomore

Christina Wirth began the Commodores' crucial run with a 3-pointer and Risper followed with a lay-up. Later, Wirth buried another trey and junior Liz Sherwood converted inside to put the Dores up by five with 12:28 remaining.

While the Gators fatigued in the second half, Vanderbilt, - the deepest squad in Balcomb's tenure here - got stronger. The crowd undoubtedly helped.

"They can change the momentum of a game by themselves," said senior Carla Thomas.

Thomas appreciated the support.

"It was awesome," she said. "It's nice to have that kind of fan base, to know that many people are excited about women's basketball, especially Vanderbilt women's basketball."

Five Commodores scored in double figures. Wirth had a team-high 20 points to go along with five rebounds.

"Tina's just been 'Steady Eddie' and I think we've come to expect it," Balcomb said.

While the Gators tried to take away Vanderbilt's low-post game, it opened things up for Wirth on the perimeter.

"You see (Wirth) taking a lot more shots because she needs to when they play that kind of defense," Balcomb said. "I like the balance of our shooting, but we told Tina we want to see her get a little greedy."

Senior Dee Davis had 13 points and five assists, while senior Caroline Williams scored 12 and grabbed six rebounds. Down low, Thomas added 10 points and seven rebounds, and Sherwood chipped in with



Florida's Kim Dye works under pressure from Vanderbilt's Dee Davis during the Commodores 82-69 victory Sunday at Memorial Gymnasium.

10 points and five rebounds. Florida's Depree Bowden led all scorers with 28 points and 13 rebounds. Sha Brooks added 16, but needed 21 shots to do so.

The Gators jumped out to an early lead thanks to 48 percent shooting. In the second half, they shot only 31 percent.

"I think our turnaround Thomas said.

came by being more aggressive on defense. picking up our intensity and our ball pressure there and we just fed off of that,"

JOHN RUSSELL / AP

Men's Basketball **Kentucky at South** Carolina Tuesday 8 p.m. CT ESPN

Kentucky (14-3, 3-0 SEC) is coming off a close victory against Mississippi State, while South Carolina (10-5, 0-2 SEC) is still looking for its first "W" in conference play. SEC road teams have won just twice thus far, but the Wildcats, led by Randolph Morris, should make it a third. Prediction: Kentucky 75, South Carolina 68

Men's Basketball lowa at Indiana Tuesday 6 p.m. CT ESPN

lowa (10-7, 2-1 Big 10), who has conference wins over Michigan State and Minnesota, will have its hand full against Indiana (12-4, 3-1 Big 10). The Hoosiers, led by D.J. White, have won three straight conference games after losing to Ohio State and should come out victorious. Prediction: Indiana 83, lowa 71

OVERALL RECORD: 6-4

Dores falter in Athens

HUSTLER STAFF REPORT

On Saturday, Vanderbilt learned once again that winning on the road in the Southeastern Conference is no easy task.

The Commodores (11-6, 1-2 SEC) led 61-60 midway through the second half, but went on to lose 85-73 to Georgia (10-5, 2-1 SEC) in Athens. They also lost at Auburn before upsetting Tennessee at home Wednesday.

"The game was out there for anybody to take," senior Dan Cage told The Tennessean. "If you want to grab it, especially on the road, you've got to make every play count. We didn't execute, we didn't finish, especially inside. We learned our lesson at Auburn, we thought. But we came down here and the same thing happened."

Sophomore George Drake nailed a jumper to put Vanderbilt up by one with 8:45 remaining, but that was the last time it led.

Bulldog Billy Humphrey's layup and three-pointer stretched Georgia's lead to seven (72-65), but Cage responded with a trey of his own to keep the Commodores close.

After Humphrey nailed a three, Cage returned the favor, cutting the lead to four with two minutes remaining. The Commodores had a chance to make it a onepossession game but Levi Stukes stole the ball from Drake.

Stukes then came down and hit a 3-pointer with 44 seconds remaining to put the game out of reach.

Senior Derrick Byars led the Commodores with 23 points, with 17 just in the first

"We shot the ball well enough from the outside to win," coach Kevin Stallings told The Tennessean. "We didn't defend well enough to win. Our post play wasn't very good. You don't play



Vanderbilt's Derrick Byars drives to the basket against Georgia's Takais Brown during the Bulldogs' 85-73 victory Saturday.

half. Byars connected on all five three-point attempts in the first 20 minutes, but was limited due to foul trouble in the second half.

Cage, who was 5-for-9 from beyond the arc, added 17 points for the Commodores. Junior Alex Gordon added nine points and five assists, while junior Ross Neltner chipped in with five points and nine rebounds.

Although Vanderbilt connected on 13 3-pointers, it struggled in the interior. Georgia outrebounded the Commodores 43-33.

post defense this poorly and expect to win."

Vanderbilt hit 10 of its 13 3-pointers in the first half, but struggled in the second half against the Bulldogs' 2-3 zone defense.

"No team should ever (be able to) play zone against us," Byars told the Tennessean. "I don't know how we weren't able to disrupt that and make them change."

The Commodores look to bounce back when they host Alabama on Wednesday.



by WILL GIBBONS Senior Sports Reporter

THE FRIENDLY CONFINES:

After Saturday's action, SEC home teams have a record of 14-2 in conference play. The two exceptions were Kentucky's 68-58 win at Ole Miss last Saturday and Florida's 84-50 dismantling of South Carolina.

STRONG NUMBERS:

The SEC is currently third in conference RPI behind the Pac-10 and the ACC. Five teams (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky and Tennessee) are among the RPI's top 40.

PUSH THE TEMPO:

Vanderbilt is averaging 70.1 possessions per game this season, whereas last season's team averaged 63.6 possessions. Average points per game are 78.6, up from last season's 70.1 points.

UNLOCK THE CAGE:

Dan Cage has scored in double figures in each of Vanderbilt's last eight games. He has averaged 14.8 points in those games, and is averaging 18 per contest in conference play.

STRIKING ANXIETY INTO THE OPPONENT:

If you noticed Tennessee's Wayne Chism's outburst Wednesday night in which he shoved a teammate and stormed into the Vols' locker room during the game, you may have wondered what was happening.

The episode is now being called an "anxiety attack" by the Tennessee staff, which then set off an asthma attack in the locker room. Chism was back on the bench shortly thereafter and re-entered the game with a minute and a half left.

PRINCE UPDATE:

JP Prince visited Tennessee on Thursday, and the deadline to enroll for the spring semester is Jan. 19. The former fivestar recruit contacted coach Bruce Pearl, and Pearl is said to be deciding about whether to give Prince a scholarship.

The Memphis native could still enroll at Vanderbilt in the fall, as Vanderbilt does not accept mid-year transfers. Given his sitting out for medical reasons at Arizona, he could apply for a medical red-shirt and be available for action in the fall semester for whatever university he attends.

JAM THE GYM:

Sunday's "Jam the Gym" promotion, in which tickets were on sale for \$1, was a success. Attendance for the game was 8,511.

Vandy turns down chance to play Michigan Williams decides not to replace Richmond with Wolverines next season.

by JARRED AMATO

Sports Editor

Despite attempts to bring the Vanderbilt football team to Ann Arbor for a second consecutive season, Vice Chancellor for University Affairs David Williams said the Commodores will not play Michigan in the fall.

"I've been on the phone with ESPN every day," Williams said. "They want us to play Michigan. We've been going back and forth, and unfortunately I'm going to have to say no because they want us to open next year at Michigan and I don't think I want to do that."

The Wolverines beat the Commodores 27-7 on Sept. 2, 2006, in a nationally televised game. Williams said the rating for the game was well above the average, leading ESPN to see if Vanderbilt would be up for a rematch.

"This is the thing that's making it hard," Williams said. "I've finally gotten them to the point where Michigan would commit to come down here in 2010."

However, with Vanderbilt scheduled to host Richmond in its season opener and with expectations of a bowl berth, Williams decided against it.

"I'm looking for a heck of a good year next year and I just don't want to spoil anything," said Williams.

majority of its starters back, Williams likes the chances of next year's squad.

"I'm not a predictor, but if I was, I would tell you there is very good feeling that we may be the Kentucky of next year in football," said Williams, referring to the Wildcat team that won the Music City Bowl.

In an interview last Thursday, Williams touched on other issues, as well.

Putting the student in studentathlete

Williams said that the school has done a better job of conducting exit interviews with its student-athletes.

"One of the questions we've asked is. 'Do you feel more connected to the rest of the students?" Williams said. "We've been getting a resounding 'yes' to that."

There was one major complaint, however.

"The No. 1 thing that studentathletes have said, when asked if there's one thing at Vanderbilt you wish you could have done that you didn't get to do, it's to study abroad," Williams said.

While the student-athlete grade-

point average (2.93) is still shy of its goal of 3.0, Williams is pleased.

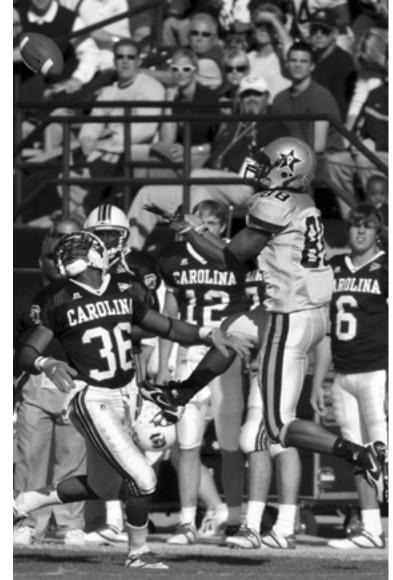
"Academically, this last semester With eight home games and the is the best semester anybody in our area can remember," he said.

> Regarding college athletics as a whole, both Williams and Chancellor Gordon Gee support the concept of tying the number of scholarships to graduation rates.

> "You have to get away from the acknowledgement that this is just the minor leagues for the big leagues and you really have to put some academic requirements in there," Williams said. "You have to tie an incentive or disincentive to that performance." Storming the court

> After witnessing Shan Foster's game-winning putback against Tennessee last week, Williams said he felt like rushing the court. But, given the \$25,000 fine and safety concerns, he has mixed emotions about it.

"I know that for years at Ohio State, not that we encouraged it, but we couldn't stop it," he said. "I'll have to admit it, I wanted to rush the court (last Wednesday). That's a natural reaction ... If you're Alabama, you can say, if you can pay your football coach \$4 million a year (Nick Saban), you can pay the \$25,000. We don't have that luxury."



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt wide receiver George Smith awaits a pass from quarterback Chris Nickson in the Commodores' homecoming game against South Carolina.

From the Should Vanderbilt have taken ESPN up on its offer and CHEAP agreed to travel to Michigan for a second time?

by WILL GIBBONS

Senior Sports Reporter

Vanderbilt football returns solid talent for next season, and with the recruiting improving on a yearly basis, Bobby Johnson is beginning to make believers out of Commodore fans. That said, 2007's schedule presents an opportunity to get the magical number of six victories to secure a bowl berth. With eight home games and a non-conference slate with beatable opponents Eastern Michigan, Kent State, Richmond and Wake Forest, Vanderbilt has the chance to break the unenviable streak of losing seasons. Vanderbilt's road schedule, however, is quite difficult for next year, with trips to Auburn, South Carolina, Florida and Tennessee. What Vanderbilt needs after 24 years of losing seasons is sure wins. Playing on ESPN in September does not generate the same exposure that playing in a bowl game would. The fairest decision for the members of the 2007 Vanderbilt football team, and the future of the program is to not make a return trip

by MAX FRANKLIN

Sports Reporter

Richmond. Ole Miss. Eastern Michigan. Kent State. Those are four home games next year that we should win. Then there's Alabama and Kentucky. Two more home games that we could win. Wake Forest and Georgia at home, and away at Auburn, South Carolina, Tennessee and defending champion Florida. If Vandy plays really well next season, that looks like shots at six wins, maybe more if we pull some upsets and don't lose any bad games. We would have a very tough but legitimate shot at a bowl game for the first time in twenty years.

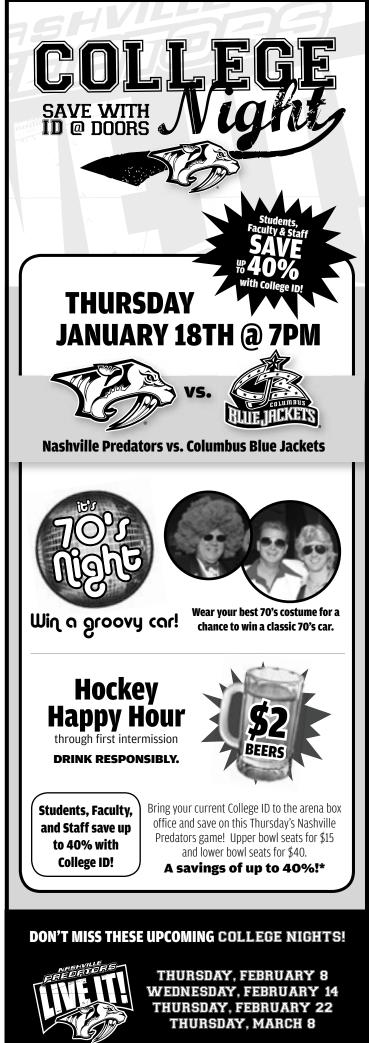
Now take away Richmond and send us back up to Michigan. That means we must win all our favored games and pull at least one big upset to make a bowl. I don't care about the money or TV exposure from playing in Ann Arbor — a bowl game would mean more money, more exposure, better recruits and a better season. I'd rather risk that than get trounced by

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MEN'S		OVERALL	CONF.	
EAST				
	Florida	16-2	3-0	
Ŕ	Kentucky	14-3	3-0	
	Georgia	10-5	2-1	
TINNESSE	Tennessee	13-4	1-1	
	Vanderbilt	11-6	1-2	
	South Carolina	10-5	0-2	
WEST				
	Alabama	14-2	1-1	
LSU	LSU	12-4	1-1	
	Ole Miss	12-5	1-2	
	Arkansas	12-5	1-2	
an a	Miss. State	10-6	1-2	
₿	Auburn	11-7	1-2	

STANDINGS			
WOME	N′S	OVERALL	CONF.
ā	Ole Miss	15-4	4-0
Towner	Tennessee	16-1	3-0
	Vanderbilt	15-2	3-1
3	Georgia	14-4	2-2
LSU	LSU	16-2	2-1
R	Kentucky	13-5	2-1
in the	Miss. State	10-7	1-2
ð	Auburn	14-5	1-2
	Arkansas	16-3	1-2
Ľ	South Carolina	10-7	0-2
Augente and	Florida	6-11	0-3
	Alabama	10-8	0-3

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