**Andrew Solomon** has steps for enjoying spring ... For more, see Opinion, page 4

**TODAY'S WEATHER** 

Showers, 61/51 Extended forecast, page 2

# The Handerhilt Hustler

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2008 • 120TH YEAR, NO. 25

THE WALL

CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

compiled by LAKENDRA SCOTT

#### **TODAY** Last day to withdraw

Today is the last day to withdraw from spring semester class for all undergraduates.

#### **TODAY** Women's tennis matches

The women's tennis team will take on Florida International University at 2:30 p.m. at the Currey Tennis Center.

#### **TODAY**

Kissam Quad resident advisers are proud to host their first-ever St. Patrick's Day Party in the Currey Hall lobby at 10 p.m.

'Kiss'am We're Irish'

#### **TODAY AND SUNDAY Baseball games**

The baseball team will play South Carolina at 6 p.m. today, 2 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday at Hawkins Field.

#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 15**

#### Lacrosse game

The women's lacrosse team will play the University of New Hampshire at 1 p.m. at the Vanderbilt soccer/ lacrosse complex.

#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 15**

#### **NPHC** step show

The National Pan-Hellenic Council will host their annual step show at 7 p.m. in Memorial Gym.

#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 15 Blair Piano Signature Series**

The Blair piano faculty performs little known gems of the piano repertoire by famous and not-so-famous composers. It will be held in Ingram Hall at 8 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, MARCH 15** Vanderbilt Chamber Choir

Vanderbilt Chamber Choir will perform "Here, There and Everywhere: Music of the Beatles and More" at Turner Recital Hall at 8 p.m.

See http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu



Boehne is part of many environmentally friendly movements on campus, like the creation and maintenance of the compost pile at The Commons Center.

Junior Luke Boehne is making a stir on campus with some unusual environmental efforts.

> by JEAN SON Contributing Reporter

Before "green," there was Luke Boehne.

A distinctive presence on campus, Boehne, a junior, has a penchant for skateboarding, untamed brown curls and an aura of serenity. Though that serenity might be attributed to Boehne's sense of unity with nature, it is more likely the effects of a glowing immune system from his environmentally friendly lifestyle.

As a high school junior in Fort Thomas, Ky., Boehne and best friend Fritzie Stine initiated a series of radical environmentally conscious lifestyle changes that have stayed with him to this day.

"He and I started something that we called Project Detachment, where we stopped relying on disposables," Boehne said.

Please see **BOEHNE**, page 3

# Ali raises questions for Vanderbilt community





#### IMPACT SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE All events are at 7 p.m. in the Student Life Center

Monday, March 17 Ayaan Hirsi Ali

#### "Islam and the West" Tuesday, March 18

Reza Aslan and Gideon Yago "The Intersection of Politics, Faith and Society in the Middle East"

#### Wednesday, March 19

Gen. John Abizaid "Diplomacy, the Military and the Future of the Middle East"

> -To read more about the Impact Symposium, go to:



#### by SYDNEY WILMER

There are at least three things guests can count on Monday night - high security, controversy and a little exclusivity.

The first night of "Impact 2008: Middle East Meets West" will feature Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a best-selling author, filmmaker and critic of Islam. And due to the security risk she poses, the event will be limited to the Vanderbilt community, said Vanderbilt Speakers

Committee co-chair Reeve Hamilton. Because it is closed, "we really need the Vandy community to turn out," Hamilton said.

Despite its foreign nature and the obscurity of the topic for today's youth, Hamilton hopes the symposium, which he said is more focused subjectwise than it has been in years, will also appeal to students.

At the five-year anniversary of the invasion of Iraq, he explained, the topic of the Middle East is something students should consider timely.

"The histories of the Middle East and the West are going to be connected from here on out," Hamilton said. "This is a big issue. Whoever is elected president will have to deal with this."

He said the symposium asks if "we really understand each other, how can we move forward and what is going to happen in the future."

In her speech, Ali, who in 2005 was one of Time magazine's 100 most influential people in the world, will address the issue of religion.

The Somalia-born Dutch politician's

film "Submission" shows how one Muslim woman is ritually abused by the men in her family, which incited controversy and prompted one fanatic to kill the producer of the film. Ali was also threatened.

Though Ali's appearance has not caused trouble on campus, some students are concerned that her speech does not offer a balanced perspective

Omar Ayad, a member of the Vanderbilt Muslim community and a third-year law student, worries that students with a limited knowledge of Islam will not get a balanced understanding of the religion.

"The Muslim community at Vanderbilt is afraid that our voice or our perspective will not be adequately presented in Ayaan Hirsi Ali's talk," Ayad said. "We do not know exactly what she is going to say, but if she is denouncing Western Islam, we are afraid we will not have our voices heard."

Ayad is not concerned about the other speakers scheduled for the symposium, though, and praised the board for an excellent topic for this year's symposium.

On Tuesday, Muslim scholar Reza Aslan and award-winning investigative journalist Gideon Yago will speak on "The Intersection of Politics, Faith and Society in the Middle East."

For the final night, Gen. John Abizaid, who was commander of the U.S. Central Command from 2003 to 2007, will give a speech titled "Diplomacy, the Military and the Future of the Middle East." ■

- Sydney Wilmer can be reached at sydney.e.wilmer@vanderbilt.edu

#### CAMPUS NEWS BRIEF Senior speaker Geldof leader in global activism

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — He has spent his life seeking to enact change in the world. Now Bob Geldof will try to inspire Vanderbilt seniors to do the same thing.

Musician and social activist Geldof will receive Vanderbilt University's third Nichols-Chancellor's Medal on May 8 when he will address graduating seniors and their GELDOE families. Vanderbilt News Service reported.



Geldof, who Chancellor Nick Zeppos referred to as "the world's most effective troublemaker" and "an invigorating catalyst for action in the international community" in an e-mail to the student body Wednesday, raised more than \$120 million for famine relief in Africa in the 1980s and won the Irish Peace Prize. He has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize and received an honorary knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II.

"Every year, Vanderbilt awards this medal to persons who define the 21st century and exemplify the best qualities of the human spirit," Zeppos wrote. "The award is in kinship with the Nichols Humanitarian Fund, which in recent years has sponsored Vanderbilt students' travel to Uganda and other parts of Africa for relief work."

Please see **GELDOF**, page 3

### **Vanderbilt** not focused on overseas campus

**by VASANTH SATHIYAKUMAR** 

Staff Reporter

While many universities in America attempt to establish satellite campuses around the world, Vanderbilt is keeping it domestic.

In an attempt to increase their global presence and build new relationships with foreign universities and countries, colleges such as New York University are opening branches overseas in areas such as the United Arab Emirates.

Such campuses attempt to maintain the same educational standards as in the United States while providing local students the opportunity to receive an American degree without ever stepping foot in the U.S.

But according to Joel Harrington, the Assistant Provost for International Affairs, Vanderbilt is not focusing on building an overseas branch.

"When you look at international presence, there is a broad spectrum," Harrington said. "It ranges from having alumni and friends stationed abroad to building partnerships with other colleges and having a branch campus

While logistics and cost play important factors in establishing a campus abroad, Harrington said he believes Vanderbilt's focus on partnerships with other colleges is more beneficial than having an actual campus overseas, which can lower standards held by the university.

"With a partnership, we respect the local culture and base academic work in context with the needs and demands of the area," Harrington said. "While having a campus overseas will get more international recognition, we lose the potential of having international students come to Vanderbilt and mingle with our students and faculty. It would also be difficult to maintain the same quality abroad that we have here."

As a result, Vanderbilt instead actively tries to recruit international students to study at Please see OVERSEAS CAMPUS, page 3



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WEATHER

compiled by LAKENDRA SCOTT

#### **SATURDAY**



Thunderstorms, 56/40

#### **SUNDAY**



Mostly Sunny, 58/40

#### **MONDAY**



Mostly Cloudy, 64/53

**VUPD CRIME LOG** 

compiled by LAKENDRA SCOTT

There is no crime to report.

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. The Vanderbilt Hustler is a division of Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc. Copyright © 2004 Vanderbilt Student Com-

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#### made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler. **BACK ISSUES**

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

### THE 12345678

#### Suspect in UNC student slaying charged with killing Duke student

**DURHAM, N.C.** — Authorities have charged a suspect in the slaying of the University of North Carolina student president with the January killing of a Duke University graduate student, The Associated Press reported.

A warrant filed Thursday charges 17-year-old Lawrence Alvin Lovette Jr. with first-degree murder in the death of Abhijit Mahato. The 29-year-old computational mechanics doctoral student was

found shot to death inside his apartment in January.

#### Call girl in Spitzer case is identified, says she doesn't want to be 'monster'

**NEW YORK** — The call girl at the center of the prostitution scandal that prompted Gov. Eliot Spitzer to resign in disgrace has been identified as a 22-year-old aspiring musician who struggled in a broken home as a child, The Associated Press stated.

The New York Times reported that the real name of the woman identified as "Kristen" in court papers alleging that Spitzer paid thousands of dollars for her services — is Ashley Alexandra Dupre.

#### Body of Christian clergyman found in Iraq; parked car bomb kills 18 in central Baghdad

**BAGHDAD** — The body of a Christian archbishop kidnapped last month was found in northern Iraq Thursday while in Baghdad, a car bomb exploded and killed 18 people.

Gunmen abducted Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho and killed three of his companions soon after they left Mass in the city of Mosul on Feb. 29. It was the latest in a series of attacks against Iraq's small Christian community, The Associated Press said.

#### Ferraro leaves Clinton post after furor over **Obama comments**

**WASHINGTON** — Geraldine Ferraro stepped down Wednesday from an honorary post in Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign amid a controversy regarding her comments that Barack Obama wouldn't be succeeding in the race for the White House if he weren't black, according to The Associated Press.

Ferraro notified Clinton by letter that she would no longer serve on Clinton's finance committee as "Honorary New York Leadership Council Chair." She wrote that the Obama campaign "is attacking me to hurt you."

#### 13 Tenn. counties' dirty air would violate new **EPA smog limit**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — The air in 13 Tennessee counties, including every major metropolitan area, is too dirty to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's new limits on smog, The Associated Press stated.

"Right now all of the ozone monitors that we have in Tennessee currently do not meet the new standard. Every one of them," state Department of Environment and Conservation spokeswoman Tisha brese-Benton said Thursday

The Tennessee counties are: Ánderson, Blount, Davidson, Hamilton, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Meigs, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Wilson.

#### Nashville firm defends alternative school **NASHVILLE, Tenn.** — A Nashville company that runs public

alternative schools is being accused of operating an Atlanta school like "a warehouse for poor children of color" where "academics are virtually non-existent," The Tennessean reported.

Eight students made these and other allegations in a lawsuit filed Tuesday against Community Education Partners and the Atlanta Indépendent School System, its superintendent and its school board. Randle Richardson, the CEO of Community Education Partners, located on Elm Hill Pike, said Wednesday the charges are untrue and unfounded.

#### Southwest grounds 43 planes for a day

**DALLAS** — Southwest Airlines, facing a federal fine for possible maintenance violations, grounded at least 43 Boeing Co. 737s on Wednesday until it could verify the planes had undergone federally required inspections, The Associated Press reported.

The groundings, which affected about 8 percent of Southwest's fleet, disrupted some flights around the country, but had little impact in Nashville where Southwest has the No. 1 market share. All planes were supposed to be back in service by Wednesday night, the airline said.

#### ▶ Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center named Blue Distinction Center for Complex and Rare CancersSM

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center has been selected as a Blue Distinction Center for Complex and Rare CancersSM by Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, in collaboration with BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Vanderbilt News Service reported.

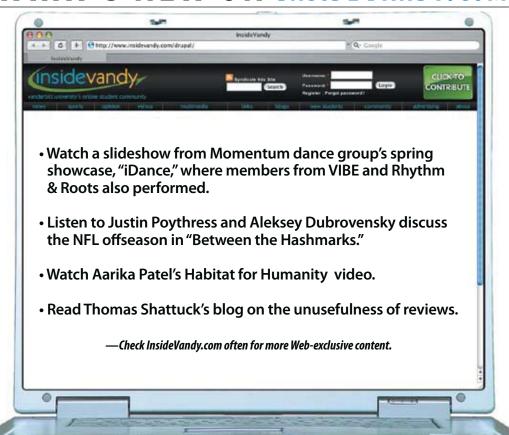
"BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee is committed to identifying the highest medical value possible for our members," said Dr. Ken Patric, vice president and Chief Medical Officer. "Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center was the only provider in Tennessee to meet all of the quality criteria for rare adult cancers necessary to be a Blue Distinction Center."

#### Fla. vote-by-mail presidential primary re-do unlikely because of concerns

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida Democrats on Thursday proposed a vote-by-mail presidential primary to solve the high-stakes delegate dispute while acknowledging the plan's chances are slim, The Associated Press reported.

Democrats in Florida and Michigan have been struggling to come up with an alternative to ensure their delegates are seated at the national convention this summer after the party punished them for holding early primaries.

### WHAT'S NEW ON INSIDE VANDY. COM



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#### **DIVA** (France)

Sunday, March 16, 2pm, Introduced by Associate Professor of French and Acting Director of Film Studies Lynn Ramey

1981 directorial debut of French Director Jean-Jagues Beineix. New, 25th anniversary print featuring new subtitles.



#### THE BAND'S VISIT (Israel)

Monday, March 17, 7:30pm Director of Religious Affairs Gay Welch & Director of International Student and Scholar Services Sherif Barsoum facilitate post-screening discussion

Amusing story of an Egyptian Police Band that takes the wrong bus during a cultural-exchange trip to Israel.



#### 4 MONTHS, 3 WEEKS, AND 2 DAYS (Romania)

Thursday, March 27, 7pm Ph.D. Candidate Sarah Childress introduces and facilitates post-screening discussion for this 2007 Cannes Film Festival winner of the Palme d'Or

COMING SOON: Paranoid Park & Last Year in Marienbad







### **BOEHNE:** Example has led to campus change

From **BOEHNE**, page 1

"It was a personal movement to stop being reliant on some of the wasteintensive, Americanized aspects of life."

The project also grew out of their philosophical concerns with conventionality and norms — they were, after all, in high school.

Among their unusual endeavors, Boehne and Stine staged a deodorant and shower fast that eventually became a publicity stunt to promote clean-water awareness. But though their efforts caused a stir with classmates, they did not manage to recruit any peers to sponsor their cause.

"We were two of the more alternative students at the school, in every sense," Boehne said.

Boehne, a cognitive studies major, has since expanded his conservation efforts.

While on a road trip last summer, he stopped in Asheville, N.C. On the fly, he decided to stay for two weeks to work at Mountain Gardens, an organic living

center where all food is grown on site or traded for with local gardeners, the water supply comes from mountain streams, disposables and driving are kept to a minimum, and volunteers like Boehne are taught to garden, compost and live organically.

Boehne called the experience "a revelation."

Back on the lavish Vanderbilt campus, his radical lifestyle means sacrifices and criticism.

"People often comment on my

deodorant ban in social settings," Boehne said. "When I'm dancing at a party, sometimes someone will ask, 'Don't you think you could wear deodorant for the sake of other people or for girls?" Boehne takes these potentially

awkward moments in stride, content

that his lifestyle narrows his social circle

to those who genuinely appreciate him.

(For the record, this reporter thought Boehne smelled fine.) "Driving is another issue," Boehne said. "It would be easy for me to take my car out more often, but I try to bicycle and skateboard instead. I also exclusively eat leftover food. My friends are constantly trying to treat me to dinner on the town. I tell them that I don't support driving to eat when our resources on campus are abundant, and when I know I already have leftover food in the fridge. My food and driving limitations are socially disruptive and isolate me from some social circles. I end up eating alone a little more and going out to parties less. It isn't ideal, but being consistent now will help me in the future when I'm out of this place and it's a little harder to follow through on my beliefs."

Boehne's devotion to his beliefs has earned him the position of composting and dining representative with the student organization SPEAR, Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Recycling. Boehne oversees a pilot program that composts scraps from food preparations at The Commons Dining

Center into fertilizer. Other projects include expanding recycling programs on campus and possibly working with the Visions program to educate freshmen about sustainability.

Boehne sets an example for many of

"When I lived in a Mayfield house last year, I provided cardboard boxes for recycling — Vanderbilt doesn't provide students with recycling bins," Boehne said. "Now at least half of my former housemates recycle in their dorms."

With his experiences, Boehne hopes to pursue a future career in the nonprofit

"I hope to never work in a corporateminded setting — and hope to ideally never pay taxes," Boehne said, grinning. ■

— To contact Jean Son about this story or to share an interesting story of your own, send an e-mail to jean.son@vanderbilt.

### Founders' Day marks milestone



McTYEIRE

On Monday, March 17, the Vanderbilt University will celebrate the 135th anniversary of its founding, a press release said.

The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. at the statue of Cornelius Vanderbilt, who donated money to start the university in 1873, at the main entrance to the university across from Kissam Quad and conclude an hour later with cake and coffee in Kirkland Hall.

The program will be led by Chancellor Nick Zeppos. Wreaths will be placed at both the statue of Vanderbilt and at the gravesite of Holland and Amelia McTyeire by representatives of the campus community. Holland McTyeire was the first president of the Board of Trust.

Founder's Day has been celebrated since the first academic year, although the timing has moved from the original date of May 27, Vanderbilt's birthday, to March 17 as the academic schedule changed.

In the event of rain, the program will take place on the second floor of Kirkland. ■

### iHope you dance



LAUREN FONDRIEST/ The Vanderbilt Hustler

Members of Momentum dance group, which produces a mixture of contemporary, classical and hip-hop dances, performed in their spring showcase Tuesday night in Ingram Auditorium. Members from VIBE and Rhythm & Roots also performed in the annual event, which this year was titled "iDance."

### **GELDOF:** Singer/activist lobbies wealthy countries

From **GELDOF**, page 1

"This year, we award the Nichols-Chancellor's Medal to Bob Geldoffor his enactment of the ideals of unity, equality, and compassion that we uphold as Vanderbilt's mission, and for his recognition of the essential role of artists in addressing the great natural and economic disasters of recent years," Zeppos wrote.

Geldof, who accompanied President George W. Bush last month on a tour of Africa, will receive the award, which carries a prize of over \$100,000 and speak at the 10 a.m. ceremony on Alumni Lawn. It is a ticketed event for Vanderbilt graduating seniors and their families, faculty and staff.

In addition to his activism,

Geldof was the founder and lead singer of the rock band The Boomtown Rats and starred in the film version of "The Wall." He has since gone on to a solo recording career and continued his activism by lobbying wealthy countries to cancel debt owed by African nations.

"Geldof has evolved and expanded his career to be a heroic consciousness-raiser for the alleviation of global poverty," Zeppos wrote. "He brings awareness of the importance of conscience and is an outspoken opponent of indifference. As such, he is a perfect inspiration for all Vanderbilt students and graduates who do everything in their power to change the world for the better." ■

### **OVERSEAS CAMPUS:** Study abroad opportunities available

From **OVERSEAS CAMPUS**, page 3

Vanderbilt by offering scholarships. According to Harrington, one of Vanderbilt's strengths is using alumni to establish a network that can recruit students from other countries.

Some students, however, feel Vanderbilt should increase its international presence.

"We have the resources and the capability to be more involved," said freshman Nabi Nizamidin. "We should definitely take the opportunity to do so."

Students who want to experience an vasanth.sathiyakumar@vanderbilt.edu

education that is not limited to just Vanderbilt's campus should look into study abroad programs such as the Vanderbilt Initiative for Scholarship and Global Engagement.

"If you're interested in getting involved, talk to faculty and look online at opportunities to study abroad," Harrington said. "Just keep your minds open — there are many opportunities out there." ■

- Vasanth Sathiyakumar can be reached at



Helen Akers

Kathryn Baker

Allie Baumgartner

Rachel Becker

Elizabeth Bell

Katherine Burks

Megan Capozzi

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# **OPINION**

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#### **OUR VIEW**

### IMPACT's quality transcends names

The IMPACT Symposium is comprised of a diverse group of speakers in their backgrounds both professionally and in their origins, as well as the content of their messages. In addition, the tight focus of the week's speakers, from a very wide spectrum of paradigms suggests the Speaker's Committee took seriously the pledge of providing a comprehensive view of a relevant issue.

Unfortunately, despite the quality and focus of the speakers for IMPACT, the name recognition lacks somewhat, particularly in comparison to the very successful fusion of quality and visibility attained by the Music Group for Rites of Spring this year. The editorial board has some concerns not about how well the speakers will be received, but by how many students will attend to do the receiving.

However, it's certainly possible that the Speakers Committee, after fielding complaints last year about the perceived secondtier big-name status of Newt Gingrich and Lou Dobbs, sought to find the highest quality of lesser-known speaker and take the program in a different direction.

While some might snicker somewhat at the presence of Gideon Yago, of MTV fame, in the lineup, his dialogue with Reza Aslan presents a relevant topic — the intersection of faith, society and politics — from a more youthful perspective than is typical with

Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a controversial figure in the Middle East for her outspoken criticism of Islam, is exactly the type of speaker that Vanderbilt should play host to: A noted individual whose well-articulated perspective on an issue of his or her particular specialty. As a speaker, Ali should be extremely poignant in this age where the relationship between religion and government has played such a critical role in events both nationally and internationally. General John Abizaid, too, as a military leader serving and leading around the world including Iraq, offers a perspective outside of the academic or pundit landscape.

The student body should take advantage of the varied and balanced perspective on the critical, complex issue of the Middle East that the Speakers Committee has offered us.

### **Top 10** Celebs That Should Have Their Own Reality Show

ELIZABETH MIDDLEBROOKS Guest Columnist

"Celebreality" will always be popular, but some stars have been denied their fair shake by the likes of VH1 and MTV. Here are just a few that need a little more time in the spotlight.

**Hillary Clinton** 

The Olsen Twins

**Dawn Wells** 

OK, so she's not a conventional celebrity, but who doesn't want to follow her around on the campaign trail? Maybe we'll find out if her tears are real and if she actually does order around Bill as much as we expect her to.

Mary-Kate and Ashley have grown up since their "Full House" days, and without Danny Tanner keeping an eye on them, the twins have actually become two separate people. A show featuring the both of them again is just what we all need.

Honestly, I don't care that much about Hilary. I just want to be able to watch "Lizzie McGuire" again.

team up to show off their parenting skills.

**Kevin Federline** While Brit's life has become its own bad reality show, K-Fed is just taking care of the kids . . . right? Maybe he and Snoop Dogg can

**Angelina Jolie** This show would be less dramatic than some of the others since Angelina just bops around saving the world and adopting kids, but given her travels, the Discovery Channel might want to look into this one.

**Courtney Love** This one is a given — the woman is a crazy musician who used to have a drug habit and is now playing a porn star in the upcoming film "Lovelace." Plus, she named her daughter after a legume. It doesn't get much better.

Remember Mary Ann from "Gilligan's Island"? She's ditched the good-girl image and taken up a marijuana habit, which recently got her arrested. There's also a video in which she's making out with Barry Williams (ahem, Greg Brady). Isn't that something you'd like to see for 30 minutes every week?

The cast of "90210" The CW is reportedly reviving "90210" after eight long years of no SoCal drama. Now that the cast is, um, older, it could be interesting to follow around a bunch of washed-up 30-somethings while they relive their high-school days.

Heath Leager Oh, come on. You know you want to find out what really happened.

COLUMN

# Finding St. Paddy's parties despite apparent dearth

<u>JUSTIN POYTHRESS</u>

Due to the overwhelming amount of positive feedback I got concerning the whiny, embittered column I wrote about our loss of good Friday nights (I gave myself a "Transformers" sticker), I am now faced with the solemn obligation of providing some constructive suggestions. As a public servant, I cannot stand by idly while so many diligent partiers are left playing naked charades or doing paint by numbers. So before you resort to severe measures, like meth-induced suicide or picking up a copy of Versus, let me assure you there are outlets. The dilemma: There are no good announced parties and you're a GDI, or maybe just a fraternity member who has lost interest in playing beer pong with a bunch of freshman groupies. Then for you, the frat house scene is probably not your first choice. You might consider hosting one of those infamous suite parties, assuming you have the right accommodations. These are usually a solid option, but take steps to prevent it from falling into one of these two typical categories:

1. Too few people. Though they've invited half the

school, there's about four people standing around, listening to disproportionately loud music and asking each other who else they know is coming. The few unfortunate stragglers who wander in are consigned to making awkward conversation until they can find a suitable break to excuse themselves.

2. Too many people. Ironically, this happens more often times to parties thrown together at the last minute. The person next to you is sweating into your drink. It takes you about twelve minutes to maneuver over to the bathroom line and there's no chance of comfortably talking to someone or sitting down, but yet for some reason half of the rooms are closed. In this case, consider getting a doorman to prevent random Friday night drifters.

Another avenue elected by more adventurous folk is to just pick up with some Nashtrash folks and follow them around for the night. Of course this is probably more than a little unwise. If you're looking for more of an "Alice down the rabbit hole" experience, you can check out what's popping over at McGill. While you're over there, you might consider checking out Tolman and Cole Hall, though they'll probably be about as wild as a BYX

Please see **POYTHRESS**, page 5

COLUMN

### Steps to enjoy the spring



I love spring. Honestly, I've stopped driving to class in sunglasses and a hoodie so I don't have to talk to you because I can't stop smiling while I walk through campus. Girls tanning in bikinis in 60 degree weather. Guys eating it on the sidewalk trying to chase down glow in the dark frisbees. Heck, I'll sit on the library lawn for hours, just waiting for skateboarders to wipe out so I can laugh hysterically at their misfortune. For a guy like me, this is by far the

best time of year. At this point I'm going to go ahead and assume the only thought running through your head is "Wow Andrew, that sounds great! How can I be like you and learn to enjoy everything spring has to offer?" Since my editor won't let me write a review of the year's top five adult films and I'm out of other ideas, I'll tell you.

First things first, get to the gym. You can't be traipsing around campus in a skirt if you're still holding that extra winter 15. Eat that salad, no dessert. Before you know it, you might be dating outside the family.

Next, make sure your iPod headphones are permanently glued to your ears. Nothing says "You are so beneath me" quite like only removing one ear bud to hold a conversation while music continues to blare in the other. It's not your fault the other person is so boring you need a soundtrack to the dialogue just to keep you interested.

Get some neon polos and a Miami Vice jacket. I don't know how it is that the 80s found a permanent home here at Vandy, but if it means railing lines of cocaine thicker than my finger in the bathroom of a fraternity house while listening to Phil Collins on repeat, I'm for

Find a reason to complain about everything. When someone asks how you're doing, what they're really asking for is a laundry list of surreptitious mountains of work and problems you're having that make it seem like your life is hectic and therefore important. Just because you spend 90 percent of your time in your room trolling sports blogs or shopping online doesn't mean they have to know that.

Quit the drugs. So you smoke more weed than Willie Nelson with glaucoma. This doesn't change the fact that, even if you plan on working at Wendy's this summer, you're probably going to have to take a drug test. Trust me, quitting is much easier than explaining to your parents why a Vanderbilt student can't find gainful employment at Friday's.

Rediscover the joys of drinking in the midafternoon. Now the weather is warmer, it's the perfect excuse to grab some buddies, a case of beer and start getting hammered somewhere well within public view. If you want extra asshole points, feel free to openly mock everyone still trudging to class. For my money there's nothing funnier than hitting freshmen with empty beer cans as they leave Kissam. Plus, for those of you who actually posses a sense of responsibility, class is much better with a healthy buzz to carry you through it.

Get to know your Vanderbilt Police Department. Chances are, somewhere in the near future (Rites, graduation, your criminal trail), you're going to have to deal with the cops. If you're already on a friendly, first name basis with them, they might overlook it when you throw up all over the back of their cruiser on the way to the Med Center.

Finally, be sure to stop and look around. Enjoy the weather. Check out the skirts. And remember that no matter how cold it gets at night, sandals are always an acceptable form of

-Andrew Solomon is a senior in the School of Engineering. He can be reached at andrew.j.solomon@vanderbilt.edu

#### **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 Web site.

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

**President Cara Bilotta** 

(615) 322-8742

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

**CORRECTION POLICY** 

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

#### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS Your voice doesn't stop here.

The Vanderbilt Hustler encourages its readers to voice their opinions on legislative issues. The following students and legislators represent the Vanderbilt community.

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(615) 736-5129

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

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

Rep. Brenda Gilmore Tenn. District 54 35 Legislative Plaza Nashville, TN 37243-0154 (615) 741-1997

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

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

### Waiting for the timely death of identity politics



MIKE WARREN

**Columnist** 

The race for the Democratic nomination has a certain Beckettian quality to it as of late. Like the players in "Waiting for Godot," the candidates seem to be milling around for some indeterminable end to a show that provides the audience with sundry absurdities but little

worthwhile content. Consider the episode that came to a head this week with former vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro, a Democrat, the first woman on a major-party ticket and an advisor to the Hillary Clinton campaign. The former representative spoke to John Gibson on his radio show two weeks ago about the decision of Rep. John Lewis, a Georgian Democrat, to switch his support from Clinton to Barack Obama. Ferraro expressed disappointment with Lewis and other Democrats, such as Senator Chris Dodd, for endorsing the "other" candidate. Ferraro candidly asserted Obama would not be a formidable candidate if he were not black, implying the main reason for his success in these primaries is the color of his skin.

The reaction from other Democrats was swift and predictable. Some in the media, as well as supporters of Obama, criticized Ferraro for her supposedly veiled racist comments. Ferraro stuck to her guns, refusing to apologize but eventually quitting the Clinton campaign this week amid heightened condemnation.

for all intents and purposes, inappropriateness of her comments, Ferraro hit on the common theme with the Democrats this election cycle: Identity politics, in which the caliber of a candidate is determined much more by his or her specific identity group (black or female, for instance) than by his ability to lead.

The truth is, despite all of his pontificating about rising above race, Barack Obama owes much of his success within the party to the fact that he is a *black* man talking about rising above race. For liberal Democrats, obsessed with identity rather than ideas, this is the ticket to victory. By some twisted logic, Obama being black makes him a viable candidate, whereas a white man with similar views (read: John Edwards) fails to capture the electorate's collective heart. Obama's rhetorical skills also distinguish him from a lesser liberal, but this may be a positive externality to the overarching issue of his race.

Ironically, Ferraro's own candidate owes practically all of her success to the same concept that she decries. The elephant in the room for the Democrats is that without Bill and, more importantly, Bill's dalliances with the opposite sex, Hillary would not have become the sympathetic character that was elected to the United States Senate from a state she hadn't lived in before she campaigned. The Clintons have attempted to frame Hillary's record since 2001 as that of a politician independent of her husband's legacy. But the appeals to her womanhood, such as her crocodile tears in New Despite the bluntness and, Hampshire, help garner support

for her presidential campaign, and they are a reminder that the Clintons understand identity politics. Bill was the first black president, lest we forget.

substantial policy differences between the two candidates are interesting enough. In fact, there are very few distinctions, and on paper, Clinton and Obama may look nearly identical. As the debates over the last year have shown, policy differences between the two are hard to come by; thus, we are subjected to despicable appeals to identity groups, particularly from the Clinton campaign, which cheapen American politics.

So the stage is set, with the first tool (Ferraro) of identity politics in a presidential election supporting a second tool (Hillary) by criticizing a third (Obama), all with no end in sight. Absurd? Most certainly, but these are the Democrats, after all. As soon as their nominee is chosen, look out for accusations that John McCain and the Republicans are racist or sexist for criticizing the actual politics of either Obama or

The haunting conclusion of Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" is that the conclusion is never reached, and the absurdity is all for naught. The haunting conclusion of the Democratic primary is that either Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton will be one step closer to the Oval Office, and the politics of race and gender will live on for another day.

-Mike Warren is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at michael.r.warren@vanderbilt.



'Dear Housing: you know what's unfair? Informing me that I have four points, and then later to e-mail me saying that I don't. What's even more unfair is that now you're making me walk all the way to Branscomb to get the new contract. And thanks so much for telling me I'll be disqualified if I try to use my old contract — maybe you shouldn't have put it in my mailbox in the first place."

"All teachers who assign work due the week after you return from spring break should be fired, doubly so for exams."

"How come all the muffins in Rand have gotten smaller!? Seriously, they used to be like twice the size. There have got to be better ways for Vandy to save money than by shrinking the only thing I look forward to in the morning."

"Something about filling a lime green ballot for something as necessary as my living arrangement for next year seems stupid. I feel like there should be a tropical drink involved."

"There is no point in sending an e-mail to one's class, should one be a professor, informing them that you will not be attending due to 'Influenza B,' if you are going to follow this information with a reminder to 'Come to class' and a special assignment involving a film viewing about a hedgehog with the face of a man."

"I wish Vanderbilt wouldn't send me bils for lots of money without me knowing what it's for. Because they did, and I don't."

### **POYTHRESS:** March 17 may require unorthodox methods of partying

From **POYTHRESS**, page 4

party on St. Patrick's Day.

Compiled by Katherine Miller

I want to take this opportunity to transition smoothly into talking about St. Patty' day, a tradition which began hundreds of years ago. The Catholic Church had fallen on hard times, what with all the corruption and institutional hypocrisy. The organization was under negotiation to be absorbed into livestock spiritism, when a union of pubs offered a large sum of money if the church awarded sainthood and a holiday to a drunken, Irish leprechaun. To do this day justice, consider engaging in any

combination of these genuine Irish activities: wearing green, getting wasted, watching Boondock Saints, dying your hair red, getting wasted, brawling with a Protestant/Catholic (preferably the one you're not) and finally, if drunken religious discrimination doesn't tickle your fancy, you can still beat your wife or significant other.

-Justin Poythress is a junior in the College of Arts and Science. He can be reached at j.poythress@vanderbilt.edu







# **SPORTS**

## RUN

#### Men's Basketball vs. Arkansas 2:15 p.m. TV: Raycom

After winning its first Southeastern Conference tournament game since 2006, No. 18 Vanderbilt (26-6, 10-6 SEC) faces Arkansas (20-10, 9-7 SEC), the No. 2 seed out of the SEC West, in the quarterfinal. The Razorbacks won their match-up this season with Vanderbilt 78-73. The Commodores have not beaten Arkansas since 2005. In the SEC quarterfinal last season, Arkansas beat Vanderbilt 72-71 when guard Gary Ervin made a jumper with 11 seconds left in the game. A win would put Vanderbilt in the semifinal of the tournament for the first time since 2005 and create a possible re-match with archrival

#### **TODAY Baseball vs. South Carolina** 6 p.m. Radio: 560 AM

Tennessee.

Defending SEC champion Vanderbilt (10-3) opens defense of its title against No. 6 South Carolina (10-3) at Hawkins Field. The Commodores took two out of three games against the Gamecocks last season when the teams met in Columbia. South Carolina wound up finishing second in the SEC East behind Vanderbilt. Sophomore ace Mike Minor (2-1, 1.66 ERA) takes the mound for Vanderbilt, facing righthanded junior Mike Cisco (3-0, 2.79 ERA). Last season, Minor won this match-up 12-1, while Cisco was pounded for eight earned runs and

#### **TODAY** Women's Tennis vs. **Florida International**

took the loss.

2:30 p.m.

The ninth-ranked Vanderbilt (10-3) closes out the non-conference portion of its schedule with a match against No. 41 FIU at Currey Tennis Center.

Florida International has a record of 5-5 overall. The Panthers have won two consecutive matches, defeating Stetson 7-0 and Boston University 6-1. FIU is led by Liset Brito, who is ranked 88th nationally in singles. Brito is 5-4 on the season in singles play. The Panthers also have a doubles team ranked; the tandem of Egle Petrauskaite and Brito are ranked No. 20 in the country.

#### THEY SAID IT ...

"Their two big guns really hurt us in this game."

JEFF LEBO

Auburn Basketball Head Coach on Shan Foster and A.J. Ogilvy

DAILY #

Number of assists on Vanderbilt's 33 field goals in the 93-82 win over Auburn

# Dores push past Auburn

### Ogilvy, Foster lead Vanderbilt to 93-82 victory in first round of SEC tournament.

by DAVID RUTZ

Asst Sports Editor

Freshman A.J. Ogilvy had his best game of the season. Southeastern Conference Player of the Year Shan Foster just

With Ogilvy scoring a career-high 27 points and Foster adding 26, Vanderbilt (26-6, 10-6 SEC) put on one of the best displays of offensive efficiency in SEC tournament history, shooting 67.3 percent from the field en route to a 93-82 win over Auburn, the first victory in the tournament for Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings said he found the offensive proficiency impressive.

"I thought the key to that today was we really made an emphasis with our team not to take quick threes and make a few extra passes," Stallings said. "I think as a result not only did A.J. touch it more but Shan touched it more (too).

Vanderbilt's size advantage was simply too much for the Tigers (14-17, 4-12 SEC) to handle. Senior Quan Prowell, Auburn's leading scorer on the season and tallest player at 6-foot-8, played just 11 minutes and fouled out early in the second half.

"It was a tough match-up being the way that Vanderbilt moves the ball," Prowell said.

Ogilvy encountered little opposition under the basket, making 12 of 13 shots.

"As soon as we came out, I had a couple good looks and I was in pretty good position," Ogilvy said. "My teammates did a good job of getting the ball to me in easy scoring position."

Foster also got plenty of open looks and took advantage. Given the way he's been shooting the ball lately, he said he was surprised as anyone to not have a hand in his face during

"Definitely (I was surprised). I haven't gotten many open shots this year," Foster said. "My teammates did a great job of finding me when I was open, and I was able to knock down a

Foster hit six 3-pointers on the afternoon, marking the fourth time in the last five games he has made that many.

One telling moment in the game was when Foster was found wide open in the corner for a 3-pointer. Before he even released the ball, an Auburn assistant could be seen throwing his hands up in frustration, knowing that would happen next was inevitable. Not surprisingly, Foster made the shot.

Auburn kept the game from being a blowout by making 12 3-pointers, including one to get within five points with 11:31 left. Vanderbilt erased any hopes of a comeback with a 10-0 run and was never threatened after that.

"Offensively it wasn't an issue for us," said Auburn coach Jeff Lebo. "It was just having a hard time stopping them on the other end.

Vanderbilt moves on to face Arkansas, who eliminated the Commodores from last year's SEC tournament in the quarterfinals. The Razorbacks have won the last four times the

"We haven't had great success against them, but we look forward to a great game tomorrow," Foster said. "We know they're going to be amped up and ready to play, and we will too." ■



DAVE MARTIN / AP photo

Vanderbilt center A.J. Ogilvy dunks the ball during early action against Auburn in the first half of a men's basketball game in the SEC tournament in Atlanta on Thursday. Ogilvy poured in a career-high 27 points to fuel the Commodores' 93-82 victory over Auburn.

KEY: RS-Raycom Sports

#### 2008 SEC MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

March 13-16 • Georgia Dome • Atlanta, Ga. Thursday, March 13 Friday, March 14 Saturday, March 15 Sunday, March 16 [E5] SO. CAROLINA [E5] SO. CAROLINA Game 5 1:00 p.m. [RS] [W4] LSU [E1] TENNESSEE [W6] AUBURN 1:00 p.m. [RS] [E3] VANDERBILT 3:15 p.m. [RS] [E3] VANDERBILT [W2] ARKANSAS CHAMPIONSHIP Game 11 SEC Tournament Champion [W5] ALABAMA 1:00 p.m. [CBS] NCAA Taumament Automatic Qualifier [W5] ALABAMA Game 7 7:30 p.m. [RS] [E4] FLORIDA [W1] MISSISSIPPI ST. [E6] GEORGIA Game 10 3:15 p.m. [RS] 9:45 p.m. [RS] [W3] OLE MISS ALL TIMES EASTERN [E2] KENTUCKY

### Vanderbilt tennis sweeps Furman 7-0

### No. 9 Commodores look to stay perfect in midweek matches.

VUCommodores.com

The ninth-ranked Vanderbilt women's tennis team improved to 10-3 on the season with an impressive 7-0 sweep of No. 65 Furman (8-5) on Thursday afternoon at the Currey Tennis Center. The Commodores also stayed perfect in non-Southeastern Conference matches, improving to

"Today was a great victory for us," said coach Geoff Macdonald. "Furman is a really good team. We competed really hard and I'm happy with our

Vanderbilt took the early advantage, quickly grabbing the doubles point. Senior Taka Bertrand and freshman Keilly Ulery won all eight games in their doubles match over Jessica Preeg and Monica Arguello at the third doubles position. Sophomore Catherine Newman and senior Caroline Ferrell also did not gave up a game in their 8-0 victory over Lauren Osborne and Christina Swindall at No. 2 doubles. Senior Amanda Taylor and junior Courtney Ulery dropped their match at No. 1 doubles, falling 8-5 to Laura Gioia and Natasa

The Commodores continued their solid play in singles. Keilly Ulery picked up the first singles win for the Black and Gold with a 6-1, 6-1 thrashing of Lauren Tomory at No. 5 singles. No. 51 Courtney Ulery quickly followed with the third point of the day for the Dores with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Preeg at

Ferrell clinched the match for the Commodores with a 6-1, 6-4 win at the sixth singles position

On Court 1, No. 35 Taylor notched the fifth point for Vanderbilt with a 6-2, 6-2 win over No. 93 Gioia. No. 37 Newman improved to 10-3 in dual matches with a 6-1, 6-3 win over No. 108 Arguello at No. 2 singles.

Bertrand closed out the sweep with a 7-5, 6-2 win over Osborne at the third singles position. The win improves Bertrand's career singles record to 113-33. She is just two wins shy of breaking Julie Ditty's record of 114 career singles wins.

The Commodores now lead the overall series against Furman 6-2.

Vanderbilt returns to action tomorrow against No. 41 Florida International.

FIU has a record of 5-5 overall. The Panthers have won two consecutive matches, defeating Stetson 7-0 and Boston University 6-1. FIU is led by Liset Brito, who is ranked 88th nationally in singles. Brito is 5-4 on the season in singles play. The Panthers also have a doubles team ranked. The tandem of Egle Petrauskaite and Brito are ranked No. 20 in the country.

Vanderbilt leads the all-time series against both Furman and Florida International, owning a 5-2 edge in the series with the Paladins and a 1-0 advantage against FIU.

First serve at the Currey Tennis Center is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. ■



CHRIS PHARE / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Senior Amanda Taylor helped lead the Dores to victory over Furman on Thursday at the Currey Tennis Center. Vanderbilt went 7-0 in the sweep and looks to improve to 10-0 when it takes on Florida International University today.

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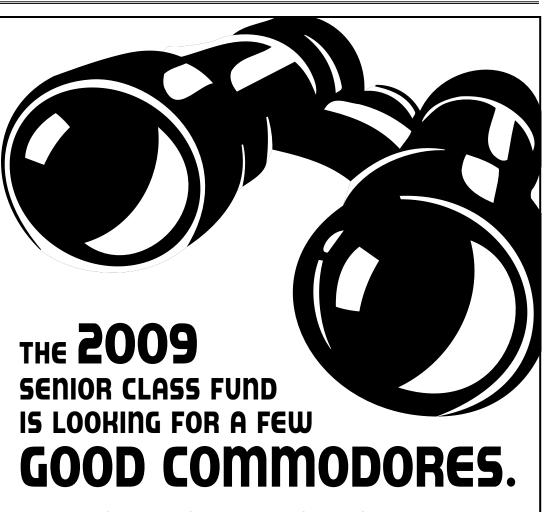
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contact Christina Barnes for more info: christina.m.barnes@vanderbilt.edu

# Versus

#### **Entertainment & Culture at Vanderbilt**

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Versus is a new weekly Entertainment and Cultural paper created by Vanderbilt Student Communications and the Versus staff headed up by Darcy Newell.

#### WHAT IT IS NOT

Versus is not a Thursday issue of the Hustler. Versus is not a typical "news" paper.

#### WHAT DOES IT COVER?

Each week, Versus will include a different Features topic, a section for Music and Concert reviews, Culture (fashion, movie/restaurant reviews, etc.), and Fiction (poetry, short stories).

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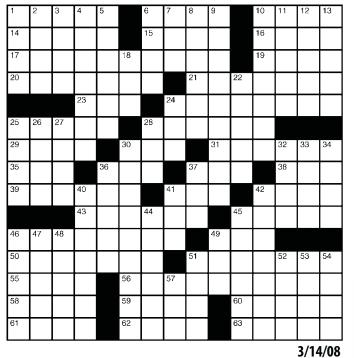
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#### **3/12/08 SOLUTIONS**

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