

MUSIC

## Renowned Nashville Jazz Orchestra to perform Friday

Concert reflects a growing commitment to jazz study at Blair.

By Mary Alice Williams  
STAFF REPORTER

The Nashville Jazz Orchestra concert in Ingram Hall this Friday signals the evolution of jazz study at the Blair School of Music.

Featuring renowned saxophonist Kirk Whalum as a guest player, the show will begin at 8 p.m. Student tickets are \$5 and available for sale at the door.

The NJO, a professional big band whose members have recorded with the likes of Ray Charles and Aretha Franklin, is known as the city's premier jazz ensemble and is the in-residence band at Blair.

Jim Williamson, the NJO's music director of five years, said its sound is diverse. Williamson said the concert will feature a range of music, including jazz standards such as John Coltrane's "Moment's Notice" and Doc Severinsen's "In the Mood." The band will also perform some of Whalum's original songs.

"We're a repertoire band, like the Nashville Symphony," he said. "When they plays they might play anything from Beethoven to Shubert. We're like that."

If anything, said Billy Adair, a Blair jazz professor who has played professionally for more than 30 years, the NJO defies the big-band stereotype, which assumes all big bands are stuck in the '50s.

"This is not your grandfather's big band," he said. Comprised of no less than 16 seats, the NJO will generate intense volume at Ingram Hall with five saxophones, four trombones, four trumpets, a piano, a bass and drums.

"A good big band is sheer power when they're playing," Adair said. "If you haven't heard a big band live, you're missing one of the most exciting music experiences you'll ever encounter."

As the in-residence band, the NJO uses Ingram Hall as a physical home for practice and performances. In exchange, music students have the opportunity to observe the NJO in action, as well as network and take lessons with the players.

The in-house relationship began last fall and has proven a success for both groups, said Mark Wait, dean of the Blair School of Music.

"We felt that it was a win-win situation," he said. Since joining up with Blair, the NJO has performed a number of concerts, including last fall's "Music on the Mountain" at the Dyer Observatory and a Valentine's Day tribute to Frank Sinatra.

Senior Jon Lijoi said he has benefited greatly from the relationship and he is currently taking trumpet lessons from Williamson.

"This is a great opportunity that I think every top-quality music school should have," he said.

Five years ago, there was only one jazz class available at Blair. Now, course offerings exceed seven classes, and students can play in jazz combos and Blair's own big band.

The NJO's residency is the most recent addition to a burgeoning jazz program at Blair, Wait said.

He said while it is too early to predict the evolution of a full jazz major, having an in-house band is a big step.

"Compared to where we came from, where there was no place for jazz in the Blair curriculum, we've made a lot of progress," he said. ■

STUDENT LIFE

## Mini Dance Marathon encourages participation among children



Freshman Kylie Hower helps Amanda Johnson, a Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital patient, paint a Thanksgiving turkey during a mini Dance Marathon Tuesday afternoon at the Children's Hospital. The event was held to encourage participation from children and their families in the larger Dance Marathon event to be held in February.

### Dance Marathon holds informational event for patients' families.

By Kristen Chmielewski  
SENIOR REPORTER

Dance Marathon held an interactive informational event Tuesday at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt to encourage participation in the February event.

"In the past, we haven't been as involved with the hospital as we would like," said senior Swati Bansal, an organizer of the mini-marathon event. "Last year we were able to start the Book Cart activity, and while that's still going on, we wanted to do more. This is our way of making everyone at the hospital aware of DM."

Child life specialist Angie Ateama said she appreciates the contribution Dance Marathon makes to the Children's Hospital and that it seems to be an effective theme.

"It has done a lot in raising awareness in the Vanderbilt student community and raising money for the VCH," she said. "In the Child Life Department, we do invite the kids and encourage them to go to Dance Marathon events."

Senior Tim Kustus said one of this year's goals is to increase the number of children who attend Dance Marathon in February.

"This mini-marathon is for both parents and children to come down, get some info and get excited about the event," he said.

The Thanksgiving-themed mini-marathon began with last year's morale dance followed by an explanation of the activities offered for the children. Morale dancers also prepared a "kiddie" dance compilation of Disney songs and taught it to the children.

Freshman Susan Dickey spent her afternoon creating arts and crafts at the

mini-marathon event.

"We have facepainting, making hand-turkeys with paint, teaching a morale dance and an information table for parents," she said.

Bansal also said the mini-marathon offered the organization an opportunity to explain that Dance Marathon features several events of interest to children, from dancing and meeting Vanderbilt student athletes to the Kids' Carnival.

"This is our first time here," said parent Amy Johnson. "I think it's so wonderful. I find it sweet for the Vanderbilt students to take time, entertain the kids and help the parents take a break for a while."

"We would definitely consider attending the event. My daughter is a big cheerleader and would be really excited to participate," she said. ■

MEDICAL SCHOOL

## Vanderbilt School of Medicine to receive \$100,000 grant

University selected as one of 10 schools to implement new approach to chronic health care.

By Ellie Atkins  
STAFF REPORTER

The Association of American Medical Colleges recently selected the School of Medicine as one of 10 medical schools in the nation to receive a \$100,000 grant to refocus their undergraduate curriculum on the understanding and treatment of chronic illnesses.

"Usually we teach toward acute episodes of care," said Dr. Millie Miller, associate dean for undergraduate medical education. "We have not focused as much on taking care of diseases over a long period of time."

Vanderbilt was selected from a group of about 50 universities to receive the grant in \$50,000 installments over the next two years. The School of Medicine was also selected as one of nine residency programs to receive an additional one-year \$75,000 grant.

The AAMC's Institute for Improving Medical Education awarded the grant through its new program, Enhancing Education for Chronic Illness Care. The grants were also funded by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, a philanthropic organization that helps to support innovative medical projects in medical education.

Each university was chosen based on their submitted blueprint for programs they plan to implement in order to track and manage all aspects of chronic diseases.

Vanderbilt proposed pairing resident doctors with patients and their families to track all aspects of their disease in a social and health care environment.

"Having experienced firsthand what it's like to watch a loved one suffer from a chronic illness, I've realized how many difficulties come with managing the disease," said sophomore Emily Morris.

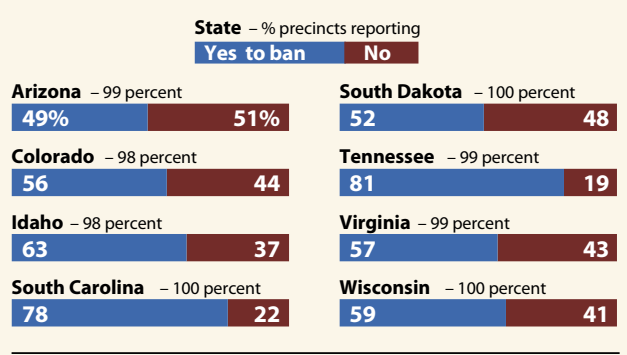
## Black Student Alliance holds annual Thanksgiving celebration Tuesday



Junior Kayla Winston and freshman Asong Lekeaka help themselves to a holiday feast Tuesday night in the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center. The Black Student Alliance held its annual Thanksgiving dinner after their weekly meeting.

## Most states reject same-sex marriage

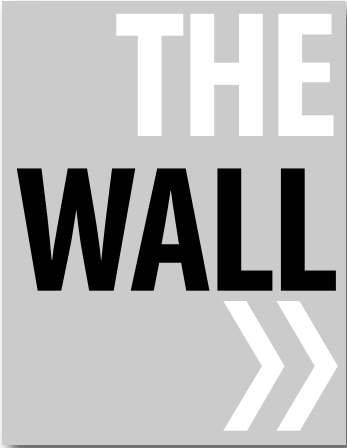
Eight states voted on measures to ban same-sex marriage, including Tennessee. See how the Hustler editorial board views these statistics in light of the South Africa's recent decision to allow same-sex marriage on page 5.



AP

Please see GRANT, page 3





**QUOTABLE**

**“Forget Harvard — or, for that matter, Liberty University. The choice college for the children of leading conservatives? Nashville’s Vanderbilt University. The school has always been a haven for Southern elites, but it’s not strangled by the kind of geographic isolation or moral codes that rule a place like Bob Jones University.”**

GQ’s November issue has dubbed Vanderbilt University “Elephant U” for being the “it college” for the conservative elite.

Source: GQ

**NOTABLE**

A talking Jesus doll has been turned down by the Marine Reserves’ Toys for Tots program. A Los Angeles company offered to donate 4,000 of the one-foot-tall dolls, which quote Bible verses, for distribution to needy children this holiday season, but the charity balked because of the dolls’ religious nature.

Source: AP

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**TODAY**  
Mostly Sunny, 62/45

**THURSDAY**  
Partly Cloudy, 46/37

**FRIDAY**  
T-Storms, 55/37

**TODAY IN THE BUBBLE**

Compiled by Allison Smith

**Applications for Freedom Ride tour available**

Join visiting professor James Lawson, Congressman John Lewis, John Seigenthaler (founder of the First Amendment Center), Jim Zwerg and other participants in the historic 1961 Freedom Rides for Vanderbilt’s own Freedom Ride tour. Visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the Rosa Parks Museum, the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery and more. Applications are available online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs/freedomride.html>. The deadline to apply is Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. The event is open to all Vanderbilt students. Cost is \$75 and space is limited.

**SGA provides shuttles to and from the airport**

SGA will provide shuttles from campus to the airport Friday, Nov. 17, from noon to 6 p.m. Shuttles leave from Branscomb Circle every hour on the hour. Additional busses will be leaving at 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, Nov. 26 there will be shuttles running from the airport to campus from 2 to 8 p.m. Shuttles will leave from the ground transportation level of the airport every hour on the hour. Shuttles cost \$2 to ride, payable in cash or Cab Cash. For those students who live on Peabody, shuttles will run continuously between North Hall and Branscomb on these days. If you have any other questions, e-mail [sga-shuttles@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sga-shuttles@vanderbilt.edu).

**Rand celebrates November birthdays**

Were you born in November? Come enjoy free dessert tonight at Rand! Free for meal plan participants.

**Spring term class includes trip to South Africa**

Professor Dale Cockrell will teach a spring course, “Freedom, Youth, and Responsibility,” in the spring semester. The course will prepare students for a trip to South Africa where they will examine the role of students and music in two major case studies: Freedom Summer 1964 in Mississippi and the 1970s student uprising in South Africa against apartheid. The class will travel to Durban, South Africa, to live in residence halls of the University of Kwazi-Natal and participate in service projects throughout the city. Application for the program are available at [www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs). Applications are due at OACS on Dec. 1.

**African Awareness Week holds events**

On Thursday, Nov. 16 there will be an information fair sponsored by several campus organizations on Sarratt Promenade from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Following the fair, several Vanderbilt professors will conduct a lecture series from 4 to 6 p.m. in Buttrick 101. This week is dedicated to the celebration of African people and African culture.

**Dance Marathon registration now open**

Sign up to be a dancer for Dance Marathon 2007. Dance Marathon is a 14-hour fundraising event that benefits the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt. Last year Dance Marathon raised \$112,432.70. For more information and to register visit [www.vudm.org](http://www.vudm.org).

Check out <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu> for more events.

**VUPD CRIME LOG**

Compiled by Allison Smith

**Nov. 13, 6:40 a.m.** — A trespasser was arrested in a restroom at the Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital.

**Nov. 13, 12 p.m.** — A laptop adapter cord was reported stolen at Medical Center North. The suspect is unknown.

**Nov. 13, 2:38 p.m.** — Disorderly conduct was reported at the Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital. Parents of a patient received a phone call and then became agitated and disorderly.

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.

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**LOCATION**

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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.

**PRINTER**

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One semester’s delivery via U.S. Postal Service is available for \$125 or \$200 per year. Checks should be made payable to The Vanderbilt Hustler.

**BACK ISSUES**

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

**AASA celebrates Asian Pacific American heritage**



JONATHAN DIETZ / The Vanderbilt Hustler

The Asian American Student Association held a “Taste of Asia” event in the Student Life Center Tuesday night. Sophomore Esther Lee, sophomore Yufei Pan and freshman Daphne Li help serve traditional Asian food from local restaurants such as Ken’s Sushi Bar in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

**STUDENT LIFE**

**Students find peace of mind through meditation**

By Linda Vongkhamchanh  
STAFF REPORTER

Students will gather at the Schulman Center tonight at 7 p.m. to experience and practice the ancient art of meditation.

Senior Nick Ogden said he recently founded the Vanderbilt Meditation Group, a non-religious group, so that members of the Vanderbilt community could come together to learn how to practice meditation and achieve a peaceful state of mind.

This week’s gathering will feature Elizabeth Denton, a master teacher of meditation from New York, who will speak and lead a guided meditation.

“I find myself constantly doing stuff, running from one to-do list to another and never find myself just being,” Ogden said. “Meditation helps me be a human being rather than a human doing. It provides me with a peace of mind to train my mind to focus.”

Ogden said he plans to incorporate a different type of

meditation at each meeting so that students can practice several types of meditation.

Ogden said he hopes other students can benefit from meditation as much as he does.

“From meditation, I have the ability to apply that mental focus,” he said. “Studying becomes easier.”

Ogden said he began the group after his practice of meditation attracted interest from some of his fraternity brothers, and since then enthusiasm for his organization

has grown. Currently, over 100 students are members of the Vanderbilt Meditation Group Facebook group.

Ogden said the group symbol is the “Om,” which serves to set the energy of intention and call the mind to focus.

“It is a Sanskrit term that holds vibrational power and has been used in meditation for thousands of years,” he said. “It also symbolizes the unification of consciousness that allows for all distractions to fall away.” ■

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PHILANTHROPY

## Drive for Five collects over 5,000 pounds of food for local bank

*Interhall exceeds its goal for third year in a row.*

By Darcy Newell  
ASST NEWS EDITOR

During this year's annual Drive for Five canned food drive, Interhall collected 5,628 pounds of food to be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee. The event took place from Monday to Friday of last week, allowing students to purchase canned food items at Rand with their Meal Money, or to trade their meal's side for a canned item.

Second Harvest is located in Nashville, and it is one of the largest food banks nationwide. In 2004, Second Harvest donated over 14 million pounds of food to Nashville residents in need.

"We started the goal of trying to raise 5,000 pounds three years ago, and we have exceeded it every year since," said Interhall President Devin Donovan.

Interhall, who has always sponsored Drive for Five, teamed up this year to co-sponsor the drive with numerous other on-campus organizations, including SGA, the Office of the Dean of Students and Interfraternity Council.

"We really appreciate the student body response to this great event, and in particular the work of Jonathan Miller, our philanthropy chair, who put the event together this year," Donovan said. "We are very pleased to be able to donate food to Second Harvest for the third year in a row."

For more information on donating to Second Harvest, visit the food bank's Web site at <http://www.secondharvestnashville.org>. ■

SPEAKER

## BCC hosts speaker as part of business workshop

*Roland Jones to address students as part of Business and Entrepreneurial Think Tank Series.*

By Stephanie Dejesus  
STAFF REPORTER

The Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center will host the Business and Entrepreneurial Think Tank Series: In the Black today at noon. Roland Jones, a business leader and author of "Standing Up and Standing Out" will speak at the free event.

Jones will discuss his personal business success strategies to encourage entrepreneurship among students.

The series has brought speakers such as Derek Freeman, also a self-made business owner, to the BCC in the past, and Sam Lathen will speak as

part of the series next semester.

Frank Dobson, director of the BCC, said the aim of the series is "to encourage potential business owners to follow and accomplish their goals."

"The series will discuss strategies and financial issues and answer any questions that the audience may have regarding entrepreneurship," he said.

While the series highlights black businesspeople, it is not limited to black students or community members, Dobson said.

The BCC would like to attract a diverse audience to the event, Dobson said, in order to demonstrate that black culture encompasses all areas of society. ■

## GRANT: Research aims to provide better healthcare

From GRANT, page 1

"There are so many implications of a chronic illness that it is reassuring to know that doctors are taking an active role in learning about all of the facets of chronic diseases."

There are many difficulties associated with managing chronically ill patients, Miller said.

For example, most patients are required to see multiple doctors to treat various aspects of their disease and require regular check-ups.

The Vanderbilt management program will avoid this problem by closely monitoring patients' appointment schedules, Miller said.

"This isn't about improving the model for chronic illness management, it's about teaching that model," she said.

"Ultimately, we hope that better health care will come out of this for the populations that we serve. If we can improve the health of the people who come to Vanderbilt by teaching and utilizing this model, I feel as though we've done a great thing." ■

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# G-Funk makes conducting debut with 'crunktastic' chorus



G-Funk and the Crunktastic Sound Express made its debut Tuesday night in the Blair School of Music's Turner Recital Hall. The performance was directed by senior Glen Thomas Rideout, a student in Blair.

BRETT KAMINSKY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

HOUSING

## Closet Conversations attempt to expose Vanderbilt taboos

By Sydney Wilmer  
STAFF REPORTER

In an effort to bring taboo subjects into open conversation, the Office of Housing and Residential Education is sponsoring a series of four "Closet Conversations."

"Closet Conversations is a way to foster dialogue among students living together," said JoCynda Hudson, assistant director of Residence Life.

"This month we wanted to question gender roles in today's society."

Though this month's discussion was small in size, the topic, women's roles in society, brought Women's and Gender Studies students and other members of the Vanderbilt community to the Towers East Lounge Tuesday night.

"I learned about it through my Women's and Gender Studies professor, but I

wouldn't have known about it otherwise," said junior Jessica Tribble. "If I hadn't known, I wouldn't have come.

Junior Jim Cline said he also came to the discussion to supplement class material.

"We are encouraged to do interactive things in my Women's and Gender's Studies class," he said.

This month's discussion, entitled "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall," featured an interactive

program in which attendees imagined their lives as young women in countries around the world.

After choosing a young girl from a series of pictures, the one they felt the most comfortable with, each was asked to question why they chose her. Later, students considered what problems she might encounter during her life.

"We want to get people to think about the role of

citizenship and how it relates to us, said Albert Smith, assistant director of Residence Life. "We are a world super power, yet countries like Uganda and Chile have all had female leaders where we have not had one."

Smith asked attendees to consider the reasons behind this phenomenon.

"Is this a result of societal beliefs and practices that regulate our lives?" he asked.

"Do they suggest that women are incapable of leading our nation? That is the question."

The series hopes to address issues of race, gender, class and sexual orientation.

"We want to encourage activism," Smith said.

The group's next discussion, scheduled for Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Towers East Lounge, will discuss the role of reality television in American lives. ■

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# OPINION



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## OUR VIEW

### U.S. trailing on civil rights

On Tuesday, South Africa's Parliament legalized same-sex marriages with a large majority. The vote came after the country's highest court ruled that its marriage statutes violated their constitution guarantee of equal rights. The new law allows all couples, homosexual as well as heterosexual to register their unions as marriages or civil partnerships. Equality of this sort seems basic, but it is a concept that eludes our own country to this day.

Vytjie Mentor, caucus chairman of the ruling African National Congress, explained to the South African newspaper *The Sunday Independent* last month that he expected his party to pass the measure, saying, "How do you give someone permission to discriminate in the name of the A.N.C.? How do you allow for someone to vote against the constitution and the policies of the A.N.C., which is antidiscrimination?" As the results of Tuesday's vote demonstrate, it was in fact difficult for most South African lawmakers to cast such a vote. However, it most likely would have proven quite easy for American lawmakers to vote against equal rights and discriminate in the name of the United States of America.

Most states in this country do not even allow civil unions for same-sex couples, which grants the benefits of marriage without the same title. As of Nov. 10, even Mexico City's predominantly conservative Roman Catholic community has passed legislation recognizing gay civil unions. While the bill faces strong opposition, Mexico City Mayor Alejandro Encinas is expected to sign it into law.

A constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and woman passed easily this month in Tennessee. State Sen. David Fowler (R-Signal Mountain), member of the pro-amendment group *RealMarriage.org*, said, "I think people in Tennessee simply believe marriage is a man and a woman. There may be other relationships, they just simply are not marriages."

The United States is falling behind other regions on civil rights issues, and it is embarrassing. It was just over a decade ago that South Africa ended the practice of apartheid, its system of legal racial segregation. The fact that they are now leading our government on this issue of basic equality is a testament to the damage being done by the fusion of church and state in this country. While religious institutions should be free to do as they see fit, the legal language used to identify, as well as the rights granted, lifetime unions should be equal for all couples.

## 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 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 [editor@vanderbilthustler.com](mailto:editor@vanderbilthustler.com). Letters via e-mail must either

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

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

All submissions become the property of *The Hustler* and must conform to the legal standards of Vanderbilt Student Communications, of which *The Hustler* is a division.

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

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

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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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Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3344  
(615) 352-9411

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

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

**Rep. Edith Langster**  
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

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



Don Wright —MCT

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Administration misrepresents living wage issue

#### To the Editor:

In reading last Wednesday's *Hustler* issue exploring the living wage, it becomes clear that everyone has done their research except for certain members of Vanderbilt's administration. Statements quoted reflect a misunderstanding and ultimate ignorance of the living wage campaign on campus. While the living wage argument roots itself in issues of morality, it is also economically sound. A living wage is by no means an "arbitrary number," nor is it as difficult to define as administrators claim. Policy makers across the country in local governments and universities alike have had no trouble recognizing this term, simply defined as the minimum hourly compensation required to afford basic needs such as housing, food, transportation, health care, child care, taxes and other miscellaneous necessities without government assistance. LIVE's meticulous 2005 calculation of \$10.18 per hour, readily available online at [www.vanderbilt.edu/students4livingwage](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/students4livingwage), breaks down each of these categories into cited, concrete numbers, drawing from government data along with estimates for Davidson county from the Economic Policy Institute and Wider Opportunities for Women, adjusted for inflation and tailored to take into account Vanderbilt's benefits package. This document also explains the chosen family demographic of two adults and two children and assumes two wage earners in a family, not one as economics professor Kathy Anderson cites.

While university officials maintain that LIVE does not consider work environment, LIVE agrees that fair employment involves more than wages. The 10 Points for Just Employment, also available on the Web site, emphasize the importance of quality benefits, job security, a commitment to full-time hiring and a right to organize, as well as transparency and open communication with workers. Deploring the university's refusal to allow the workers' union, LIUNA, on campus, LIVE acknowledges that creating a healthy work environment

depends on an employee's ability to voice grievances without fear. In addition to this, LIVE supports the union's proposal that deals with issues ranging from parking policy to sick day protocol.

The article also mentions annual pay increases "regardless of performance." To clarify, the union has proposed two annual wage increases: one responds to changes in the cost of living and the other follows an evaluation of job performance. As inflation increases, so does the cost of living. An annual cost-of-living adjustment prevents wages from losing purchasing power. Separate from this, the performance-based increase ensures that workers who do their job well get paid more as they gain seniority, a practice fundamental to the compensation policies of many businesses. The union does not propose unmerited, empty rewards.

Finally, Nim Chinniah accuses LIVE of turning an economic argument into a "purely emotional" one, claiming that giving faces to the issue tugs at heartstrings and strays from the facts; however, this distinction represents a false dichotomy, as any social justice movement responds to the plight of human beings and seeks to solve human problems with practical solutions. Even his so-called economic argument, "this is what a person needs to be paid to survive," has a distinctly human aspect to it. The faces and stories of the people affected by an issue highlight its importance and urgency. It is precisely because our administration has forgotten the human consequences of their employment policies that this crisis exists at Vanderbilt today. Marginalizing Vanderbilt's workers fractures the community we all take pride in. In demanding fair employment policies, LIVE encourages Vanderbilt to take its place among the best.

Marion Coddou  
Junior, A&S

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Teach for America makes a real difference

#### To the Editor:

This letter is in response to the letter to the editor written by Charles Stanley Jr. in the Monday, Nov. 6 edition of *The Hustler*. As a proud Vanderbilt alumna, a member of Teach For America and a dedicated seventh grade teacher in Memphis City Schools, I would like to clear up some of the misconceptions and concerns that Stanley expressed in his letter.

First, Teach For America does not "make makeshift teachers over a six-week period" and put them in the classroom. While the summer training period did serve as my first experience with teaching, all Teach For America corps members are supported with a wealth of knowledge through mentorships, regional support and professional development sessions throughout the school year. And while you do not have to be an education major to join Teach For America, 100 percent of corps members become fully certified to teach in their districts when their two years are complete. All corps members in my region also took the Praxis exams and are enrolled in a licensure program at the University of Memphis. Many of us will

go on to earn our Master of Education degrees.

Second, Stanley also expressed the idea that Teach For America corps members are not committed to education beyond their two years of service. In fact, over 50 percent of Teach For America teachers stay involved in education beyond their two-year commitment. Moreover, corps members continue to impact the education system in incredibly lasting ways. Case in point, Chris Barbic — also a Vanderbilt alumnus and 1992 Teach For America corps member — went on to found YES College Prep Academy in Houston. This past year, Newsweek ranked Chris' school as one of the top 100 public high schools in the nation. Seventy-eight percent of the students who attend the school are eligible for free or reduced lunch. There are countless other Chris Barbics out there who have dedicated themselves to demonstrating a lifelong commitment to bridging the achievement gap.

The last of Stanley's points I would like to address is his assertion that Teach For America corps members participate in the program to "pad their resumes." In my school there are eight corps members.

Many of them had other post-grad opportunities coming out of college. I've witnessed all of my colleagues arrive at school at 6 a.m. and leave at 7 p.m. — and work relentlessly to figure out how best to reach their students. This is not a glamorous job. As beginning teachers, we all endure challenges and successes, but it is the children that bring us back every day. Every corps member I know does this because they care, because the achievement gap is wrong. It is powerful to be associated with so many great individuals — and I am proud to call myself a Teach For America corps member.

Mr. Stanley, I applaud you on your decision to become a teacher when you graduate. I hope you will decide to dedicate some of your time, talent and energy to serve students that grow up in low-income communities. God knows that more strong African-American individuals like yourself are needed to serve as role models to these students in need.

Dossier White  
Class of 2006  
2006 Teach For America, Memphis

COLUMN

# War on Terror needs rethinking

The war on terror is a dismal failure on many levels. In the first place, it has failed in that so many efforts have only worked to increase the chances of terror, e.g., Iraq (according to the well known NIE report). The increasing mayhem and body count can

Guest Columnist  
**PAUL FLEMING**

only benefit those who wish to spread terror, and it has brought pain and sadness to so many families. It now seems clear that responding to violence with greater violence is the dead end it has always been.

Coupled with the failure of the war on terror to achieve its stated goals is the mammoth collateral damage in human life it causes. This loss of life occurs not only as a result of the amounts of violence involved with prosecuting the so-called war on terror, but also in the form of all the good not done while violence is pursued.

This, for me, is a second tragedy. Millions of people, in our country and outside it, need food, water, protection from disaster and medicine. If the goal of our government is to protect the lives of its citizens (and hopefully the lives of people outside our country), it seems to me that we could easily save thousands of lives by providing health care, by investing in technologies and methods for emergency preparedness and response, or by large investments

in medical research, environmental studies and auto safety. Lives could be improved tremendously by greater government investment in poor neighborhoods, schools and infrastructure.

The problem, however, is that these major undertakings of compassion, so urgent and necessary, require time, talent and money. If we turn the focus of our efforts to reducing human suffering in the world, we will be dealing terrorism a fatal blow because we will be building up the world's reserves of compassion and human dignity. We will be hacking at the roots of terrorism: hatred, fear and suffering. We will be carrying out undertakings that are constructive and immensely worthwhile. It is time for a major change in our priorities.

One quick proposal: government spending on safety could be set in proportion to some function of rate of death, age of victims and effectiveness of money spent. For instance, heart disease is a big killer, but it may be very expensive to bring down the number of deaths. Vaccinations for some diseases, on the other hand, are relatively cheap and could help more children. Quickly checking mortality statistics makes it seem that cancer research, availability of medication, improved sanitation and safer work places and roads would all be highly profitable endeavors. This system would ensure maximum "bang for buck" in "defense" spending, by which I mean defense of human life.

—Paul Fleming is a Ph.D. candidate in electrical engineering.

## THE VERDICT

The opinion staff passes judgement on everything inside the bubble and out.

Martin Luther King, Jr.		Gets memorial next to Lincoln on the National Mall.
Mile-high Club		Couple trying to join gets slapped with federal charges instead. That probably killed the mood pretty fast.
Tamiflu		Causes "abnormal behavior" according to its new warning label. Weird, huh?
Sec. of Defense Donald Rumsfeld		Says goodbye to the White House and hello to torture-related lawsuits and possible criminal charges.
Gay marriage		Legalized in South Africa, putting them ahead of the United States in civil rights. Isn't something wrong with that?
List Serve		Literally. It seems to have been taken down, leaving a huge hole in inboxes across campus.
Fulbright Scholar grants		Were awarded to two Vanderbilt professors, Marci Angevine and William Franke.
Jamie-Lynn Sigler		Cancels on Vanderbilt. Who does she think she is?

COLUMN

# Republicans need to return to their core conservative principles

Last Tuesday was not fun for Republicans. We watched as, after 12 years of Republican control, both the House and the Senate went to the Democrats. As President Bush said the next morning, it was a "thumpin'." While the

Opinion Columnist  
**CHRIS DONNELLY**

results were disappointing, they were also not unexpected, due to several factors.

The sixth year of any presidency is generally bad for the party in power. In 1938, FDR's party lost 71 House seats and six Senate seats. In 1958, President Eisenhower's sixth year, Republicans lost 47 House seats and 13 Senate seats. Even Ronald Reagan lost a few seats during his sixth year. History was clearly against the Republicans in this election, which can help explain their loss of control of Congress.

While sixth years for presidents are often rough, the

Republicans could have minimized their losses if they had stuck to the principles that got them elected in 1994 — those of less government spending and taxation, as well as a cleaner and more transparent Congress. Obviously those are things that have gone out the window. Yes, there are plenty of corrupt Democrats in Congress, but I would like to think the Republican Party would hold its members to a higher standard. Apparently not. It appears GOP leadership did everything it could to cover up the Mark Foley scandal, with NRCC Chair Tom Reynolds, R-N.Y., even going so far as to urge him to run for re-election. Congressmen Bob Ney, R-Ohio, and Randy "Duke" Cunningham, R-Calif., also resigned in disgrace, but they should have been forced out earlier by leaders in the party.

As David Keene, chairman of the American Conservative Union, recently wrote, "It took the Republican congressional leadership elected in 1994 but a few months to decide that the most important item on their agenda was to simply hold on to their majority even if it meant surrendering their principles."

That is exactly the problem with the party today. Earmarks — special set-aside money in spending bills — actually doubled while the Republicans controlled Congress, simply because they wanted to hold on to power.

This election was not about ideology in any way; if it were, I have no doubt Republicans would be able to win. People generally embrace lower taxes, something Republicans have done well with, and smaller government, something the Republicans have done abysmally with. President Bush understands the importance of winning the war against radical Islam, but he has been the worst expander of government — whether it be No Child Left Behind, the McCain-Feingold Campaign Finance Reform, the "Farm Bill" or the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill — since President Johnson. The problem with expanding government is Republicans were no longer able to sell the principles of the Contract with America, instead offering a choice between a corrupt and seemingly incompetent big-spending party in power (themselves) and a corrupt big-spending and high-taxing party out of

power (the Democrats).

Of course the voters are giving the guys out of power a shot at leading; why wouldn't they? It's not as if this is some big victory for the San Francisco liberalism of incoming House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. No, in fact many of the 2006 Democratic freshmen ran on culturally conservative platforms and distanced themselves from her as much as possible. What happened is people voted against a party that, as Congressman Mike Pence, R-Ind., said, has "lost its way." Something is clearly wrong when a CNN exit poll shows that, by a 2-to-1 margin, people view the Republicans as the party of big government.

The only hope at this point is for Republicans to use this defeat as a lesson to get back to their original goals and ideals. If doing that means losing a few elections, then so be it. It may take lost elections for the party of Reagan to become one the late president could once again recognize.

—Chris Donnelly is a junior in the College of Arts and Science.

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**11/13/06 SOLUTIONS**

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3	7	2	8	1	6	4	9	5
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14 Jai  
15 Muffin topper  
16 Unworldly  
17 Delicate color  
18 Pirate's take  
19 Mares' young  
20 Enthusiastic applause  
22 One of three  
24 Sublease a flat  
25 European country  
27 Innovative  
29 Plain vanilla

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38 Plains dwelling  
39 Henhouse  
41 Bestowal  
43 Faculty head  
44 Vigilant  
46 Severity  
48 AARP members  
49 City pols  
51 Unruly crowd  
53 Mocks in fun  
55 Sheriff's band  
59 Side by side  
62 Broadway building  
64 Firing line  
65 Notion  
67 Cheerio!  
68 Bump in salary  
69 \_\_\_-do-well  
70 Greek Cupid  
71 Gave the eye to  
72 Richard of "American Gigolo"  
73 Actress Russo
- DOWN**  
1 Ulan \_\_\_\_, Mongolia  
2 Vibrant  
3 Kiel or Suez, e.g.  
4 Young tom  
5 Go it alone  
6 Beside

- 7 Durocher of baseball  
8 Threatening to collapse  
9 Insufficiency  
10 Resumed business operations  
11 Shrinking inland sea  
12 Artifice  
13 Brooding place  
21 News piece  
23 Roulette bet  
26 Iceberg competition  
28 Sham locks  
30 Imitates  
31 Bring up  
32 Cravings  
33 Final Four letters  
34 Driving expense  
35 Busted clods  
37 Eye-catching  
40 Make-believe  
42 Manx male  
45 Picked up the tab

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D	E	M	I	A	S	I	A	A	T	O	M	S
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A	D	O	R	E	E	T	C	H	S	U	C	H
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- 47 Heavy cord  
50 More in Mexico  
52 Straw hat  
54 Handle the helm  
56 Long look  
57 Firmly fixed
- 58 Obliterate  
59 Bushy 'do  
60 Blow one's own horn  
61 Churn up  
63 Aesop's loser  
66 Billy \_\_\_ Williams

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• Applications are available at [www.vscmedia.org](http://www.vscmedia.org) or in the VSC Suite, **Sarratt 135**.

• All applications must be turned in by **2 p.m., Monday, Nov. 27** to **Sarratt 135** or via campus mail at **Station B, Box 1669**.

• Interviews and elections for these positions will be held at **4 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 30** at the regular VSC, Inc. Board of Directors meeting to be held in **Sarratt 345**.

VSC, Inc. and its divisions actively seek to be diverse student organizations and welcome applications from all members of the student community.

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**TOP WORLD HEADLINES: Wednesday, Nov. 8**  
Submitted by **Danielle Yasso** on 11-08-06, 7:45 pm  
**Nepal Reaches Agreement with Rebels**  
**Giant Snails Taking Over Barbados**  
**42 Die in Suicide Bombing**  
**Volkswagen CEO to be Replaced**  
**Congo: Supporters Claim Cheating in Presidential Election**  
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**VANDERBILT IN THE NEWS: Wednesday, Nov. 8**  
Submitted by **Debra Lewis** on 11-08-06, 6:57 pm | Updated on 11-08-06, 7:00 pm  
**VU, employee union in talks**  
**2006 Midterm Election Analysis: Vanderbilt Experts**  
**Georgia not on their mind**  
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**TOP U.S. HEADLINES: Wednesday, Nov. 8**  
Submitted by **Taylor Phillips** on 11-08-06, 1:24 pm | Updated on 11-08-06, 4:15 pm  
**"Rumsfeld Steps Down"**  
**"Democrats Take House"**  
**"Two Women Missing in Pacific Storm"**  
**"Supreme Abortion Debate Continues"**  
**"Football Death Ruled a Homicide"**  
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**ELECTION DAY: Corker edges out Ford for Senate seat**  
Submitted by **Anne Malinee** on 11-08-06, 12:27 am | Updated on 11-08-06, 12:29 am  
Harold Ford Jr. drew excited crowds and national attention in his bid to become the South's first black senator since Reconstruction, but Tennessee instead elected Republican, Bob Corker.  
With 97 percent of precincts reporting, Corker had 906,559 votes, or 50.8 percent, and Ford had 854,936 votes, or 47.9 percent. Ford conceded in a televised speech from Memphis just after midnight.  
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**LIVING WAGE: Custodian must choose which bills to pay at current wage**  
Submitted by **Sydney Wilmer** on 11-07-06, 9:24 pm | Updated on 11-07-06, 9:24 pm

feature photos

Dee Davis leads Vanderbilt on both ends of the court / **Mason Hensley**

Kappa Kappa Gala / **Mason Hensley**

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**Sometimes Vanderbilt students cross the line between okay and disgusting**  
Submitted by **Ceaf Lewis** on 09-19-06, 1:00 am  
I was at a party the other day and the girls I came with went to the bathroom in a herd as girls do. One of them came back and told me the following story:  
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