



LIVING WAGE

LIVE interrupts Board of Trust meeting with proposal



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler

Left: Members of LIVE march into the Student Life Center to disrupt the Board of Trust Student Life Committee meeting Thursday. Right: Chancellor Gordon Gee reacts to the organization's unscheduled presentation.

Chancellor Gee refuses to discuss issue at meeting, agrees to consider matter in private.

By Allison Malone and Allison Smith
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ASST NEWS EDITOR

Bearing pictures of Vanderbilt employees, 25 students marched silently into a Board of Trust Student Life Committee meeting Thursday morning.

After contacting the administration and not receiving the desired response, members of the student group Living Income for Vanderbilt Employees interrupted the meeting to make their voices heard.

In a single-file line they positioned themselves in the front of the room, behind a panel of speakers that continued to present. At 11:45 a.m., senior Diane Faires interjected.

"Sorry to interrupt, but we have an urgent vision for Vanderbilt that we would like to present to you at this time," she said.

"We are students of Vanderbilt University and members of Living Income for Vanderbilt Employees. We come to you today to propose that Vanderbilt University implement a living wage for all of its employees."

While the administration acknowledged their concerns, which were not on the agenda, Chancellor Gordon Gee refused to sign the petition they presented but said he would discuss their requests in a private meeting today.

THE PLAY-BY-PLAY

Senior Diane Faires said LIVE had asked the administration and Young Alumni Trustee forums "countless times" to respond to their concerns, but had only received "vague talking points" in return.

"After four years of asking politely for true dialogue and access to information, we are here today to demand it," she said.

She called for the board and administration to review their proposal, which outlines

their calculation of a living wage, as well as to present a fully transparent cost analysis, estimating the expense the university would have to undertake in order to implement a living wage by Dec. 7.

The students concluded

"I, for one, will not sign anything with this kind of environment"

their speech by demanding Chancellor Gordon Gee, Chairwoman Martha Ingram and an additional board representative to sign a statement of commitment at that moment saying that they would address their concerns.

The students paused and waited for Gee to respond.

"Thank you for coming," Gee said. "The notion of us not having a constructive dialogue is a misrepresentation, but I will accept your concerns. The notion of coming

in and making a presentation is very helpful, but coming in and making a presentation threateningly is not constructive."

Gee said that with employee contracts negotiations between the Vanderbilt employee union and the university currently underway, it would not be "in the spirit of negotiations" to discuss the issue in that sort of format.

"I, for one, will not sign anything with this kind of environment," Gee said.

In response, LIVE member Tim Bowles said the format of discussion was "forced upon us."

"We have attended four consecutive Young Alumni Trustee forums, but no progress has been made," Bowles said.

"We want numbers, and we want that in the form of a cost analysis," Bowles said. "We're not asking for the implementation of a living wage, we are asking to take a step in that direction. What we are asking for is not out of balance. Coming in here and interrupting this meeting is unfortunate, but it has been forced upon us."

Please see LIVE, page 2

RECYCLING

Administration implements SPEAR proposal

University to hire full-time sustainability, recycling coordinators.

By Sydney Wilmer
STAFF REPORTER

After three years of pushing proposals for a more organized and inclusive environmental policy, student environmental activists learned their efforts will impact campus procedure.

Administrators informed Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Recycling Wednesday afternoon that their proposal to hire a sustainability coordinator and a recycling coordinator would become a reality within the next year.

"This is a huge step forward for

Vanderbilt in the sense that it will live up to its rankings and caliber," said sophomore Brent Fitzgerald, vice president of SPEAR. "We are only one of four other schools in the top 20 that did not have a recycling coordinator."

Mark Petty, associate vice chancellor for Plant Operations, said the proposal, which emphasizes energy reduction in terms of fiscal costs, "crystallized" many of his department's environmental concerns.

"Without SPEAR's organized efforts, the school may not have come to this conclusion for several more years," Petty said. "We may have even gone in a different

direction with conservation."

SPEAR spent most of the semester gaining the support of student groups and administrators and making dozens of presentations, said SPEAR President Jenny Magill. "When we formed SPEAR three years ago, we decided early on that our tactics needed to be more collaborative."

Fitzgerald said that administrators labeled earlier proposals as too idealistic.

"We were encouraged to find evidence explaining how energy conservation would save the school money," he said. "The University of Tennessee has saved

Please see SPEAR, page 3

STUDENT LIFE

Global warming discussions to feature 'An Inconvenient Truth'

Professors from over 11 departments to contribute to four-part series.

By Caroline Scali
STAFF REPORTER

Al Gore's documentary film "An Inconvenient Truth" will be shown from Nov. 27 to Nov. 30 as part of a global warming discussion series funded by more than 11 departments.

The film will be begin each night in Saratt Cinema at 7 p.m.

Released in March of last year, the film follows Gore's efforts to stop what he considers to be global warming's rapid progress by dispelling myths and misconceptions about the issue.

Following each night's showing, a faculty member will lead a discussion addressing global warming from a different angle. Topics will include the science, ethics, politics and economics of the issue.

Professor Molly Miller, one of the event's facilitators, said, "The discussions will feature and be led by faculty from the law, economics, political science and philosophy departments."

The event, which is free for members of the Vanderbilt community, hopes to foster discussion and debate about the various issues surrounding environmental issues.

"The individuals involved in the event want to get Vanderbilt talking about global warming," said Patricia Conway, an event coordinator. "The discussions are a great opportunity to think about some of the really hard questions that come up around this issue."

"I have always been interested in global warming," said sophomore Clay Giese, a member of Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Recycling. "I am a huge advocate of showing this film to the Vanderbilt community."

Giese said that students representing all viewpoints will be welcome at the

showings and discussions. "Everyone is encouraged to come and have their voice heard," said Giese. "It is a great opportunity for people to voice their opinions and ask their questions about global warming. I am hoping it will be a great event," he said. ■

GLOBAL WARMING DISCUSSIONS

an inconvenient truth

MONDAY, NOV. 27
'The Science'
Speakers include:
Molly Miller
Brendan Bream
Jonathan Gilligan
Steve Goodbread
Jeff Johnston

TUESDAY, NOV. 28
'The Ethics'
Speakers include:
David Wood
Brooke Ackerly
Michael Vandenbergh

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29
'The Politics'
Speakers include:
Florence Faucher-King
Michael Bess

THURSDAY, NOV. 30
'The Economics'
Speakers include:
Malcolm Getz
Jack Barkenbus

Board of Trust holds forum to hear student opinions



JONATHAN DIETZ / The Vanderbilt Hustler

SGA President Boone Lancaster speaks at a forum to discuss various student life issues. Representatives from the Vanderbilt University Board of Trust, along with the Young Alumni Trustees, met with students Thursday to hear their opinions on Vanderbilt policies.



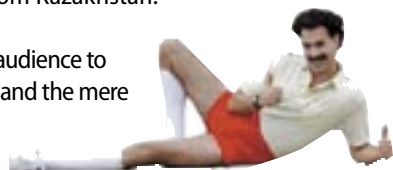
QUOTABLE

"I think part of the movie shows the absurdity of holding any form of racial prejudice, whether it's hatred of African-Americans or of Jews."

— Sacha Baron Cohen

Cohen, star of "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan," a controversial movie about an anti-Semitic, fictional TV journalist from Kazakhstan.

He said he always had faith in the audience to realize this was a fictitious country and the mere purpose of it was to allow people to expose their own prejudices.



Source: AP

NOTABLE

Online encyclopedia Wikipedia was accessible again in China on Thursday after being blocked for more than a year, a move hailed by free media advocacy group Reporters Without Borders.

The main page of the Chinese-language version of Wikipedia (zh.wikipedia.org) could be displayed, and searches for apolitical terms turned up results, but searches for subjects taboo to China's Communist leadership, such as "June 4," the date that China's military crushed a student-led movement for political change centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square, remained blocked.

Source: AP

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY

Partly Cloudy, 56/36

SATURDAY

Mostly Sunny, 59/39

SUNDAY

Partly Cloudy, 46/37

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Darcy Newell

SGA's Airport Shuttle service available all day

SGA will have shuttles going to the airport today every hour on the hour between 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. Additional buses will also leave at 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. All buses will depart from the Branscomb circle, and there will also be frequent shuttles from North Hall to Branscomb. On Sunday, Nov. 26, shuttles will leave from the airport every hour between 2 and 8 p.m. All shuttles costs \$2, and can be paid in cash or in Cab Cash.

Luce Scholarship application due today

Graduating seniors and alumni interested in apply for the Luce Scholarship must submit applications today. Those interested should also contact the Office of Honor Scholarships in addition to submitting an application. For more information, visit its Web site at <http://ohs.vanderbilt.edu>.

Freedom Rides applications available on Monday, due Dec. 1

Applications will be available this Monday for Freedom Ride 2007. Students are invited to join Professor James Lawson, Congressman John Lewis, John Seigenthaler, founder of the First Amendment Center, and other participants in the historic 1961 Freedom Rides for Vanderbilt's own tour. Students will visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the Rosa Parks Museum and the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Ala. Applications are available online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs/freedomride.html> and are due on Dec. 1.

Nashville Jazz Orchestra performance tonight in Ingram Hall

The Nashville Jazz Orchestra will perform tonight with internationally renowned saxophonist Kirk Whalum. The performance will begin at 8 p.m. in Ingram Hall. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$15 for the community.

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

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Darcy Newell

Nov. 15, 2:13 a.m.—An individual was arrested and issued a citation for public intoxication between 21st Avenue and Children's Way.

Nov. 15, 7:00 a.m.—An individual was reported for indecent exposure in his vehicle on Children's Way.

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

SERVICE GUIDE

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

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

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LOCATION

The Hustler offices are in 130 Sarratt Student Center on the Vanderbilt University Campus. Address postal mail to VU Station B 351504, Nashville, Tenn. 37235-1504.

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CORRECTIONS

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

PRINTER

The Hustler is printed at Franklin Web Printing Company in Franklin, Tenn.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Call (615) 343-3064 9 a.m. — 5 p.m., Monday — Friday.
 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.

LIVE: Interruption activists' 'last resort'



MASON HENSLEY / The Vanderbilt Hustler
 Members of Living Income for Vanderbilt Employees, a student group that advocates the implementation of a living wage, stand quietly before interrupting the fall Board of Trust meeting.

From LIVE, page 1

Bowles mentioned a personal meeting he had with Gee but he said the meetings were not productive because of the "same vague rhetoric."

After speaking briefly with David Williams, vice chancellor for University Affairs, Gee told the students he would arrange to meet with them along with two other board members the following afternoon to discuss their petition.

Bowles replied, "Any answer other than yes will be interpreted as no."

He said LIVE intended to use one of two press releases: the first stating that the administration agreed to cost analysis and are in support of the idea of living wage, or the second stating that the administration refused to do a cost analysis or support the idea of living wage.

Gee said he did not want to continue discussion with "a gun to our head," but said he wanted to have an open dialogue in a private meeting with LIVE members.

He said a meeting will allow him to also "make the points I want to make."

"If you say what I have said is vague, I think it's been very clear," Gee said. "So I want to be heard also."

Gee argued that the administration has taken a "very aggressive in stance pursuing excellence" and addressing the issue of fair wages for Vanderbilt employees.

Bowles reiterated that he would release the second press release stating that the administration is not interested in discussing fair wages for Vanderbilt employees.

Gee, banging his hands on the table for emphasis, encouraged the students to encourage the statement.

"Please do," he said. "First of

all, that is not the way you deal with an institution. That is not addressing the issue. So if you are going to do that, then please do it, and you have our blessing in doing that, and we will still meet tomorrow."

but we want to tell the entire Vanderbilt community."

Leading up to the confrontation, LIVE contacted David Williams, vice chancellor for University Affairs, last Friday to set up a

vice chair of the Student Life Committee said he thinks that the issue of fair wages is very important.

"I have been to many student forums, so I've heard a great deal about it," Berger said. "It is clearly a very important and critical topic, and I'm glad that students have the intellectual social energy to engage in moving this topic forward."

SGA President Boone Lancaster said he understands the frustrations of LIVE. However, he said that interrupting

the committee meeting was not the best way to get their voices heard.

"I understand they have had frustrations with the issue, but I'm not sure if this carried a lot of favor with the board members while interrupting the on-going meeting," he said. "I also felt for the students we had presenting on Vanderbilt Visions because it limited the discussions on another important aspect going on at Vanderbilt."

BACKGROUND

Before interrupting the Board of Trust committee meeting, members of LIVE assembled in the Studio Arts Building adjacent to the Student Life Center and rehearsed their presentation.

LIVE had been preparing to address the Board of Trustees for two weeks, with workshops for members educating them on non-violent resistance.

"We are trying to go about this in a professional way, but still in a way that dramatizes the gravity of this issue, of the crisis we have with the low wages of Vanderbilt employees," said LIVE member Tim Bowles.

"This is the first step in a series of last resorts," Bowles said. "We will fit this into our strategy based on their reaction." ■

“But I think it’s really disappointing that the university can’t even commit publicly to a cost analysis.”

LIVE was asked to leave the meeting when Darryl Berger, chair of the committee, told them it was time to hear from the student groups who were on the agenda.

AFTER THE MEETING

After LIVE members filed out of the Board of Trust room, there was no further discussion of the living wage issue, and the forum continued as planned.

LIVE members congregated at the Studio Arts Building and discussed their next move.

"I am really pleased our voices were heard in the meeting and appreciate the fact that the board listened to what we had to say," LIVE member Ellen McSweeney said. "But I think it's really disappointing that the university can't even commit publicly to a cost analysis."

McSweeney said that the cost analysis is the first step towards living wage discussions. She said that if Chancellor Gee does not sign a commitment to a cost analysis, she does not see how the private meeting will be productive.

"Our goal is to express to the public just how unwilling the administration is to publicly address these issues," she said. "They want to have a private meeting with us,

time to present their proposal to the Board of Trustees.

Williams responded to their e-mail the next day saying he would contact the Executive Committee.

"You can understand that the agenda for the Board meeting is pretty full; however, I will ask the Board if they can grant your request," Williams said in an e-mail to LIVE member Stacy Tolos. "I need to inform you that there are not any student organizations that are presenting to the Board during this meeting; however, some might be involved in committee activities."

In the e-mail, Williams said he would respond by Tuesday or Wednesday. However, after LIVE members did not receive a response, they began making plans to attend the meeting unannounced.

An invitation to meet with a committee of Board of Trust members appointed by Board Chairman Martha Ingram was sent to Tolos Thursday morning, but it was not received in time, said LIVE member Tim Bowles.

MEETING ATTENDEES RESPOND

After the committee adjourned, attendees discussed among themselves the LIVE surprise presentation. Darryl Berger,



SPEAR: Petty praises organization's work

From SPEAR, page 1

\$200,000 since 2003 with a similar proposal.”

“We wanted to make sure we are doing this, not because it is fashionable, but because it was the right thing to do,” Petty said.

Petty, who has worked with the organizations since its creation, praised the mature manner in which SPEAR sought approval for their proposal.

“SPEAR's efforts were professional and cooperative,” he said. “They did a good job of researching issues.”

Petty said he hoped the sustainability coordinator position, to be filled by Director of Environmental Health and Safety Andrea George, will “make systems here more effective and run more smoothly.”

In addition, Petty said he has hired a temporary recycling coordinator who will serve until a permanent coordinator is hired in July 2007.

Although the current plan does not address the issue of recycling as fully as SPEAR had hoped, it was, in other ways, more than the group anticipated, Fitzgerald said.

“Originally, we were told our proposal was too idealistic, so we scaled it down,” he said. “We only expected to get a sustainability coordinator.”

Both Fitzgerald and Magill said that the passage of their proposal will allow the club to focus more on its purpose as an environmental awareness organization.

“Our mission is to encourage students to recycle, and now that we don't have to push proposals, we can focus on that,” he said. ■

SPEAKER

MTSU to hold one-day seminar on war journalism

TIME Magazine's Michael Weisskopf to give keynote address.

By Darcy Newell
ASST NEWS EDITOR

Middle Tennessee State University will host a one-day seminar on war journalism Monday entitled “Covering the Front Lines: The Evolution of War Journalism and Lasting Effects of War Coverage on Journalists.”

The free seminar, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies, will feature Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Halberstam and *TIME Magazine* senior correspondent Michael Weisskopf and will take place in the Keathley University Center Theatre.

“This is a rare chance for Nashville students to hear first-hand what it's like to cover the war,” said Beverly Keel, director of the Seigenthaler Chair. “This event should appeal to anyone who has questions about Iraq. You can ask them the questions you've wanted to ask for years.”

“I am particularly excited that we may see some Vanderbilt students' faces,” she said.

The day will begin at 11:30 a.m. with an opening address by Halberstam, who won a Pulitzer Prize at age 30 for his reporting on the Vietnam War. Halberstam is also a best-selling author, whose work includes “The Best and the Brightest,” “The Powers That Be” and “The Reckoning.”

A panel that includes speakers such as George Esper, Robert Reid and Dr. Michael Sweeney will discuss the evolution of war journalism at 2:20 p.m.

Esper, one of the few journalists to achieve the title of special correspondent at the Associated Press, spent 42 years at the AP and covered both the Vietnam War and the first Gulf War.

Reid is an AP correspondent currently stationed in Amman, Jordan, and Sweeney is the author of five books that discuss the evolution of war journalism from the Civil War to the War on Terror.

“I believe that Weisskopf will discuss his experiences in Iraq, his recovery, and what it is like for him today,” Keel said.

Weisskopf, who was recently featured on the cover of *TIME Magazine* with the release of his book “Blood Brothers: Among the Soldiers of Ward 57,” will give the keynote address at 7 p.m.

Weisskopf lost his right hand while covering the war in Iraq when he threw a live hand grenade from a U.S. Army Humvee, saving the lives of the other passengers. He has won both the National Headliners Award and the Daniel Pearl Award for his efforts.

However, Keel said that the event does not strive to express personal opinions about the War on Terror.

“We're not taking a political stand about whether or not we're supposed to be over there, but rather, what it's like to be there through honest, accurate stories,” she said. ■

SCIENCE

Vanderbilt opens Institute of Imaging Science

Institute to feature seven million dollar magnet for medical study.

By Ellie Atkins
STAFF REPORTER

Vanderbilt will hold a grand opening celebration hosted by Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs Harry Jacobson and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Nicholas Zeppos tonight at the new Institute of Imaging Science.

The \$19.7 million construction project began over a year and a half ago in Medical Center North off 21st Avenue. The 42,000 square foot building has been built so that additional floors can be added later.

The Institute of Imaging Science will house a seven-tesla magnet, one of the most powerful research magnets in the world and one of only seven or eight in the country. One tesla is equal to 20,000 times the strength of the earth's magnetic field. This \$7 million magnet will be used to create images at the

molecular level.

“One reason we're getting a seven-tesla magnet is to perform more advanced magnetic resonance spectroscopy,” said institute director John Gore in *The Reporter*. “MR spectroscopy uses the same technology as magnetic resonance imaging and functional MRI, but it produces biochemical information from small volumes with the body.”

The magnet will be used to study tumors, brain chemicals, lung injuries and many other medical problems, Gore said.

Tom Yankeelov, assistant professor of radiology and radiological sciences, who directs the institute's cancer imaging program, said he believes the magnet will be helpful in studying cancers, specifically breast cancer.

“That is why imaging is so powerful,” Yankeelov said in *The Reporter*. “You can get a more complete description of the tumor status, and you can do it non-invasively.” ■

CULTURE

Vanderbilt opens new office to promote cultural enrichment

International Office hopes for more student involvement during spring semester.

By Stephanie de Jesus
STAFF REPORTER

The Vanderbilt International Office, Vanderbilt's central base for international affairs, officially opened Wednesday.

Joel Harrington, assistant provost for international affairs said the office's three main objectives are to “serve as a central information point for the Vanderbilt community and international affairs, provide information regarding cultural experiences and foster international research for Vanderbilt students and faculty.”

The Office of the Provost began work on VIO when the need to centralize Vanderbilt's international affairs was recognized. Vanderbilt has always participated in international initiatives, but now there is a central office with an umbrella component to coordinate those affairs.

The office works directly with the Study Abroad Office, different language departments and other offices with an international focus to create a network for students and faculty and attract international students and faculty.

Harrington said the office is designed to provide services to all Vanderbilt community members.

These services include financial assistance for international programs, support and assistance with international delegates, and an ongoing database of international universities, faculty and students.

“We encourage students to explore the Web site, www.vanderbilt.edu/international, in order to see how the office can help them,” Harrington said.

The office will also promote academic initiatives, he said.

“We will be working directly with the Office of Active Citizenship and Service to provide international course work for students and to provide access to international programs,” he said.

Britta Watters, manager of international programs, said the VIO can serve as a way for Vanderbilt students to experience cultural enrichment without leaving campus.

“We want everyone to have an international experience, but we know that not everyone can study abroad,” Watters said. “They can, however, experience speakers and events. The VIO hopes to enrich the culture on campus by encouraging the Vanderbilt community to experience such opportunities.”

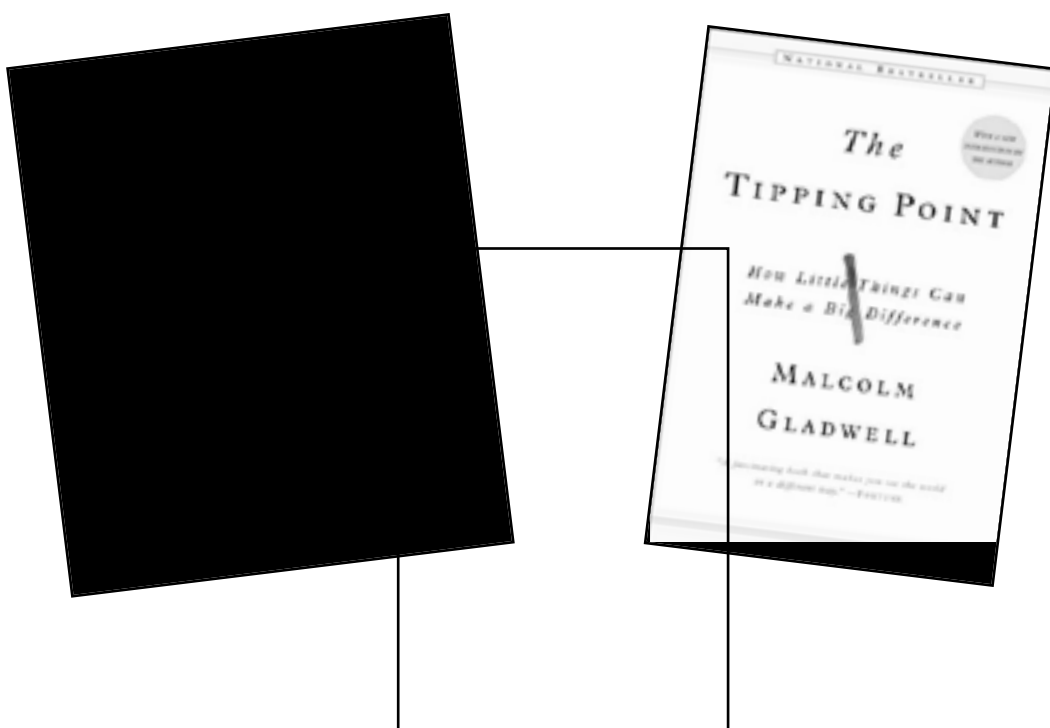
At the office's official opening, Chancellor Gordon Gee emphasized the need for the VIO.

“It should have been here a long time ago, but I am delighted to celebrate this opening,” Gee said. “This is a point of definition for Vanderbilt. We are no longer hiding ourselves. We have expanded our boundaries beyond Nashville, beyond Tennessee, beyond our country, and now we expand them internationally. I believe Vanderbilt has a role to play in the world.”

Harrington said the office hopes to expand its student involvement next semester.

“We want students to express their input and needs so that the office is able to adjust and evolve accordingly,” he said. “The office is here for the students; their personal experiences in culture and internationally are important to us.” ■

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OPINION



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OUR VIEW

LIVE actions ineffective

Today's issue contains two articles dealing with progressive student groups. Both Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Recycling and Living Income for Vanderbilt Employees are trying to promote changes in Vanderbilt's practices. However, one is a story of success, the other of ineffectiveness.

SPEAR has spent two years convincing the administration to hire a full-time sustainability coordinator, or, at least, a recycling coordinator to oversee the university's environmental policies. Their proposal was approved by Interhall, SGA and the Faculty Senate, and they communicated with faculty, staff, students and administrators via formal meetings. Their efforts were not without setbacks, but they persevered. This week, Vanderbilt administrators decided to grant SPEAR's plan for environmental awareness.

LIVE's campaign has lasted twice as long as SPEAR's and has also been fraught with frustration. Thursday morning, in what they called "the first step in a series of last resorts," LIVE stormed a Board of Trust meeting and demanded that Chancellor Gee sign a petition supporting them. Gee declined to sign and chastised the group for the way they chose to handle the situation. Adding insult to injury, LIVE realized after their demonstration that they had already been contacted to schedule the meeting with administrators they wanted, dispelling their reason for crashing the board of trust meeting.

Three years ago, the Sierra Club stormed Gee's office and presented him with a petition for environmental awareness in a similar fashion and with similar results. SPEAR was created the following year to address the issue with different tactics. "I think what we decided watching the Sierra Club and how badly that had worked, we decided early on that our tactics needed to be more collaborative," said SPEAR president Jenny Magill. This has proven a more successful strategy.

While LIVE's intentions are honorable and their concerns deserve consideration, presenting them in such a manner is counter-productive. While working with the administration can be frustrating, it requires patience, which would have allowed LIVE to realize the meeting they sought had already been scheduled. There are ways of being subversive without alienating those in power.

LIVE deserves to be heard, but they need to reconsider their approach and avoid positioning themselves as irrational and extreme. At the same time, the administration needs to address them in a straightforward manner, as LIVE seems to feel they have failed to do in the past. Hopefully, the administration's upcoming meetings with LIVE will be as productive as their collaboration with SPEAR, with open dialogue unlike Thursday's confrontation.

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. Letters via e-mail must either

come from a Vanderbilt e-mail address where the identity of the sender is clear or be accompanied with a phone call to the editor-in-chief. With rare exception, all letters must be received by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity. Lengthy letters that focus on an issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

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

CORRECTION POLICY

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

Bring corrections to The Hustler office in Sarratt 130 or e-mail us at editor@vanderbilthustler.com. 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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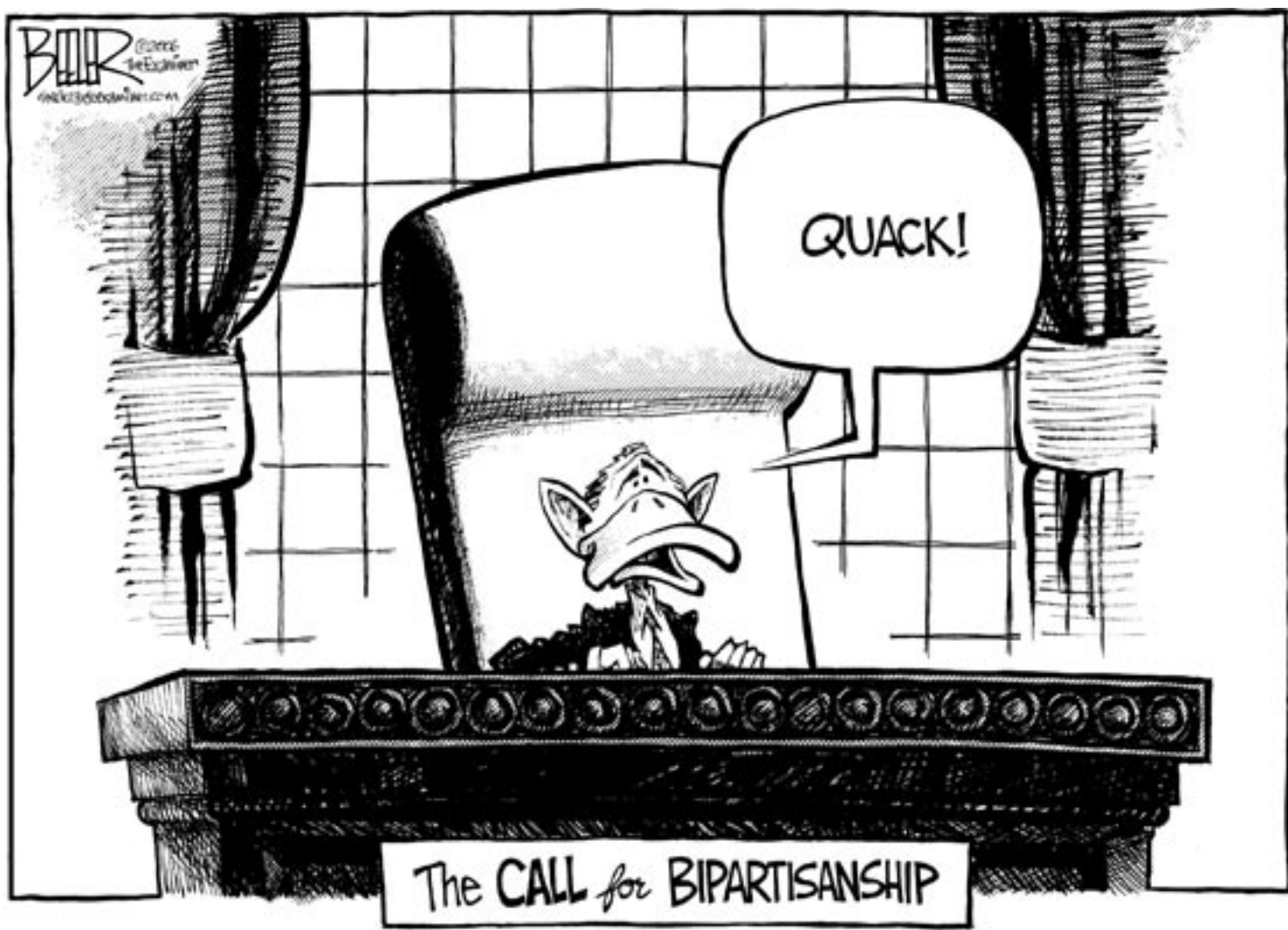
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The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Nate Beeler—MCT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hustler misrepresents Vanderbilt's voice

To the Editor:

The Hustler affirms itself to be "the voice of Vanderbilt" in the "correction policy" box. I understand that this refers to the fact that it allows students to have a voice, but there is also the connotation that it is the University newspaper and representative of the student body's views as a whole. You may argue that by writing "our view" at the top that it is specifically stated to be the staff's opinion and not necessarily that of the student body's, but for that same reason I used the word "connotation"; "our view" may literally denote one thing, but the feeling carried is not necessarily contained within that literal denotation. The feeling is that things in that part of the opinion page are pretty much accepted by a majority of the students.

I know that somebody is going to disagree with pretty much anything you print, but if you have the claim to be the voice of the university, you

should try to make comments that the majority of people are going to agree with. In its own articles, the Hustler has reported that the student body is 37 percent conservative, 38 percent liberal and the rest independent. That would put general student opinion in the middle of the road. Today's "our view" is about a very divisive issue — homosexual unions — in which you very clearly support the liberal side, castigating the United States for not having the same morals that South Africa does. The one quote from the RealMarriage.org guy does very little to counter the heavy liberal tone of the article. It is not very middle of the road to lean so far to one side on such a controversial issue. If the staff is just burning to print its opinions on this issue, though, it has the rest of two opinion pages to be as liberal or conservative as it desires.

I, for one, am not a supporter of legalized homosexual unions, and neither is half the campus. I don't, (I am not alone, I'm sure) appreciate The

Hustler claiming to be representative of the student body but advocating policies that great portions of the student body oppose, some of them most fiercely. This university is located in Tennessee, and the editorial staff recognized in a first page article that homosexual unions were defeated 81 to 19 percent here but acts as though the majority of Vanderbilt students are in agreement with their legalization. I know that Vandy students come from all parts of the country, but clearly, your article is not representative of a majority here — rather, much closer to one-half.

I do not want you to misunderstand me or think that I misunderstood you. If you are going to give the idea that you represent myself and Vanderbilt students in general, do it correctly.

Wayne Johnson
Sophomore, A&S

[Editor's Note: The contents of "Our View" represent the view of the six members of the Editorial Board.]

COLUMN

Election results teach interesting lessons

As I was walking across campus, I ran into a friend who looked disheveled. When I asked him what the matter was, he replied, "It's these midterms; they're just too much to cope with."

Guest Columnist

TIM BOYD

"I know," I said, "Can you believe that the Wyoming At-Large House District is even in play?" It was his quizzical expression and his collection of blue books that made me register that perhaps not everyone had spent the last month surfing political Web sites looking for opinion polls.

Nonetheless, the outcome of the 2006 midterms has altered the political landscape for the next two years, and so it seems worth considering some of the more interesting or contentious conclusions that can be drawn from them. The Tennessee Senate race is a perfect case in point. Bob Corker's victory over Harold Ford Jr. was really the only Republican bright spot in the contests for the U.S. Senate, and, with the controversial TV ad from the Republican National Committee, there have been murmurings that Corker was able to win because he played the race card.

Despite this ad's clear racial implications, it is hard to find any evidence that race was a decisive factor in the Corker-Ford contest. None of the usual indicators of a "race effect" are present in the voting returns, the pre-election, or exit polls. First of all, there was no "white lie" where white voters tell pollsters they will vote for the black candidate but end up really voting for white candidate. In previous statewide races by black candidates in Southern states, such as Doug Wilder in Virginia in 1989 or Harvey Gantt in

North Carolina in 1990 and 1996, the levels of support they received at the ballot box was several points below what the opinion polls claimed, apparently due to the "white lie" effect. This time around, that didn't happen.

Secondly, there was no major change in the demographics from where Ford secured his vote in 2006 compared to races by other Democrats. Ford's vote correlated 90 percent with Phil Bredesen's in 2002, 92 percent with Bob Clement's Senate campaign against Lamar Alexander and 98 percent with John Kerry's showing against George Bush in 2004. In other words, there was no sizeable group of voters who were prepared to vote for white Democratic candidates but not for a black one. The regional breakdown within the state was also very predictable. Like other Democrats, Ford carried west Tennessee, had a slim lead in middle Tennessee and lost fairly heavily in historically Republican east Tennessee. From the exit polls, it appears that Ford won 41 percent of the white vote in Tennessee, which is almost exactly the same as the 42 percent Jim Webb achieved in the only other competitive Southern Senate race. In other words, while Ford suffered among Southern white voters because he was a Democrat, he doesn't seem to have suffered any extra loss for being a black Democrat.

Finally, another marker that race was a motivating factor is when lower-income and less-educated (high school diploma or less) whites vote disproportionately against a black candidate. This did not happen with Ford, who got his heaviest white support from those at the lower-end of the income scale, and those with the lowest levels of education. In short, it was middle-to-high income, college-educated whites who put Corker in the Senate — a group that has been consistently Republican whether or not the Democrat is black or racially liberal.

Two other points about these midterms. They were not simply a "typical" sixth-year loss for the incumbent party. Democratic gains in the House and Senate may appear comparatively small when judged next to the swings achieved in 1958, 1966 or 1974, but since then, the number of competitive districts has shrunk dramatically. Even big swings in the popular vote now produce fewer actual gains in terms of seats. In terms of the popular vote, it looks like Democrats got (with some recounts still pending) around 53 percent of the votes cast — a figure higher than the Republicans managed in 1994, but also higher than what Democrats managed in 1992, when they won 267 House seats compared to around 232 in 2006. It was not, as Ann Coulter described it, a "paltry victory."

The second point is that this victory for the Democrats, however clear-cut, is almost certainly not an ideological backlash in the way that 1994 was in favor of the Republicans. Given the types of issues that Democrats campaigned on (the war in Iraq, corruption by the House Republican leadership) and the fact that Republicans who lost were spread across the ideological spectrum within the GOP, it is hard to make the case that 2006 was a vindication of liberalism. Aside from raising the minimum wage and not privatizing Social Security, there was little mention of anything approaching a liberal policy agenda.

Overall, it is hard to tell at this point whether the 2006 elections will be considered "historic" in later years, or as a temporary setback for what had appeared to be a decisive conservative tilt in American politics over the last generation. One thing is for sure, though: if England can beat Australia in their upcoming cricket series, that will be a historic event.

—Tim Boyd is a graduate student in the history department.

COLUMN

Global Warming presents more than just an inconvenience

After Al Gore lost his presidential bid in 2000, he seemed to drop off the face of the political map — that is, until he decided to publish a book and film a documentary, both titled “An Inconvenient Truth,”

Guest Columnist

CLAY GIESE

featuring some of his extensive research on the topic of global warming. Gore has embarked on a one-man campaign to fight global warming over the past several years, compiling information for his book and film, lecturing at several universities, including at Vanderbilt last year.

Al Gore has been busy indeed, but he is not the only person pushing an agenda for environmental reform and trying to combat global warming. Just last Tuesday evening, David Letterman made a joke on his late night show that the United Nations has found conclusive proof of global warming, and they are working around the clock to do absolutely nothing about it. Recently, groups such as Global Defense, The Ad Council and The Robertson Foundation have combined efforts to produce an advertising campaign against global warming. One ad features an adult male standing on a train track with his back to a train that is rushing toward him. The man calmly states, “Global warming. Some say irreversible consequences are 30 years away. 30 years, that won’t affect me” before stepping off of the train tracks at the last possible minute to reveal a young girl standing directly behind him. This commercial and the others that are shown on television and on www.fightglobalwarming.com are emotionally charged and more directed at the general public than Gore’s more intellectual approach to the issue of global warming.

Critics of Al Gore have claimed that Gore’s motives for preaching global warming are purely political and that his “facts” are not really facts at all, but rather speculations. Just this summer, I had a conversation with a friend who expressed serious doubts about the existence of global warming. I was somewhat taken aback because I just assumed that everyone acknowledged the existence of global warming, and I took for granted my personal beliefs about the importance of dealing with the issue. Oftentimes, the popular press portrays global warming as a myth, and, therefore, it is easy to see why people are unwilling to jump to the conclusion that global warming is an immediate threat to our future.

According to Gore’s research in “An Inconvenient Truth,” over the past 14 years, about 636 articles have been written in the popular press about global warming of which 53 percent expressed doubt as to the cause of global warming. Alternatively, during the previous 10 years, there have been 928 peer-reviewed articles dealing with “climate change” published in scientific journals, and of these, zero percent expressed doubt as to the cause of global warming. Unfortunately, the majority of the American public isn’t truly aware of the extensive scientific research that helps confirm the existence and causes of global warming.

According to a U.S. National Academies Report commissioned by President Bush in 2001, “Greenhouse gases are accumulating in Earth’s atmosphere as a result of human activities, causing surface air temperatures and subsurface ocean temperatures to rise. Temperatures, are, in fact, rising... [The] predicted temperature increase is sensitive to...future concentrations of greenhouse gases and aerosols. Hence, according to ‘Fight Global Warming’ The Ad Council and a U.S. National Academies Report, national policy decisions made now and in the future will influence the extent of any damage suffered by vulnerable human populations and ecosystems.”

As a society, we want to pretend that global warming doesn’t and won’t affect us. Perhaps, as Gore writes in his book, Mark Twain put it best when he stated, “Denial ain’t just a river in Egypt.” So whether or not you believe that global warming is one of the most pressing issues for our generation to deal with, it is certainly an issue that is worth researching and finding out more about.

—Clay Giese is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science.

“Al Gore has been busy, indeed, but he is not the only person pushing an agenda for environmental reform and trying to combat global warming.”

AROUND THE LOOP

Does your family have an odd Thanksgiving tradition?

Compiled by Katie Vick



JAMES PORTER
Sophomore

“I’m starting a tradition of making fun of my family members who are UGA fans.”



JULIE REAVIE
Sophomore

“We always manage to burn the turkey, so I hope that is odd.”



SCOTT BROWN
Sophomore

“We play football after lunch, and the winner gets to spike the turkey in the end zone.”



ABDUL QAYYUM
Sophomore

“I don’t celebrate Thanksgiving.”



BESSIE RAMOS
Sophomore

“We always get drunk before we eat, and then we listen to a grace that takes about 45 minutes.”

COLUMN

Republicans have golden opportunity for change

As the hangover from the midterm election wears off, Republicans begin to regroup and wonder what exactly went wrong. The answer is quite clear. The voters sent a message to the party: You didn’t do what you said you

Love It or Leave It

MICHAEL WILT

would. There is a lot of evidence pointing to the fact that in many of the contested seats that switched sides this election, there was trepidation by the voters in actually voting for the Democratic challenger. But they did anyway to send a message to the Republicans in power.

I noticed a general trend in the results. Incumbent Republicans in vulnerable districts and states lost their elections. In open seats and states, the Republican running did quite well, overall. Out of a dozen open seats previously occupied by a Republican in the House, the GOP split them down the middle, and three of those seats were lost due to scandal and/or technical ballot issues and surely will be won back next election. In Tennessee, the one Senate contest that featured a non-incumbent Republican, the Republican won. Senator-elect Corker successfully painted himself as the outsider in contrast to Harold Ford Jr.’s insider status as a congressman.

The American people did not embrace liberalism as a philosophy. They simply said they were angry the conservatism they elected had not been enacted over the past several years. People on the far left may believe it to be the case that liberalism has triumphed because the Democrats took back both houses of Congress. In reality, many of the Democrats newly elected to the

House and Senate are “Blue Dogs,” and many of them ran on socially and fiscally conservative platforms. They are closer ideologically to George W. Bush than they are to Nancy Pelosi. Iraq was what tied them all together, and this turned out to be the major issue of the campaign.

Americans do not like being told something is going to be done, and then see something entirely different happen. The Republican Party came to power in 1994 promising to drain the swamp, to be fiscally responsible and free of the corruption we had seen during the previous 40 years of Democratic iron-fisted rule in the House. Slowly but surely, these Republicans turned their backs on the people and the spending got out of control.

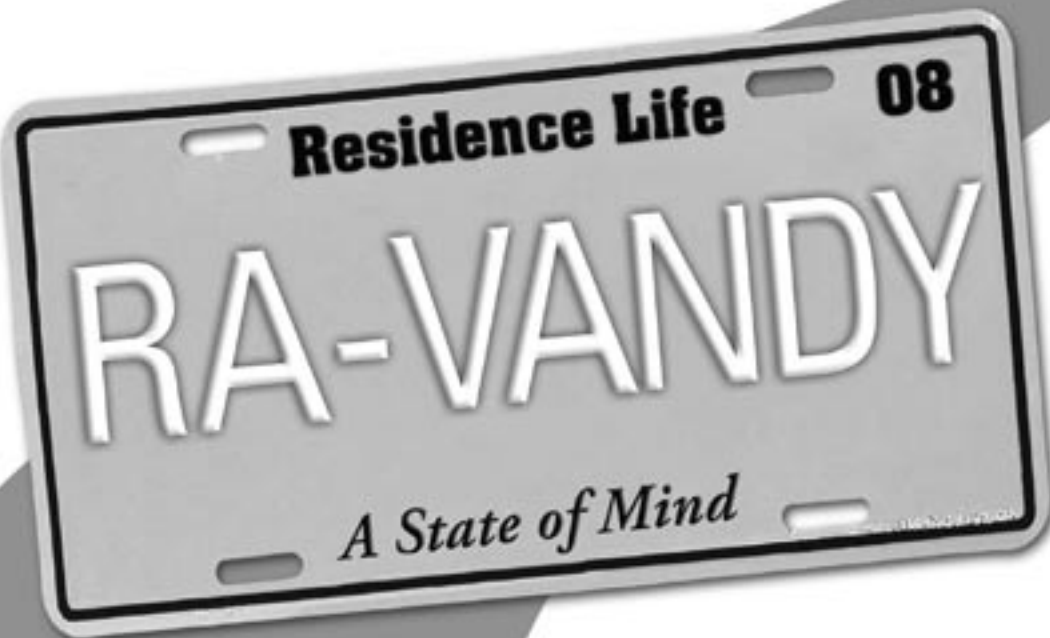
I truly believe the American people generally have the right idea when electing their representatives to Congress. Change is often invigorating. They have sent a message to the GOP, and the party should listen and learn. Now is a golden opportunity to finally force the Democrats to “walk the walk” after all the talking they have done. Now is the time for the Republicans to dump the old leadership. People like Bob Corker and Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn, who will likely become the new Chair of the Republican Conference, have great new ideas. Others, such as Mike Pence of Indiana and presidential frontrunner John McCain, know that if you do not listen to the people, they will throw you out.

Now it is up to the Republican Party to use this opportunity to earn an invitation back. If new ideas and a reformed agenda are presented to them, the people will invite the party back. If it takes two years of being out of power to do this, then surely it must be done.

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

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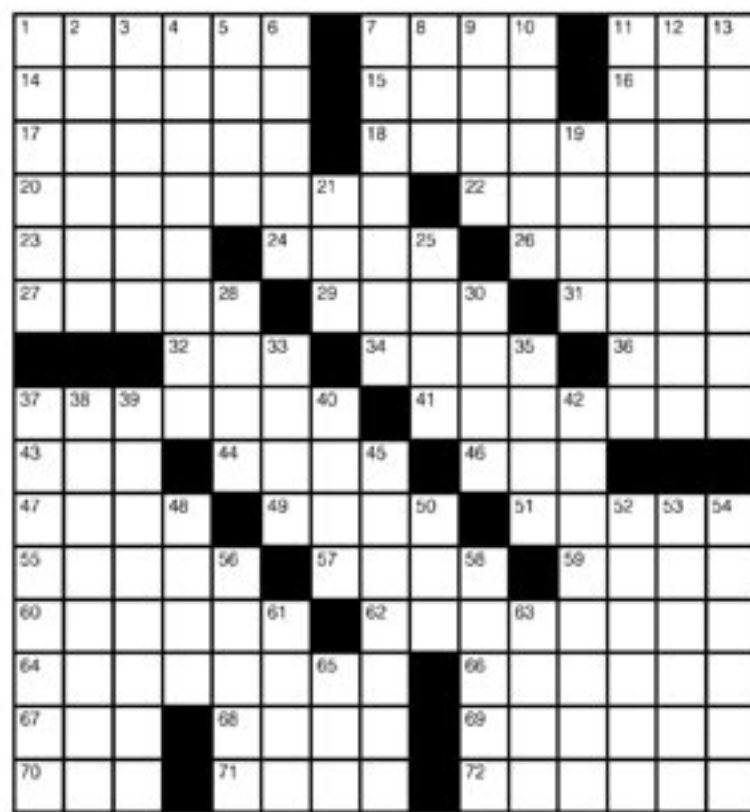
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- ACROSS**
1 Pay the price
7 Be mouthy
11 Jurist Fortas
14 Unduly expensive
15 Persia, today
16 Farm enclosure
17 Mathematician Blaise
18 Economized drastically
20 Aerosol medication
22 Twin of Artemis
23 Crack shots
24 Have to have
26 Single step
27 Boot Camp denial
29 Deuce plus one
31 Attila's people
32 LummoX
34 Burn slightly
36 Bishopric
37 Shine with amusement
41 Way of doing things
43 Make free (of)
44 Overhang
46 Nothing at all
47 Sister of Osiris
49 Written material
51 Bounded
55 Uses an axe
57 Sports org.
59 Declare openly
60 Get hold of
62 City dweller
64 Edible crustaceans
66 Sleep inducer
67 Lennon's love
68 "Dies ___"
69 Pockmarked
70 "Oedipus ___"
71 Christmas drinks
72 Garden tools



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11/17/06

- DOWN**
1 Way from Rome to Brindisi
2 Spanish dictator
3 Goes angling
4 Important event
5 Based on fact
6 Welsh poet Thomas
7 Nuns
8 Rainbow shape
9 Poet Teasdale
10 Quick short cuts
11 Two-handed praise
12 Direct paths
13 Approves formally
19 Nocturnal insect
21 Court divider
25 Profound
28 Croupier's tool
30 Fish story
33 Brit's apartment
35 Stir up
37 French flag
38 Offensive formation in football
39 Boob tube
40 Balanced
42 Housework
45 Makes allowances for
48 Mineral springs
50 Viscous liquid
52 Fly
53 Boy wizard Harry
54 Nubby wools

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