

SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Hibbert leads Hoyas past Commodores in opener

By Jambu Palaniappan
ASST SPORTS EDITOR

For the Vanderbilt men's basketball team, opposing big men have always posed a unique challenge.

That burden reached a new level Wednesday night when the Commodores were steamrolled in their season opener by 7-foot-2-inch center Roy Hibbert in an 86-70 loss to No. 8 Georgetown at Memorial Gym.

"He was just too big around the goal," said Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings. "Our post players got into foul trouble early, and that really hurt us. Once they got rolling, we knew we were in trouble."

The Commodores (0-1) trailed from the tip, and Hibbert exerted his dominance from the start. He scored eight points in the first five minutes, and finished with 18 points on eight for 11 shooting, with 10 rebounds and three blocked shots.

As if Hibbert's interior dominance wasn't enough, junior forward Jeff Green controlled the tempo of the game for the Hoyas and led all scorers with 19 points.

"Green is just a tough guy to defend," Stallings said. "We just don't have anyone on our roster who can match up physically and athletically with him."

Vanderbilt's standout junior swingman Shan Foster was held to just two points by an extremely talented Hoya team. Foster was 0 for 5 from the field and 0 for 4 from beyond the arc.

"Georgetown just defended Shan very well," Stallings said. "They shut him down. He did have some good looks, but we're not going to win too many games if he scores two points."

Foster, the Commodores' leading scorer a season ago, could not find his offensive rhythm all night. His lone points of the game came from a pair of free throws at the tail end of the first half.

Instead, Vanderbilt had to rely on senior forward Derrick Byars and backup point guard Alex Gordon for their offensive might. Gordon ran the offense for most of the game after coming in off the bench for true freshman Jermaine Beal. He led the Dores with 15 points. Byars added 14, but was extremely disappointed with the Commodores' lapses on defense and inability to get back into the game.

"We chipped away at the lead, but we couldn't cut the margin in the second half," Byars said. "We need to do a much better job with our interior defense. We need to control penetration and not allow easy baskets."

Although the Hoyas controlled play inside, it was the inconsistent play of the Commodores' perimeter players that kept them out of the game.

Georgetown 86, Vanderbilt 70							
Vanderbilt	Min	FG-FGA	3P-3PA	FT-FTA	O-D-R	A	PTS
D. Byars	29	4-9	1-5	5-6	1-1-2	2	14
A. Metcalfe	10	2-3	1-1	1-1	0-3-3	1	6
R. Neltner	26	3-7	0-0	0-0	1-7-8	4	9
J. Beal	21	0-3	0-1	0-0	0-2-2	0	0
S. Foster	26	0-5	0-4	2-2	0-4-4	1	2
J. Brown	10	3-5	0-0	0-0	1-2-3	0	6
G. Drake	9	1-2	0-0	0-0	1-1-2	0	2
A. Hammond	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0
D. Cage	26	2-7	1-5	5-6	1-1-2	2	10
A. Gordon	19	4-7	2-5	5-8	0-1-1	2	15
T. Skuchas	23	3-5	0-0	0-0	2-2-4	1	6
Totals	200	22-53	9-16	21-29	7-24-31	13	70
Turnovers: 14 (Byars, Foster 3; Neltner, Gordon, Metcalfe, Beal 2)							
Steals: 4 (Byars 3; Gordon 1)							
Blocks: 5 (Skuchas 3; Neltner 1; Cage 1)							

Georgetown 86, Vanderbilt 70							
Georgetown	Min	FG-FGA	3P-3PA	FT-FTA	O-D-R	A	PTS
J. Green	23	5-13	1-2	8-9	3-5-8	6	19
M. Egerson	33	3-5	0-2	1-2	0-3-3	2	7
R. Hibbert	22	8-11	0-0	2-5	3-7-10	1	18
J. Wallace	29	6-10	2-4	2-2	1-2-3	3	16
J. Sapp	34	3-9	0-2	5-6	1-2-3	3	11
V. Macklin	12	1-2	0-0	0-0	1-2-3	0	2
O. Spann	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0
D. Summers	17	2-5	0-1	0-1	1-1-2	0	4
P. Ewing Jr.	15	3-4	1-1	0-1	1-1-2	0	7
K. Izzo	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0
J. Rivers	12	1-2	0-0	0-1	1-0-1	0	2
S. Dizdarevic	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0
Totals	200	32-61	4-12	18-27	12-13-35	15	86
Turnovers: 13 (Green 5; Wallace, Sapp, Macklin 2; Rivers, Summers 1)							
Steals: 6 (Green 2; Wallace, Egerson, Sapp, Rivers 1)							
Blocks: 5 (Hibbert 3; Green 2)							

	1st	2nd	Total
Vanderbilt Commodores	35	35	70
Georgetown Hoyas	39	47	86

Mar. 1, 2006
Technicals: Georgetown-none;
Vanderbilt-none. Ejections: none.

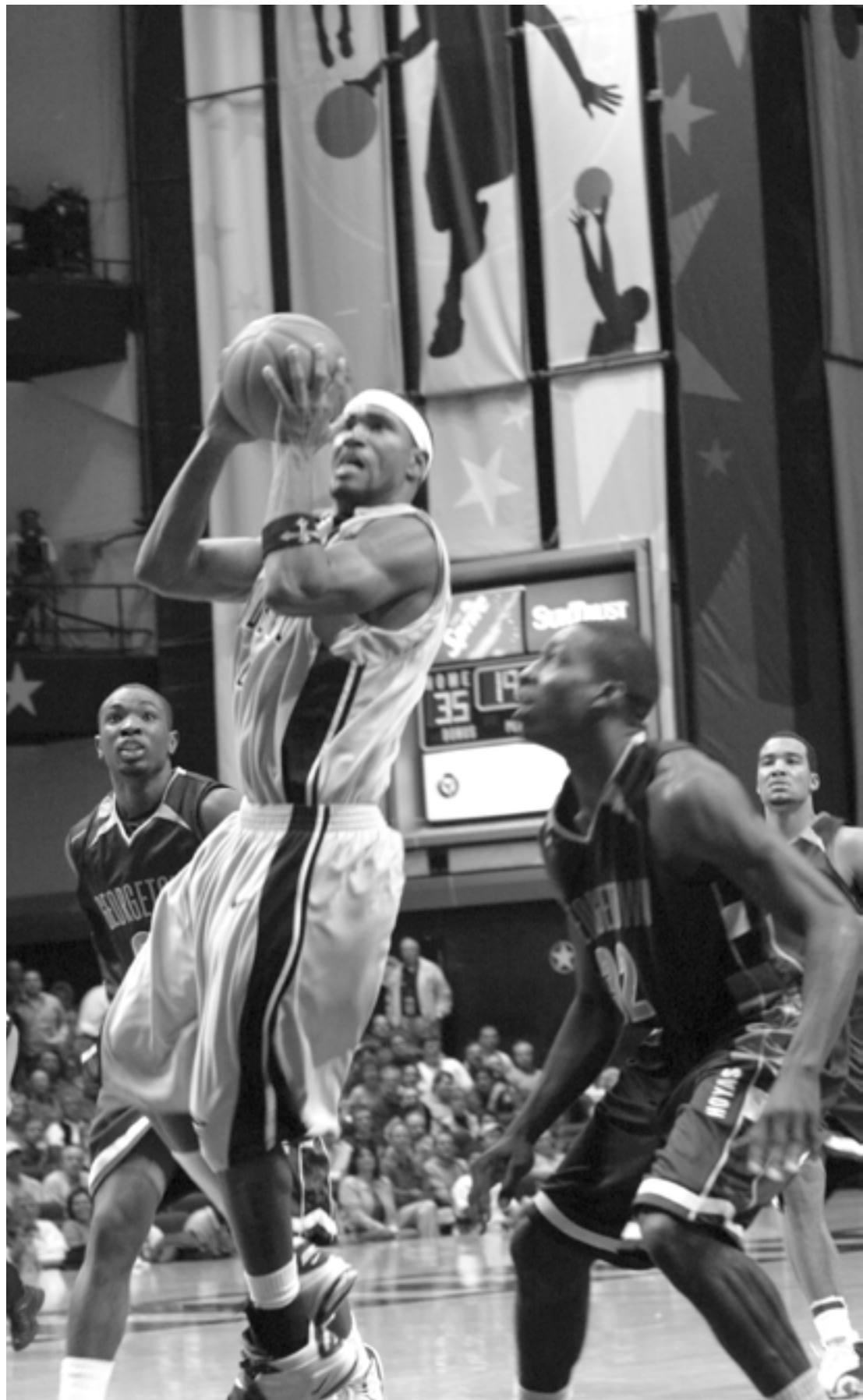
Attendance: 12,414
Officials: E. Corbett, J. Burr, M. Stuart

Foster, Byars, and senior guard Dan Cage were a combined two for 14 from 3-point range.

There were a few positives for the Commodores. Junior forward Ross Neltner, a transfer from LSU, scored nine points and brought down eight rebounds in his Vanderbilt debut. Cage added 10 points, and freshman forward JeJuan Brown, senior center Ted Skuchas and junior forward Alan Metcalfe scored six points each. Stallings hopes to use the loss to Georgetown as a learning experience and a gauge for the team's progress.

"We're not going to start making wholesale changes because we got beat by the No. 8 team in the country," Stallings said. "This isn't the time to panic."

The result marks the first time in 11 years that the Commodores opened the season with a loss. The team looks to recover in an important road test Tuesday when they travel to Wake Forest. ■



BRETT KAMINSKY/Vanderbilt Hustler

Vanderbilt forward Derrick Byars attempts a lay-up in the Commodores' 86-70 loss against Georgetown Wednesday at Memorial Gym.

BASKETBALL

Long season gives Vandy plenty of time to improve Hoyas hold Foster to just two points.

By Will Gibbons
SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

Vanderbilt's new uniforms looked crisp on Wednesday night. The team's performance, however, made less of a statement. In losing 86-70 to the eighth-ranked Georgetown Hoyas, the Commodores showed both good and bad.

For starters, preseason All-Southeastern Conference swingman Shan Foster was held to just two points, 14 points below his 2005-2006 average. The Hoyas played good defense, and the junior looked frustrated most of the night, missing all five of his attempts from the field.

"Georgetown defended him well," Stallings said. "He had some good looks too. I don't really remember him ever going (a game) without a field goal."

Though the three is usually a hallmark of Vanderbilt basketball, the Commodores struggled from three-point range. As a team, Vandy shot 5 for 17 from behind the arc and just 2 for 12 in the second half. While shooting 41.5 percent themselves, Vanderbilt allowed Georgetown to connect on 52.5 percent of its field goals.

"We had some lapses on defense," Byars said. "That's what really made it tough to close the margin. Some guys missed some calls. We gave up some back cuts, some 'and-ones.'"

On the positive side, while stars Roy Hibbert and Jeff Green combined for 37 points and 18 rebounds, Vandy held the rest of the team in check on the boards and was only out-rebounded by five at 38-33.

This bodes well for a team projected to struggle rebounding, as it looked like Georgetown was going to dominate the glass in the game's beginning stages. Newcomer Ross Neltner showed some grit down low in scoring nine points while grabbing eight rebounds, not to mention his team-leading four assists.

"We played one of the top five frontcourts in America tonight, without question," forward Derrick Byars said. "Our defense can only improve from that."

Speaking of Byars, the senior showed flashes of brilliance, scoring 14 points, which is not as impressive as the way he scored the points, as he showed an innate ability to create his own shot. He also turned in the No. 6 play of the night on Sportscenter when he took a nice feed from Neltner for a dunk. It appeared to be an invigorated Derrick Byars on Wednesday.

"I think he made a couple of aggressive defensive plays and got himself going," said coach Kevin Stallings. "Shan (Foster) wasn't able to do that. Derrick (Byars) just got a little bit going; he wasn't vintage Derrick."

While the Dores only have 10 scholarship players, all 10 played. The stats won't show it, but each of those ten showed an ability to contribute. It should be noted that Vanderbilt was breaking in a new offense with a new starting point guard, and the team will need time to gel. If it can avoid the injury bug, it should develop a nice 10-man rotation once things get going.

Wednesday's game likely won't indicate how the rest of the season will go, but facing a top 10 opponent showed clearly what improvements need to be made.

"Playing the No. 8 team gives us a gauge as to where we are right now," Byars said. "It's better than playing Unknown State University A&M."

If the team uses the lessons from Wednesday, it could be a force by the time conference play rolls around.

"All in all, it wasn't nearly the kind of performance we needed to beat a team of their caliber," Stallings said. "Fortunately, it's a long season and we have time to bounce back." ■

FOOTBALL

Top 10 reasons to be thankful

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, it is a good time to say what we are thankful for. The Vanderbilt Hustler picked 10 teams and athletes it believes deserve recognition. Note that neither Editor-in-Chief Allison Malone nor Vandy's special teams made the cut.

- Earl Bennett:** Just a sophomore, No. 10 is going to break every Vanderbilt receiving record by the time he departs for the league. It is hard to imagine what life would be like without him.
- Tim Corbin:** Vanderbilt's best coach turned down the LSU job this summer to stick with the 'Dores. Players and fans alike appreciate his commitment to Vanderbilt. With his knowledge and passion for the game, Corbin has put the program in position to compete for a national title.
- Between the Hedges:** The football team pulled off one its biggest wins in recent memory, topping the then-No. 16 Bulldogs in Athens. It was the first road victory over a top 25 opponent in more than 50 tries.
- Women's golf:** Led by sophomore Jacqui Concolino, who's ranked fourth nationally, the 'Dores won two consecutive tournaments this fall against the country's best.
- All-Americans:** The Vanderbilt baseball team features the top-ranked players in the junior and sophomore classes. With pitcher David Price and third baseman Pedro Alvarez, the 'Dores have a chance to be playing in Omaha come June.
- Women's soccer:** For the second straight season, Vandy advanced to the NCAA Tournament. When it came to Friday nights, there was no better show in town.
- 7-10 splits:** We've said it before, but it's worth repeating: the women's bowling team could very well win the school's first national title, and we can't wait.
- Rutgers:** The undefeated Scarlet Nights have turned what was once a dismal program into the pride of New Jersey. Proving that anything is possible, they give us Commodore fans hope for the future.
- Defense:** From Jonathan Goff to Curtis Gatewood to Theo Horrocks, the Vandy defense has improved dramatically from last season. Give special credit to defensive line coach Rick Logo.
- Seniors:** From Tyler Griffin to Ted Skuchas to Dee Davis to Steven Bright, the Vanderbilt senior class deserves our thanks. We appreciate all of the work they have put in on the field and in the classroom and wish them the best of luck in the future.

VANDERBILT HUSTLER PICKS THE WINNERS

MATCHUPS	JARRED AMATO Sports Editor (27-23)	JAMBU PALANIAPPAN Asst Sports Editor (32-18)	WILL GIBBONS Senior Sports Reporter (29-21)	ALLISON MALONE Editor-in-Chief (34-16)
Tennessee @ Vanderbilt	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY	TENNESSEE
#2 Michigan @ #1 Ohio State	MICHIGAN	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE
#17 California @ #4 Southern Cal	USC	CALIFORNIA	USC	USC
#21 Maryland @ #20 Boston College	MARYLAND	BOSTON COLLEGE	BOSTON COLLEGE	BOSTON COLLEGE
#19 Virginia Tech @ #14 Wake Forest	WAKE FOREST	VIRGINIA TECH	VIRGINIA TECH	VIRGINIA TECH

FOOTBALL

Solimani hoping to see action in final game

Senior kicker has been on the team for four years, but has never played a down



NEIL BRAKE / VU Media Relations

By Jordan Mamorsky
SPORTS REPORTER

Vanderbilt's most unknown football player wants you to know his name. The walk-on kicker from Hillcrest High School wants to be on the tip of your tongue like "Cutler, Bennett and Goff," but his No. 11 has yet to be called. In fact, kicker Leon Solimani is the only senior on Vanderbilt's roster to have never played one second of football for Commodores.

While you never have seen him on the field, at a Vanderbilt football practice it would be hard not to notice the former star soccer player. With a smile permanently tattooed on his face, Solimani practices every day like tomorrow will be his last, exuding a tremendous love for the game and impressing players and coaches alike.

"Every day he does a great job," said Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson. "He helps us when we're working on kickoff return, he helps us when we're working on kickoff and he's been prepared to play the whole time he's been here. He's in our weight program, he's in our off-season program, he does everything we ask him to do; we've just had better kickers."

Not many people can say they played Division I football, especially for a Southeastern Conference school. Indeed, for Solimani, being part of the Vanderbilt

football program for three straight years has been nothing short of a dream come true.

"I love going out there," Solimani said in his last week of practice. "It is something to look forward to. I could say I was on the team that had Jay Cutler and Earl Bennett, I could say I was on the team that beat Tennessee for the first time in 24 years."

In contrast to his football career at Vanderbilt, at Hillcrest High School, Solimani never stepped off the field. Playing as a kicker, wide receiver and defensive end, Solimani fostered a new passion for the game and began to focus on playing collegiate football.

In fact, during the fall of 2003, Vanderbilt thought enough of Solimani's abilities to call him on his dorm phone and encourage him to compete in their spring 2004 practices. While it is highly unusual for collegiate football players to get recruited from their dorms, Solimani has certainly proved to be different from other Vanderbilt football players.

Despite never playing in an actual game, starting in that spring of 2004, Vanderbilt's unknown senior has rarely missed a practice. In workouts and team practices, Solimani has sought to help the team in any way possible—participating in kickoffs, kick returns and sometimes even blocking duties. The senior has sought to be the

consummate teammate and will miss the relationships he has forged on the team.

"I will miss the camaraderie," Solimani said. "When it sucks and it's freezing, and you want to quit and your legs are burning, you just want to pull each other through it. I'll definitely miss that."

This Saturday is Senior Day for the Commodores and Solimani's last home game. While he still has one year of eligibility left, Solimani has decided to move on and pursue a possible career of law.

Certainly, it's hard to imagine a kicker being considered as Vanderbilt's own "Rudy," but it's hard not to admire Solimani's persistent work ethic and passion for the game.

In fact, this week, in his last week of practice as a Commodore, Solimani has arduously prepared like he will step out onto the field Saturday. Whether his number is called or not, there will certainly be tremendous emotion running through the veins of Vanderbilt's lone unknown senior.

"Other than thinking, 'Please God put me in,' I'll probably just be soaking it all in," Solimani said. "Not many people will ever get to experience what I've done, playing SEC college football, so I'll try to soak it all in and experience it for the last time." ■

GAME 12



TENNESSEE
(7-3, 3-3 SEC)



AT VANDERBILT
(4-7, 1-6 SEC)

Date: Tomorrow
Kickoff: 11:30 a.m., CT
Stadium: Vanderbilt Stadium
Location: Nashville, Tenn.
Radio: 104.5 "The Zone"
TV: Lincoln Financial Sports

PROJECTED STARTERS	TENNESSEE		VANDERBILT	
OFFENSE				
QB	10	Erik Ainge	3	Chris Nickson
FB/TE	45	Cory Anderson	83	Brad Allen
RB	27	Arian Foster	22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison
WR	1	Jayson Swain	10	Earl Bennett
WR	3	Robert Meachem	82	Marlon White
TE/WR	28	Chris Brown	88	George Smith
LT	76	Arron Sears	74	Chris Williams
LG	66	David Ligon	73	Ryan Custer
C	73	Michael Frogg	53	Hamilton Holliday
RG	78	Ramon Foster	65	Mac Pyle
RT	54	Eric Young	55	Elliot Hood
DEFENSE				
DE	89	Antonio Reynolds	46	Chris Booker
DE	91	Robert Ayers	48	Curtis Gatewood
DT	90	Turk McBride	94	Ray Brown
DT	92	Justin Harrell	54	Theo Horrocks
LB	39	Ryan Karl	40	Kevin Joyce
LB	40	Marvin Mitchell	47	Jonathan Goff
LB	35	Ellix Wilson	24	Marcus Buggs
CB	4	Jonathan Wade	4	Sean Dixon
CB	29	Inquoris Johnson	14	Josh Allen
FS	33	Jonathan Hefney	2	Ryan Hamilton
SS	24	Antwan Stewart	33	Reshard Langford
SPECIAL TEAMS				
P	10	Britton Colquitt	39	Brett Upson
PK	39	James Wilhoit	8	Bryant Hahnfeldt

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LIFE

Let's talk turkey

ADIE WILLEY
LIFE STAFF WRITER

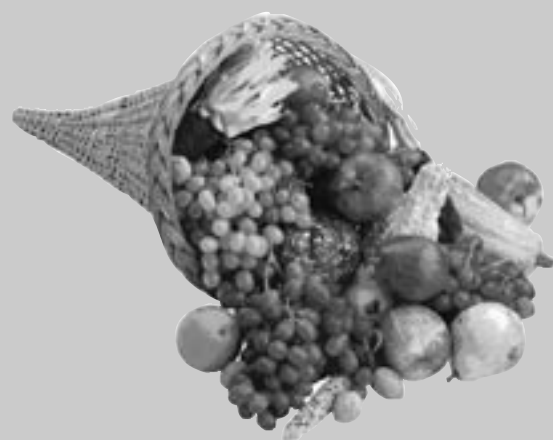
Bust out those stretchy-waist pants and let's get down to business, because it is almost time for what is arguably the best holiday of the year: THANKSGIVING! This annual act of giving thanks is representative of all that is truly "American" in our culture: football and over-consumption. Okay, perhaps those are not the only things we are known for, but regardless of how well they reflect our moral character, they are certainly two of the most fun! Here are a few things worth noting about the origins and traditions associated with this magnificent harvest holiday.

HISTORY:

- Although Thanksgiving is usually associated with North American culture, it has its roots in an English tradition. The harvest festival, a Sunday church celebration honoring the close of the local harvest season, was a practice brought over and adapted by the first settlers. During the Revolutionary War the Continental Congress began stipulating a particular day for its celebration.
- The first official Thanksgiving celebration is generally agreed to have taken place in a Virginia colony on Dec. 4, 1619.
- The most popular association with contemporary Thanksgiving is the harvest celebration that occurred between English pilgrims and Wampanoag Native Americans at Plymouth Plantation in 1621.
- Until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln declared that the entire nation should celebrate the holiday annually on the last Thursday of November, Thanksgiving's date was up to the discretion of each state's governor. The date officially became the third Thursday of November when President Franklin D. Roosevelt changed the observance in 1939 in an effort to boost the depressed economy.
- This optional switch was adopted by 23 states, and the following year the U.S. Congress compromised on the official date and passed a bill legally changing the observance of Thanksgiving to the fourth Thursday of November.

TRADITIONS:

- Since 1947, the National Turkey Federation has presented the President with a turkey for "pardoning" on Thanksgiving Day. This pardoned turkey is then permitted to spend the rest of its life on a peaceful and protected farm. Now two turkeys are pardoned every year, and the public has been invited to vote on their names since 2003.
- The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is one of the busiest nights of the year for bars and pubs throughout the nation, as it is traditionally the first night college students' return home in the fall semester.
- Until recently, the annual Thanksgiving Day professional football games were the only games played on a day other than Sunday or Monday.
- Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade has been an annual event since 1924, with the final float of the parade being the Santa Claus float, signaling the beginning of the Christmas holiday season.
- The busiest shopping day of the year in customer traffic is the Friday after Thanksgiving, but the biggest shopping day of the year in sales volume is either the Saturday before Christmas or Dec. 23.



Getting serious with Sirius Satellite Radio

BY ALEX CHRISOPE
LIFE STAFF WRITER



Sirius Satellite Radio is the fastest-growing satellite radio provider in the world, and now they are selling subscriptions for Internet-only streams. We had a brief chat with Steve Blatter, senior vice president of Music Programming, to talk about the new service and what it's like to program 64 music channels.

Q: What was the motivation for creating the Internet-streaming subscriptions?

A: Sirius sells radio content, and our primary means of distribution today is via satellite, but as the Internet becomes more and more ubiquitous and more easy to use, we feel that there is as big a market for people listening over the Internet as there is via satellite.

Q: Like most of my friends, I have an iPod with all the music and podcasts I want. What am I missing out on by not subscribing to Sirius Satellite Radio?

A: Well, most importantly, I don't know much about you specifically, 'cause everything we do at Sirius, it runs the gamut from everything to classical music channels to heavy metal channels to offering talk programming like Howard Stern and the Playboy Channel, you know, Maxim Radio—I could run down the line for you. But on kind of a broader level, there are 64 music channels that are completely commercial free, which we feel is really critical; we find most American radio users today are extremely frustrated with radio. More importantly, besides the fact that our music channels are commercial-free, there's a sense of discovery when you listen to Sirius Radio that you just won't get with an iPod. We put a tremendous amount of resources into each of our music channels, where we have teams of people that comb through literally thousands of songs a week to identify new music we can turn listeners on to, versus an iPod experience where you pretty much have to know what it is you're looking for, and then first go through the process of trying to find that song and then get it onto your iPod and then start creating your own playlists—I mean, it takes a fair amount of time. So, we believe that it's really important to that process and making things a lot more easy for the consumer than it is with the iPod experience.

Q: I'm a big Springsteen fan, and I remember at the end of last year, you had E Street Radio, and you have The Who Channel right now that plays full-length live recordings. How do you get an artist's permission to air such rare material in an era when illegal downloading and copyright infringement are a major concern in the music industry?

A: Well, we work very closely with the artist's community. We're partners with the Elvis Presley estate for an Elvis Presley channel, we have an all-Rolling Stone channel and we actually co-produce channels with Eminem and Jimmy Buffet. What we find in our discussions is that it's an opportunity for them to further extend their brand and reach fans creatively in a way they've never been able to reach them before. So if you're a big fan of The Who listening to The Who Channel here at Sirius, that might actually get you even more excited about the band and their music, whether it be hearing live performances that haven't been heard before or rare tracks that are very hard to find.

Q: What does your job entail on a day-to-day basis?

A: Pretty much anything you hear coming out of your speakers on our music channels I'm responsible for. As I mentioned earlier, we have teams of music programmers who are specifically responsible for certain channels. I set in essence the overall direction for those programmers and empower them to create the best radio station they can for the audience they're trying to reach. So there really is no typical day for me—things move incredibly fast at Sirius, and depending on the day, I'm focusing on certain genres of music. I could be in a meeting with my country music programmers talking about our coverage for the CMA awards in Nashville, and an hour later, I could be brainstorming ideas with our heavy metal programmer about Lamb of God.

Q: Are there any specific channels you've developed that you're particularly proud of?

A: There's several, actually. One I'm particularly proud of is the Chill channel. The music has existed for a while—bands like Zero-7 and artists like Moby might have received airplay at various types of channels. But our Chill channel streams that genre on a nationwide basis, and I'm really proud to have put together a format that's really, really unique but actually very accessible to a very wide audience. We actually believe Chill is still, today, ahead of its time, but it's the future of what is referred to as adult contemporary radio. ■



DAILY DOSE

By Adie Willey

This week marks the official start of the holiday season with a break from classes and the celebration of Thanksgiving. If you happen to stay in town this week, there are plenty of ways to maximize your time free of the classroom.

FRIDAY 11/17

"Nothing Left to Lose" singer-songwriter and adopted Nashvillian Mat Kearney is playing tonight at the Exit/In, supported by Griffen House. The show starts at 10 p.m. See exitin.com for tickets and details.

Fairfax, University of Tennessee alumni and another local music favorite, are playing a 21+ show at Mercy Lounge tonight at 9:30 p.m. See mercyloounge.com for tickets and details.

SATURDAY 11/18

Murfreesboro pop band How I Became the Bomb is playing at Mercy Lounge tonight with The Selmanaires & Lazerman and The Non-Commissioned Officers. The 18+ show starts at 9 p.m. For tickets and details visit mercyloounge.com.

And if you missed him last night, Mat Kearney is playing Exit/In again tonight at 10 p.m., this time with Holly Williams.

SUNDAY 11/19

Jack White's latest band, The Raconteurs, is playing a sold-out show tonight at City Hall. If you do not have a ticket already, plan on being there well before the 8 p.m. start time to try and snag one from a scalper.



MUSIC



Ohio bands ready to rock Nashville: Lovedrug and Brandtson pair up for Everything Starts tour

Lovedrug recently kicked off first national headlining tour

BY ADAM RABINOWITZ
LIFE STAFF WRITER

Cleveland, Ohio's Lovedrug rolls through town on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the Exit/In, bringing their Radiohead and Muse-inspired sound to Music City.

Led by singer/songwriter/guitarist/keyboardist Michael Shepard, Lovedrug offers an album chock-full of indie moods and pop melodies. Formed in June 2002 from the carnage of previous projects, Lovedrug has spent the last four years winning over new audiences with their impassioned live shows and convincing songs.

Lovedrug's most recent album, "Pretend You're Alive," provides revealing and intriguing insight into the band's mentality and approach to their music. The album, released through the

Militia Group in 2004, is rather gloomy compared to the work of other indie groups but has nonetheless become the fastest selling release in the label's

history. The opening track "In Red" is not only the band's most well-known song, but it is also their best. The song, conveying fear and pessimism,

provides a taste of the songs to follow. The album's lyrics delve into many emotions especially difficult to wrestle, including truth, intrigue, love and death.

Shepard's lyrics manage to put these moods in their places as he dissects and conquers them with his words.

The band is especially proud of their live show and insists that only those who have seen them live can truly understand the growing phenomenon that is Lovedrug. Regardless of how cliché it may sound, the band explains that their live show is less a show and more an experience. Having shared the stage with a wide array of bands – such as The Killers, Led Zeppelin's Robert Plant, Switchfoot, Something Corporate, Mae and Copeland – Lovedrug can please even the most diverse of fans. After four years of touring as an opener, the band now has the opportunity to have the spotlight on them. It is easy to say they have earned it. ■



Hailing from Cleveland, Ohio, Lovedrug has been compared to Radiohead, Spiritualized, Sunny Day Real Estate and Muse. The band will play on Nov. 21 at the Exit/In as part of their Everything Starts tour. Photo provided by SKYSCRAPER MEDIA

Brandtson's 'Hello Control' exhibits a variety of styles

BY MICHAEL YOUNG
LIFE STAFF WRITER

Opening for Lovedrug on Nov. 21 is Brandtson, a group of fellow Ohioans whose latest album "Hello Control," is a random collection of styles that makes for a varied and mildly confusing listening experience.

The CD opens with "A Thousand Years," easily one of my favorite tracks. The calm, drawing vocals combined with ethereal tones and a complete lack of beat makes it great for mellowing out. "Parallels" and "Lie to Me," both of which appear later in the album, continue this drifting theme, and you can almost feel the music flowing over you as you listen. The vocals are subtle, blending perfectly with the rhythms and keeping their messages vague enough for you to fill in your own meaning. Each of these tracks has already earned spots on my homework playlist, and I am sure I will enjoy them for a long time to come.

Unfortunately, the mellow mood doesn't persist in other tracks. Instead, much of the album takes a more pop-oriented

angle, and in songs like "Nobody Dances Anymore," "Tapping the Vein" and "Stop Machine," there is enjoyment to be had, but not outside of a concert setting; I'd certainly never listen to these repetitive, lyrically vacant songs on my own time.

Then there are the tracks that try to lure you in with catchy, interesting beats, but end up bashing you over the head with blaring vocals that

clash with the mood and only serve to cloud the emotional resonance. "Denim Iniquity," "Here We Go" and "Cold War" are all guilty, but regardless of mindless lyrics they are a lot of fun.

Luckily, the beautiful flowing tracks mentioned earlier are not the only gems, since "Earthquakes and Sharks" and "The Secret" both stand out as amazing entries that succeed in altogether different ways.

"Earthquakes and Sharks" is pure pop-rock and garnered Brandtson a lot of attention when it was featured on a third season episode of "The OC." It has drawn comparisons to the style of Modest Mouse and bears resemblance to their hit "Float On." Still, "Earthquakes and Sharks" has an energy all its own, and when the hard-hitting beat melds with the clever, catchy lyrics, it is hard not to be amazed.

"The Secret," the album's final track, is a departure from the previous styles with its electronica sounds and soft vocals. It is another track perfect for aural soaking while reading or working on an assignment, even with the electronic beat.

Although "Hello, Control" has several strong tracks, its variety makes it difficult to recommend to just anyone. A fan of mellow music could be

really entertained, but listeners attracted to "Earthquakes and Sharks" might find they are not interested in any of the other songs.

While the date for Brandtson's show could have been better, seeing as it's right in the middle of break, if you get to a chance to go, take it; all of the songs are perfect concert fodder. If for whatever reason you can't make the show, at least preview the tracks on iTunes. The diversity contained in "Hello, Control" ensures any music fan will find at least one incredible track. ■



Inspired by the Violent Femmes and Depeche Mode, Brandtson's diverse sounds come together in their dynamic album "Hello Control." Photo provided

MONDAY 11/20

Imogen Heap, British singer/songwriter, classically trained pianist and half of pop group Frou Frou, is performing tonight at City Hall. The show starts at 8 p.m. See cityhallnashville.com for tickets and details.

The 2006 annual Christmas for Kids benefit concert is tonight at the Ryman. This year's lineup features a headlining performance from the Charlie Daniels Band with support from Phil Vassar, Joe Nichols, Daryle Singletary, Craig Morgan and Sawyer Brown. The show starts at 7 p.m.; see ryman.com for tickets and details.

TUESDAY 11/21

Cleveland, Ohio, indie rock band Lovedrug is playing tonight at Exit/In with Brandtson and the Myriad. The show starts at 7 p.m., see exitin.com for tickets and details.

Legendary Texas "punkabilly" country rock band Reverend Horton Heat are bringing their unique performing and musical styles to the Mercy Lounge tonight at 9 p.m. See mercyloounge.com for tickets and details.

WEDNESDAY 11/22

Take advantage of the academic break and do something frivolous, like going to see a movie. The holiday film season kicks into gear today with the release of several noteworthy films:

"The Fountain"
"Déjà Vu"
"Deck the Halls"
"Tenacious D in: The Pick of Destiny"

THURSDAY 11/23

Happy Thanksgiving! Celebrate the best American holiday of the year with the guilt-free consumption of lots of food!





Home-cooked meals to warm up the season

BY GOODLOE HARMAN
LIFE STAFF WRITER

With Thanksgiving break finally (or suddenly, whichever your point of view) upon us, a collective sigh of relief is almost audible across campus. It seems we are all ready for a week of family, friends and food. This time at home will be a great opportunity to take advantage of the family kitchen and cook a few meals that will delight friends and relatives (even the in-laws). While the three recipes below are intended for certain occasions, they would all be nice additions to the Thanksgiving week menu, even if their ingredients do not include turkey, pumpkin, sweet potato or cranberries. You will be getting enough of that already.

Weeknight dinner

This fresh tomato pasta dish is an easy meal for any busy weeknight. It is important to note, however, that basil is a flavorful but delicate herb; it becomes bitter if put into contact with strong heat, so remember to add the basil to the sauce at the very end. Also, I have found that adding wine to the sauce increases its flavor and complexity. Either a red or a white will work wonderfully, and whichever wine you use in the recipe will be the perfect thing to drink when you eat it!

Linguine with fresh tomatoes and basil
Serves 4

Salt
1.5 pounds linguine
3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1 medium onion, chopped
4 cloves garlic, minced or put through a garlic press
4 medium or 3 large fresh, ripe tomatoes, chopped
1 cup dry red wine, such as Pinot Noir, or dry unoaked white wine, such as Sauvignon Blanc
4-6 leaves of fresh basil, roughly chopped
Freshly ground pepper

1. Bring a large pot of well-salted water

to a boil. Cook linguine until al dente, according to package instructions.

2. Meanwhile, heat the oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion to the pan and cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is translucent (about 5 minutes).

3. Add the garlic to the pan and cook until the garlic shows some color (about a minute).

4. Add the chopped tomatoes to the pan and stir so that all ingredients become well-incorporated. Pour in the wine and raise the heat to high. Let the sauce cook, stirring occasionally, until it is thickened (about 5 minutes). Reduce heat to low.

5. Add chopped basil to sauce and stir.

6. Season sauce with salt and pepper, to taste.

7. Add cooked pasta to the pan and serve with freshly grated Parmesan cheese and a piece of crusty bread.

Dinner for a date

This meal is a fairly easy one to prepare anytime you want to wow that special someone. The strong flavor of the balsamic glaze really complements the equally strong flavor of the salmon. I recommend using wild salmon, as their flesh is redder than farm-raised and tends to have a richer and more robust flavor, but any salmon will be fine. Spinach sautéed with garlic (no more E. coli!) goes quite well with the fish. Salmon is a versatile wine-pairing fish, so you could really drink almost anything with it, but I would recommend either a robust red wine, such as a Pinot Noir from Oregon or Burgundy, or a full-flavored, not very oaky dry white wine, such as a Chardonnay from Burgundy or a Riesling from Alsace.

Seared salmon with balsamic glaze
Serves 2

1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
1/8 cup water
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 tablespoon dark brown sugar
2 (6 ounce) salmon fillets with skin
Salt and freshly ground pepper
1 tablespoon olive oil

1. Stir together the vinegar, water, lemon

juice and brown sugar in a bowl. Set aside.

2. Pat the salmon dry and season with salt and pepper. Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat until the oil shimmers, but is not smoking.

3. Immediately add the salmon, skin side up, and increase the heat to high. Sear the salmon until well browned (about 4 minutes).

4. Turn the fish over and sear until cooked through (3 to 4 minutes more).

5. Transfer the salmon to plates.

6. Carefully add the vinegar mixture to the skillet (it will bubble and steam vigorously). Simmer the mixture, stirring, until it is thickened and reduced (about 3 minutes). Spoon the glaze over each salmon fillet and serve.

Sautéed spinach

Serves 2

1 tablespoon olive oil
2 cloves garlic, minced or put through a garlic press
3 cups fresh spinach
Salt and freshly ground pepper (optional)

1. Heat the oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add the garlic and cook for about 30 seconds.

2. Gradually add the spinach (it will seem like you are adding a large amount of spinach to the pan, but as the spinach cooks and releases water, its size will drastically decrease). Stir frequently, ensuring that all the spinach cooks evenly.

3. Cook spinach until wilted and reduced in size (3 or 4 minutes).

4. Add salt and pepper to taste, if desired. Serve.

Meal to warm you up on a cold day

I can think of few things more satisfying when the weather gets cold than curling up with a bowl of this soup and a movie on a Sunday afternoon. This simple but flavorful soup, consisting mostly of bitter greens, white beans, and pork (which can be omitted), is a great thing to warm you up on a dreary fall or winter day. The chicken

broth base gives it that soothing, remedial quality associated with home-cooking, and the chili gives it an accumulating spiciness that awakens the taste buds. I would recommend a flavorful ale like Newcastle or just about any high alcohol Belgian brew to complement this great soup. However gray the weather is outside, this delicious soup will see to it that you and your friends aren't.

Escarole and bean soup

Serves 4

4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1/2 pound crumbled Italian sausage, bacon or prosciutto
4 cloves garlic, finely sliced
1 fresh or dried chili, stemmed, seeded and minced, or 1 teaspoon Tabasco sauce
1 pound escarole or Swiss chard, trimmed, washed and dried
1 15 ounce can cooked white beans (Great Northern), drained and rinsed
3 cups chicken stock, broth or water
Salt and freshly ground pepper

1. Heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a large, deep saucepan over medium-high heat. Brown the sausage, bacon or prosciutto on all sides until done. Transfer meat to paper towels to drain excess grease.

2. Remove most of the grease from the pan (a little remaining will add flavor) and reduce heat to medium. Add 1 tablespoon oil to the pan. Add half of the garlic and cook until the garlic shows some color (about a minute). Add the greens and stir. Add the beans and stock, broth or water. Adjust the heat so that the mixture simmers steadily. Cover.

3. Cook for about 15 minutes or until the greens are tender. Add the remaining garlic and cook another minute. Taste and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Drizzle with the remaining olive oil and serve in bowls with a slice of crusty bread. ■



Indie prodigy and Microphones protégé plays Nashville

BY JOHN PARKER
LIFE STAFF WRITER

What type of songwriter would be so transcendental as to cue legendary Microphones' front man Phil Elverum to claim: "The best music ever written is being written right now by Adrian Orange?"

The answer to this question might surprise you. And on Nov. 20 at Anna's House (205 Morton Ave.), you can see for yourself the mystery that is Adrian Orange of "Thanksgiving."

So who is this little-known singer who elicits the greatest of praise from the reserved Elverum? Orange

is a 20-year-old musician, who, having dropped out of high school, began recording albums at the age of 16. In those four years, he released an astonishing seven full-length albums, worked extensively with Phil Elverum and started his own label, Marriage Recordings. However, what is most impressive about Orange is not the amount of output, but rather the quality.

Recently releasing "Bitches is Lord," Orange has become known for his honest yet powerful lyrics which resonate in their pessimistic but eloquent quality, much like a young

Will Oldham. Prompted to describe the new album, Orange responded, "They're pretty lo-fi, I recorded all three (of my past albums) on an old 8-track machine. It's mostly me playing all of the instruments, multi-tracking."

Orange's style is hard to classify. He recorded all of his albums in his house and admits, "I feel like sometimes I shut myself in my house too much." However this hermitage has led to three freak-folk lo-fi albums that often draw upon the sound Orange forged while working with Elverum. While these albums have not gained much prominence, they

have had a profound effect on critics and supporters alike. Orange croons his emotionally laced ponderings over fairly reserved single drum sets usually with just a guitar in hand. However, it is this simplicity that most effectively accompanies Orange's focus on the song's meaning.

While he has already released three albums in the past two years, Orange was excited to discuss his next work. "I like to dance," Orange said with amusement before he expressed a desire to "go to a more hi-fi sound with a full band."

"I want something with music people can enjoy.

Before, I mostly focused on the lyrics and the meaning. I'm going to put a lot of effort into recording this album," he said.

With endless output, the blessing of an indie legend and a label in tow, one wonders when the still incredibly youthful Orange will get his big break. With a greater focus on a more catchy sound and more extensive production on the next album, Orange may be looking at a breakthrough. Not to say that his music is not already a seminal piece of his followers' collections, but as a man who does not feel like he "deserves the spotlight," a more accessible

sound may be able to do the promotion for him.

All this said, the discovery of Orange's discography, usually under the moniker "Thanksgiving," can be a revelation for any music lover. His shows, while usually with a fairly sparse crowd, come away with rave reviews. With many years ahead of him and plenty of experience behind him, this vastly talented musician has the potential to introduce himself as a lo-fi legend in the near future.

Catch Adrian Orange in action at Anna's House (205 Morton Ave.) Monday, Nov. 20, at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. ■

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ART

Everyday objects come to life at the Frist

BY CAPPI WILLIAMSON
LIFE STAFF WRITER

“Extra-Ordinary: The Everyday Object in American Art,” an exhibit organized by the Whitney Museum of Art, has drawn many spectators to the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville since its opening on Friday, Nov. 10.

The exhibit explores how objects from one’s daily life were first seen as an avenue to artistic expression and how this concept challenged the traditional answer to the age-old question “What is art?” With works spanning over 85 years in American art, the exhibit features over 70 paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and sculptures from the Whitney’s permanent collection.

“We had great crowds in the first week of ‘Extra-Ordinary,’” said public relations manager Rose Mary Gorman.

Patrons will know they are

Rauschenberg, sought to create meaning through the use of conventional symbols gathered from one’s day-to-day, material environment. Rauschenberg used newspaper, glass and other found materials in his famous collages, while Johns took a fresh look at and popular symbols, such as flags, targets and numbers.

Of course Warhol could not be left out of an exhibit

Jeff Koons (who was recently named “The Pop Heir” in Vanity Fair’s December art issue) have works on view as well. Oldenburg and Koons’ penchant for blowing up everyday objects to many times their natural size reflects the modern artists’ roots in the Dadaist, avant-garde and pop movements.

Other artists in the exhibition include Vija Celmins, Jim Dine, Robert Gober, Roy Lichtenstein, Wayne Thiebaud and Fred Tomaselli.

“‘Extra-Ordinary’ can be enjoyed on many



ELLEN PAGE WILSON / courtesy of Pace Wildenstein

Claes Oldenburg’s ‘Giant BLT’ (1963) is made of vinyl, kapok and wood, painted with acrylic and is over three feet tall. This piece, a gift of the American Contemporary Art Foundation Inc., is featured at the Frist.

revisiting a revolutionary period in the art world when they begin their journey with Man Ray, the artist who, with friend Marcel Duchamp, founded the American branch of the Dada movement, a movement that radically rejected traditional views of art.

Artists from the mid-20th century featured in the exhibit, such as Jasper Johns and Robert

praising the artistic value of everyday items. “Green Coca-Cola Bottles,” which depicts classic Warhol multiplicity with dozens of the well-known American bottles in line, is currently on display.

Warhol’s successors Claes Oldenburg and Neo-Pop prince

levels by visitors of all ages,” said associate curator Nancy Cason. “The everyday objects depicted are immediately recognizable, but often on a scale or in a medium that captures our attention and fuels the imagination. A closer look at the objects reveals the response artists were making



photo courtesy of Gamma One Conversions

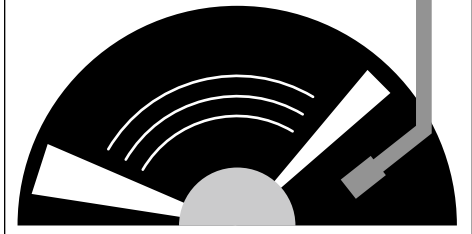
Andy Warhol’s ‘Tomato’ (1968) is one of the featured pieces at The Frist Center’s ‘Extra-Ordinary: The Everyday Object in American Art’ exhibit, which opened Friday Nov. 10.

to radical changes in American culture since the 1950s that ultimately redefined art.”

The exhibit will be on view at the Frist until Feb. 11, 2007. Today, Nov. 17, there will be an ARTini talk conducted by Susan Edwards at 7 p.m. which will include a martini bar and informal discussion about a few of the pieces from “Extra-Ordinary.” Admission to the Frist is discounted for college students, so don’t forget your Vandy ID. On Nov. 22 and 29, as part of Frist Tennessee Free Days, museum admission is free of charge. The Frist Center for the Visual Arts will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. ■

WRVU TOP SPINS

- 01 Beck
The Information
- 02 The Black Keys
Magic Potion
- 03 Four Tet
Remixes
- 04 The Decemberists
The Crane Wife
- 05 Catfish Haven
Tell Me
- 06 The Comfies
Close to Me
- 07 The Blow
Paper Television
- 08 Various Artists
The DFA Remixes: Chapter Two
- 09 My Morning Jacket
Okonokos
- 10 Joseph Arthur
Nuclear Daydream
- 11 Brazilian Girls
Talk to La Bomb
- 12 Klaxons
Xan Valleys EP
- 13 The Hold Steady
Boys and Girls in America
- 14 Oxford Collapse
Remember the Night Parties
- 15 Xiu Xiu
The Airforce



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Hitting the Box Office Today

Casino Royale
Remember that guy James Bond? No? His last few movies have kind of sucked? Apparently, the overseers of the 007 franchise recognized the character had lapsed into a lazy self-parody and decided to reboot the series à la “Batman Begins.” The faithful rendering of Ian Fleming’s first Bond novel has the spy hunting down a terror financier, culminating in the famous card game between Bond and his villain. Daniel Craig (“Layer Cake” and “Munich”) seems to have brushed off the reaction from online haters: early reviews hail his performance as the key to interpreting Bond in an action movie where character is king.
» VERDICT: SEE IT NOW

Fast Food Nation
Eric Schlosser’s sociology best seller gets the big-screen treatment, complete with fictionalized narrative and Hollywood stars like Greg Kinnear and Bruce Willis. Ever the chameleon, indie director Richard Linklater takes his cues from Robert Altman as much as from Upton Sinclair, following a diverse tapestry of characters from a restaurant’s corporate office to the illegal immigrants in the slaughterhouse to the kids behind the counter. The only flaw: this fascinating material is structured more poorly than hamburger meat.
» VERDICT: SEE IT

For Your Consideration
Christopher Guest masterfully played dumb in the seminal mockumentary “This Is Spinal Tap,” and since then, he has directed more hilarious yet poignant documentary spoofs (“Best in Show” and “A Mighty Wind”). His latest film, about an independent film that garners Oscar buzz, drops the cinema-vérité act but keeps intact the improvisational charm of his favored troupe (Eugene Levy, Catherine O’Hara, Fred Willard and Parker Posey). The addition of sleazy British superstar Ricky Gervais may hook those unfamiliar with Guest, but the essential humanity of his characters should make this another of his classics.
» VERDICT: SEE IT

COMPILED BY ALEX CHRISOPE

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