In the Bubble Opinion Sports Life Fun & Games

INSIDE

SPECIAL REPORT

Diversity at Vanderbilt is an eight-part series appearing in every Monday and Friday issue in September.

With this series, we are attempting to bring diversity to the forefront of campus discussion.

The profiles are not meant to showcase one group over another but to demonstrate the depth of the Vanderbilt community.

While the series will officially last for one month, it is meant to demonstrate The Hustler's commitment to consistently represent the entire Vanderbilt community.

Percentage of Jewish students increases 10 percent in four years

Schulman Center provides motivation.

> By Nicole Floyd ASST NEWS EDITOR

Vanderbilt has taken steps to make itself more attractive to the Jewish community in the four years since Chancellor Gordon Gee made a public call for increased numbers of Jewish students in a 2002 Wall Street Journal article.

Vanderbilt's Jewish population has grown to represent 12 percent of the undergraduate student body, up from 2 percent in 2002, and Reform Judaism magazine has listed the university as one of the top 30 private schools for Jewish students.

"The reason we were so public about recruiting Jewish students is because we wanted people to know we were doing it," said vice chancellor for public affairs Michael Schoenfeld. "There were a lot of top students that weren't considering Vanderbilt, and that's unacceptable to us."

Schoenfeld likened the reasoning behind the building of the Schulman Center and the increased recruitment of Jewish students to the reasoning behind the major renovations that were done to the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center.

"We want Vanderbilt to be attractive to as many students as possible," Schoenfeld said.

Schoenfeld, along with Dean of Admissions Doug Christiansen, said the push to attract Jewish students was part of a larger diversity project.

"What it all boils down to is we are trying to develop a diverse class of students with different backgrounds and perspectives so that the dynamic exchange can take place in the classroom," Christiansen said. "As we continue to broaden our recruitment approach and diversify as a university, more Jewish students is only natural."

Administrators contribute the growth of the Jewish community to a variety of factors, of which meeting quotas is not one.

"How we make our selection decisions is a holistic process," Christiansen said. "It's not the issue of being Jewish, it's the issue of your whole file and what you have to bring to the table."

In fact, religious background is not used in Vanderbilt's selection process, and there is no part of the current application that asks for a prospective student to reveal his or her religious preference.

Ari Dubin, executive director of Vanderbilt Hillel, feels that several factors were especially important in increasing the

Jewish population. Please see DIVERSITY, page 3 STUDENT GOVERNMENT

SGA, Interhall fit to form Vanderbilt Student Government

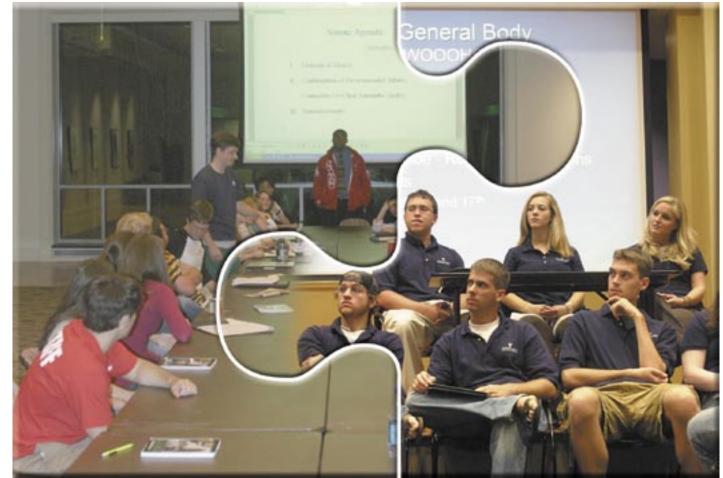


photo illustration by JONATHAN DIETZ/The Vanderbilt Hustler SGA (left) and Interhall (right) held meetings this week to discuss Boone Lancaster and Devin Donovan's plan to create Vanderbilt Student Government.

Members will approve new government at end of month.

Bv Glenna DeRoy NEWS FDITOR

nterhall and Student Government Association will dissolve in February to form one governing body, Vanderbilt Student

Government. In order for this to occur, Interhall and SGA must amend their constitutions to allow for the dissolution of each of their

organizations on Oct. 25 and 26. In addition, the entire student body must approve the change in an online referendum. The date of the referendum has yet to be determined.

Interhall President Devin Donovan and SGA President Boone Lancaster said they believe this change, which seeks to limit inefficiency and help students adjust to the new residential college system, is in the best interest of the student body.

"Vanderbilt Student Government will

take on all of the responsibilities and the services that are currently offered, but it will eliminate the redundancies and inefficiencies that currently exist," Donovan said.

Courtney Salters, director of student governance for the Office of Student Activities, agreed that becoming one organization will decrease the difficulty of collaboration.

"At times, there's been a duplication

Please see VSG, page 3

SERVICE

Students construct 'the house that Vandy **built'**



Freshmen build wall panels at Providence Park, an all-Habitat community. Members of Vanderbilt's Habitat for Humanity will use these walls to begin construction of the Vanderbilt-sponsored Habitat house on Saturday. The house will be completed and dedicated Oct. 22.

NPHC decides to cancel Stompfest

Council to pursue programming options in lieu of Homecoming event.

By Caroline Scali

The National Panhellenic Council cancelled Stompfest this year, after members' concerns about last year's event and the loss of the NPHC house were brought to the attention of the council.

Stompfest was held for the first time last year, and according to NPHC President Steven Harris, was intended to "foster working relationships between the respective chapters of the Greek councils on Vanderbilt's campus." The event, a part of Homecoming, featured IFC and Panhellenic Greeks performing steps taught by NPHC Greeks. Members of NPHC houses also performed.

However, some of the NPHC organizations felt that the intent of the event was not fulfilled, Harris said.

"Although the purpose of Stompfest was a positive one, all of the NPHC organizations that participated did not have a positive experience for various reasons," he said.

Two factors went into NPHC's decision, Harris said. One reason was that the relationships that "were thought to have been formed during the weeks of preparation for the event seem, for some NPHC members, to have vanished after the fact."

However, Senior Lauren Cassell, executive vice president of Alpha Omicron Pi and a participant in Stompfest 2005,

"Stompfest was probably my favorite Homecoming event," Cassell said. "It's very unfortunate that it's being cancelled; last year Steven Harris from Alpha Phi Alpha was our coach, and the experience definitely improved our relationship with their house. I know a lot of people are saying that Stompfest didn't do that,

but for AOPi it definitely did." Faith Nasmyth, a junior and member of Chi Omega, also retried in the future," he said. ■

participated in Stompfest 2005 and similarly enjoyed her

"I'm really sad about it being cancelled. I thought it was a big success, maybe not in terms of achieving the overall goals of promoting diversity, but a huge step in that direction," Nasmyth

The second reason involves the loss of NPHC's fraternity house and the council's priority to settle the issue.

"Now is the time, more than ever, to start focusing their efforts on those issues that are council specific," Harris said.

"NPHC council has other goals for the year that they think are of higher priority," said Alex Schwartzmann, senior president of Kappa Delta and a Stompfest participant. "Stompfest takes a lot of PR and coordination, other things they are focusing on this year. ... I understand why they are canceling the event."

"However, I think they should schedule a similar event to allow the Panhellenic and IFC members to learn about the history and values about the NPHC houses in a constructive manner," Schwartzmann said.

The loss of the NPHC fraternity house as a result of Sigma Nu's return to campus is an issue that, according to Harris, "is weighing heavily on the hearts of the members of the NPHC community."

Harris said that the NPHC is working to devise an alternative activity that would fulfill the goal of Stompfest without overwhelming the council with such a large event.

Harris said that NPHC will discuss any alternative options with the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils once they have

However, Harris said that Stompfest may not be gone forever. "Possibly, last year's Stompfest can be revisited, revamped and **ADMINISTRATION**

Board of Trust forms Expense Committee

Board members to monitor chancellor's use of university funds.

> By Darcy Newll ASST NEWS EDITOR

A Board of Trust committee was formed at the spring board meeting to monitor Chancellor Gordon Gee's spending.

Interest in the committee comes after a Wall Street Journal article printed on Tuesday charged the Board of Trust as being "looseygoosey" with supervision of Gee's

The article suggests that scrutiny of spending is a new activity of the entire board, not just the Expense Committee: "For the first time, the full board will get reports about his expenditures and pay packages. A second new board committee is scrutinizing potential conflicts of interest and likely will look at the university's longtime contract with a parking company in which a trustee holds a big stake".

However, Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Michael Schoenfeld disagrees. "Oversight has never been 'loosey-goosey",

"Vanderbilt has always had a rigorous process for reviewing all expenditures, whether they are the expenses that the Chancellor incurs for his position, or the building of a new building. This oversight has been controlled by staff, administration, and the Board of Trust," Schoenfeld said.

The Expense Committee was formed at the request of both the chancellor and the Board's Ad Hoc Committee on Government to review how the board allocates its funds to the chancellor and other officials.

The committee is a permanent fixture to the board, and meets on a regular basis to review university expenses, adding an additional level of oversight to university spending. The members of the Expense Committee, appointed in June, are the chairs of the Budget, Audit, Board Affairs and Compensation Committees: Orrin Ingram, Denny Bottorff, John Hall and Larry Wilson.

The committee's first step will be to work on a general policy statement for fiscal responsibility, said committee member Denny

The purpose of the statement is "to try to clarify what the 'tone at the top' should be and to make sure the Board of Trust and the university's general officers are all on the same wavelength."

Next, Bottorff said the committee will develop a series of sub-policies for the general level of expenditures as it related to general officers of the board, such as the chancellor.

The committee will also monitor those expenditures on an ongoing basis, he said.

"They're not investigating allegations of wrongdoing, they're providing an important judiciary role that members of the board perform," Schoenfeld said.

"My view is that many of the issues raised in the Wall Street Journal article are about governance practices that already are being or have been addressed - those having to do with singlesource contracts, budgetary oversight, and so forth," said Bruce Barry, professor of Management and Sociology. "In that sense, the Wall Street Journal article was reporting a good bit of 'old' news, rather than exposing new controversies."

Schoenfeld said that the Please see GEE, page 3



QUOTABLE

"We need it as soon as possible, so we'll start construction almost immediately."

— Jeff Kaplan, VUMC associate vice chancellor for health affairs.

A \$234 million expansion will add a critical-care tower with 12 new operating rooms and about 135 more beds to Vanderbilt University Medical Center. This was approved Wednesday by the Tennessee Health Services and Development Agency Board.



NOTABLE

After two months of negotiations, "Two and a Half Men" star Charlie Sheen is close to finalizing a new salary pact that would make him the highest-paid comedy star in television today.

Sources said Sheen will earn about \$350,000 per episode this season from producers of the CBS powerhouse, Warner Bros. Television. This represents a hefty increase from his previous payday in the low six-figures.

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY

Sunny 70/55

SATURDAY Partly Cloudy 77/59

SUNDAY

Partly Cloudy 81/56

MONDAY Sunny 85/63

CORRECTION

The quote in Wednesday's paper from Sheryl Rogers on page 3 was incorrectly attributed. The Hustler regrets this error.

TODAY IN THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Nicole Floyd

VU Dance Marathon holds Miracle Game Saturday

VU Dance Marathon invites students to the Miracle Game, the VU vs. Temple football game, on Saturday, Sept. 30. There will be a presentation of the game ball to a Miracle Family and donation sites around the stadium. Visit www.vudm.org for more information.

Blair Signature Series opens Friday

The Fall 2006 Faculty Concert Signature Series at the Blair School of Music opens on Friday evening, Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. in Ingram Hall with an annual favorite, guitarist John Johns. This time, Johns includes his "lady friends" in the list of performing guests: Blair faculty members Amy Jarman, soprano; Gayle Shay, mezzo soprano; Jane Kirchner, flute; and Kathryn Plummer, viola. The concert is free and open to the public. Complimentary valet parking and selfparking are available.

Writing Studio presents Writers' Night

The Writing Studio presents Writers' Night, which will feature Tony Earley and Vanderbilt student authors. It will take place tonight between 7 to 8:25 p.m. in room 117 in Alumni Hall. Join the studio during Family Weekend for an evening of live readings of original work by members of Vanderbilt's creative writing community. For more information, visit http://www.vanderbilt.edu/writing.

Gallery opens 'Second Nature' exhibit Sunday

The Sarratt Gallery opens its second exhibit, featuring Virginia Derryberry's "Second Nature" paintings on Sunday. The exhibit will be on display through Oct. 28.

Nashville's 200th birthday celebration begins

Sunday will kick off Nashville's nine-month 200th birthday celebration in downtown's Public Square. The event will begin with a dedication to Public Square and a celebration of all things that make Nashville a special place.

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

VUPD CRIME LOG

Compiled by Nicole Floyd

Sept 27, 11:38 p.m.—An attempted burglary was reported in Lot 22, located behind Phi Kappa Psi at 24th Avenue South and Kensington Place. There are no suspects in this investigation at this

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

SERVICE GUIDE

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

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The Hustler strives for accuracy and fairness and will correct errors of substance.

See our correction policy on the Opinion page for information about notifying us.

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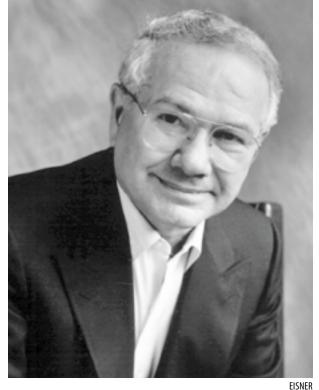
BACK ISSUES

Back issues are available in Sarratt 130 during business hours.

SPEAKER

Elliot Eisner to deliver Chancellor's Lecture tonight

Professor will speak on the importance of art in education.



By Kristen Chmielewski

SENIOR REPORTER

The Chancellor's Lecture Series will host Elliot Eisner, its second speaker of the year, today at 6 p.m. in the Student Life Center.

Eisner, an education and art professor at Stanford University, will lecture on the importance of thinking artistically to improve education in a speech entitled "What Do the Arts Teach?" The event is free and open to the

"In a certain sense, the minds we have are culturally created," Eisner said. "Our brains are biological constructs, but our minds are the constructs of culture." Regardless of discipline,

schools and educational systems inevitably will also influence the minds of students, Eisner said.

He said, "By studying the arts

within classrooms, we can foster more artistic minds."

"The arts are generally neglected in schools, but the distinctive forms of thinking needed to create artistically crafted work are relevant not only to what students do, but also to virtually all aspects of what educators do," he said.

An avid art collector himself, Eisner said he seeks to explain the numerous ways in which an education in the arts can provide for an overall better mode of creative and artistic thinking in the future.

In addition to lecturing on the relevance of art to education, Eisner has also held several presidential positions in professional organizations, written or edited 15 books, and received several awards and fellowships. ■



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Speech to address disability studies

Emory professor speaks about the politics of staring.

> By Linda Vongkhamchanh CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, associate professor of women's studies at Emory University, will speak about her disability studies research today from 4-6 p.m. in Stevenson Center room 4327.



GARLAND-THOMSON

The Women and Gender Studies Department and the Center for Medicine, Health and Society are presenting the speech, entitled "Disability Studies: A Conversation."

Garland-Thomson's speech will focus on the politics of staring, which is also the topic of the book she is currently writing.

Professor Monica J. Casper, the director of the Women's and Gender Studies Department at Vanderbilt, explained that Garland-Thomson's speech is

important because Vanderbilt does not have any classes on disability studies to highlight this issue.

"Professor Garland-Thomson has done significant intellectual and practical work in building disability studies at Emory and other institutions, and she is one of the key figures in the field," she said. "What she has to say during her visit can help us better shape our efforts to incorporate disability studies.'

According to Garland-Thomson's essay, "Disability Studies in the University," perceptions of disability are changing. She said that this change is necessary, as approximately one-third of entering college freshmen report having a disability.

Casper said that in light of Vanderbilt's growing commitment to interdisciplinary studies, the talk will help support future disability studies at the university.

"The campus is freshly open to considering the many ways in which we can understand social and cultural life and the multiple perspectives and experiences people bring to bear on their lives and relationships with each other," Casper said. ■

DIVERSITY: Community lacks orthodox Jews



BRETT KAMINSKY / The Vanderbilt Hustle

The Schulman Center for Jewish Life serves as the campus center for the Jewish faith. Students can enjoy kosher, vegetarian meals from Grins, a cafe located in the center.

From DIVERSITY, page 1

"The way it evolved in practice is that three things came together," Dubin said.

"First, Vanderbilt increased its profile on the East Coast. The second thing that happened is that the top-tiered universities have become much more competitive than they were a decade ago, so people are being exposed to schools they may never have considered. The third is that when the building was built we could answer questions such as 'Do we have religious services?' and 'Is there a Hillel building?' affirmatively."

Dubin also believes the Wall Street Journal article served to help people feel as if they did not have to worry about antisemitism on campus.

Junior Abby Mintz cited the 2002 article as one of the reasons she chose to come to Vanderbilt.

"I chose Vanderbilt because I heard in high school that they were actively trying to recruit Jewish students," Mintz said. "It was more exciting to come here because everything was so brand new and the Jewish community was not yet established. I expected to see growth in the four years I was here."

Currently in her third year at Vanderbilt, Mintz has noticed some dramatic changes on campus. An exciting moment for her occurred while she was at the poster sale at the beginning of the semester.

"While I was there, I saw two people walk by who had bar mitzvah T-shirts on and another who had on a shirt that said 'Nice Jewish Boy.' I never would have expected to see that at Vanderbilt."

Mintz said that she feels comfortable being a Jewish student on campus - most of the time.

One of her worst memories is that of walking to class and seeing someone wearing a shirt that read "You can't spell Jew without EW."

"I know that is not typical at Vanderbilt, but it did happen. I don't think its worse here than it is anywhere else. I think I am just more sensitive to it because the Jewish community here is smaller," Mintz said.

Senior Emily Rolling agrees that some people on campus are unaware of Jewish

"I think the campus is accepting of Jewish culture to a certain extent," Rolling said. "People are not aware of holidays and practices as much as I'm used to coming from where I came from."

Although he appreciated the increased number of Jewish students on campus, Dubin said he believes that Vanderbilt must still work on increasing diversity within the Jewish community, as most Jews at Vanderbilt are either reform or conservative.

Vanderbilt must increase its kosher food options and introduce an orthodox religious service on campus in order for the university to become more attractive to orthodox Jewish students, Dubin

For Dubin, one of the greatest accomplishments of Vanderbilt's commitment to Jewish life is the effect that it has had on the way Vanderbilt is perceived locally. "One of the most rewarding aspects of

my time at Vanderbilt has been all of the people locally who told me that they used to tell Jewish friends and family members that Vanderbilt wouldn't be the best place for them, but now they recommend Vanderbilt without hesitation," he said. ■

GEE: **Members** loyal to VU, not Gee

From GEE, page 1

formation of the committee reflects the changing nature of corporate governance in

"The committee was formed because all private institutions, public companies and universities are being more careful and more scrupulous in their government's procedures," said Schoenfeld. "This is something that is part of 'best practices' for non- profit boards."

"It seems important to me that Vanderbilt adopt a "best practices" mindset going forward in its board and executive governance of the university," Barry said. "If there wasn't much public scrutiny of how the university manages its financial affairs, there will be now, at least for a time."

Bottorff said that while there was a review of expenses occurring, it was not monitored against a set policy or standard.

"The main difference between this committee and what was done in the past is that the review is conducted within a policy context," he said.

Schoenfeld said that the members of the board have as a first allegiance their loyalty to Vanderbilt, despite their relationships with Gee or other

"Every member of the board has a relationship with the chancellor, if that were not the case the university would be in trouble. They are members of the board because they are looking out for the best interest of Vanderbilt community- that is what boards are for," Schoenfeld said.

Bottorff agreed, noting that many of the members of the Board of Trust have experience serving on a number of corporate boards that require the same sense of fiduciary responsibility.

"While you have personal relations with general officers, you know your first responsibility is to the institution," he said. ■ -Allison Smith contributed reporting for this article.

VSG: New president elected in February

From VSG, page 1

of efforts, and there were times when they could have collaborated but didn't because they weren't able to get to the right person in time," she said.

"The Commons will be here in a year and a half," Lancaster said. "We need an organization that can encompass that change, but neither organization is really designed specifically to work in that new system."

Dean of Students Mark Bandas said that the opening of the Commons makes this kind of change seem inevitable.

"We're creating a seamless living-learning environment, and in the new model, students will play a significant role in the governance of the university," he said. "A unified student government will help them communicate and collaborate with faculty and staff constituencies."

If all goes according to plan, a student body president, elected by the entire undergraduate population February, in will lead VSG. Student representatives will serve in a bicameral legislature, as part of the Senate or the House. Six committees—Organizational Relations, Student Services and Technology, Dining and Facilities, Athletics, Security, and Community Service—will make up the committee system. A chief of staff will lead the VSG Cabinet, comprised of the treasurer, attorney general and director of publicity.

Donovan and Lancaster said that the main focus of the new organization is student empowerment.

"We really want to consolidate student leadership and voice, to strengthen the roles and ensure more efficacy for each leader," Donovan said.

"Every position you'll see in this new structure is more important than whatever the relative comparison might be now," Lancaster added.

Lancaster said that community interaction is another value of VSG, citing the creation of the Organizational Relations Committee.

The Organizational Relations Committee will bring together representatives from various campus organizations to discuss issues of residence and

"Whether it's a residence or campus-wide issue, they're all intertwined, and those voices and those thoughts and those concerns will all come to a head in the same place," Lancaster said.

Student access is another value of the new organization, Donovan said.

"If you are a junior and have never served in Vanderbilt student government before, but you're a great leader and you have a passion for serving the student body, there is a position that you could apply for or run for in this government," she said.

According to Donovan and Lancaster, transparency is also a central value of the organization. The voting records of VSG representatives will be made available to the public.

While Donovan Lancaster said that they do not see any downsides to their plan, they said that some members of their organization have expressed concern that the dissolution of Interhall and SGA will decrease the number of leadership positions available.

"Certainly people are trying to understand what it does mean as far as their interest in having these leadership roles goes," Lancaster said.

However, Donovan and Lancaster said that they have openly presented their idea to Interhall and SGA with those concerns in mind.

Salters said she believes this increased competition is healthy.

"I know that in the past, there have been problems in both organizations with filling some spots," she said. "I feel like it will be even more of an opportunity to get the right people in the right position who are really motivated to effect change on campus."■

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WED	9:30am	12 noon	4:30рм	6:00рм	7 :30 _{PM}
THUR	6:00am	12 noon	4:30рм	6:00рм	
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OPINION

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OUR VIEW

SGA and Interhall trim the fat

Never again will students with political aspirations struggle with the decision between Student Government Association and Interhall. This is just one of the (more trivial) ways that the dissolving of these two bodies and establishment of the new Vanderbilt Student Government will benefit students.

SGA President Boone Lancaster and Interhall President Devin Donovan picked a great time to merge the two organizations, with the opening of the Commons looming in the near future. The only question we have is, why didn't this happen sooner? Interhall and SGA have been working toward similar goals separately for a long time, and it only makes sense that they pool resources for the good of the Vanderbilt community.

A single governing body, catering to all students, will facilitate better communication between students, faculty and administration, as there will be a single point of reference for all issues. It will consolidate power, making student government into one strong voice more capable of enacting policy changes.

Lancaster and Donovan have deliberated extensively about the intricacies of these changes, and we look forward to seeing the results of the convergence.

Stompfest will be sorely missed

Stompfest, which paired National Pan-Hellenic Conference and Interfraternity Council organizations in a step competition, was one of the highlights of last year's homecoming festivities. It packed Memorial Gym and got rave reviews from students. The decision not to bring Stompfest back this year is a disappointment.

Sigma Nu has recently recolonized, taking back their residence on Greek Row, where NPHC has resided the past few years. This has caused complications for NPHC, making them feel incapable of taking on a project as large and time-consuming as Stompfest. This

Another factor in the cancellation of Stompfest is the feeling of some NPHC members that the event did not accomplish what it set out to last year. Instead of bringing the different organizations together in a long-term relationship, some feel that, as soon as the event ended, the groups quickly slipped into the sense of separation that had been the status quo.

While we understand why Stompfest is not happening this year, we strongly desire to see it return. In the future, we encourage students to remember the reasons events such as Stompfest are held, and to carry those reasons with them even after the show has ended.

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.

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

issue affecting students might be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

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

CORRECTION POLICY

Letters via e-mail must either

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-

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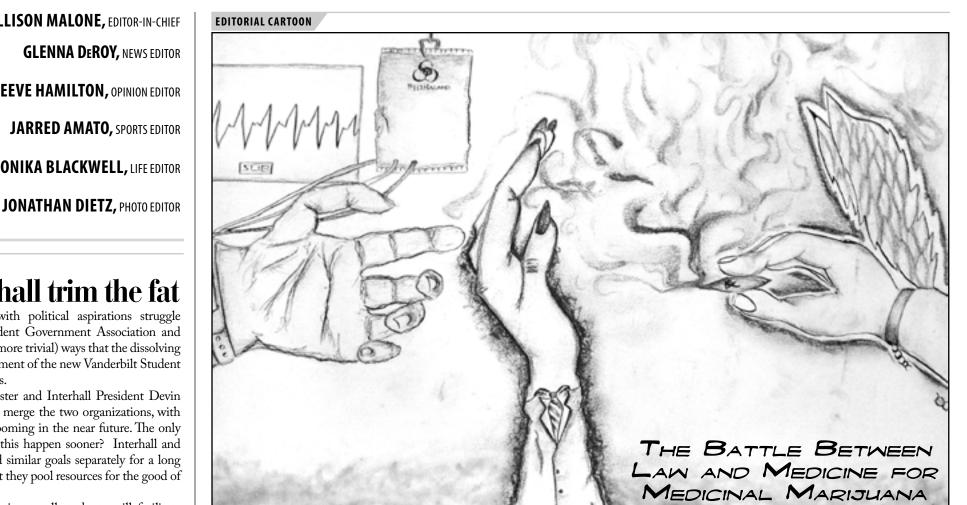
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Nicole Schneider—The Vanderbilt Hustler

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Professor's comments on 9/11 misrepresented

I am writing in response to The Hustler's Sept. 27 article, "Student appears on Fox News," which makes reference to my participation on the Vanderbilt 9/11 panel that was held last Sept. 11. To imply, as the article does, that in my comments I was somehow sympathizing with terrorists, or advocating a "soft on terrorism" position by "putting ourselves in al-Qaida's shoes" is completely misrepresenting my argument. In my panel statement I unambiguously deplored the terrorists' tactics, and argued that the most effective way to stop the terrorists is to neutralize their networks by espionage and infiltration, rather than through large-scale military action. I also argued that it is important to understand your opponent: how he is thinking, what logic he is using, how he is justifying (to himself and to others) the acts that he is undertaking. Only then can you work effectively to neutralize him.

It is wrong, I believe, to take someone's statements out of their broader context in a complex discussion, and then quote selected sound bites to make that person seem as if they were saying something they were not. This is not the path toward constructive dialogue across ideological lines - a dialogue that is so urgently needed in our country (and in our world)

> Michael Bess Chancellor's Professor of History

Student reactions disappointing

To the Editor:

As a former faculty brat, an alumna, and staff member of Vanderbilt University, I was surprised and more than a little disappointed to see that The Hustler found itself "a little unimpressed" with the results of the Wall Street Journal investigation and article on Chancellor Gee. I was even more disappointed to read the quotations from students on the first page of the Sept. 27

That anyone outside the administration could possibly regard \$6 million in housing renovations, a massive entertainment budget and a personal chef, not to mention the Chancellor's outlandish salary over and above these perks, as anything but gross mismanagement on the part of the university speaks volumes. Vanderbilt has always been an elitist institution, and as an alumna I'm as much an intellectual snob as the next person, but there are matters being swept under the rug here that beg to see the light of day.

In recent years, there have been several discussions and debates on campus regarding the living wage issue. Many of the housekeeping and food services staff are laid off in the summer, and even during the year are barely paid enough to live on. Similarly, when the time comes each year for salary raises, many departments are given only enough for 3 percent raises, at best, for their

staff, regardless of how well they performed.

It is difficult to have to tell a staff member that their raise will amount to \$50 a month before taxes, and it is truly upsetting to have to do so when one knows even the basics of the Chancellor's salary agreement. However, now that the truth is out there regarding the finer details of that agreement, as well as expenses that appear to have simply slipped past the Board of Trust, my sole emotion is anger. I'm sure some will counter that Mr. Gee has raised a great deal of money for the University, and clearly that is so. I fail to see this as justification for the rampant, uncontrolled spending that is apparently going on or for the gross disparity between the Chancellor's salary and lavish lifestyle and those of the people who really run this university: his staff.

Mr. Gee, I honestly could not care less what your wife smokes or where she smokes it as long as it's not on the university's tab. I have been associated with Vanderbilt far longer than you have, and while I've gone through many cycles of love and hate for this institution, I have never, in 37 years, felt as disappointed and let down by my school as I do today. And I am at least as let down by the fact that Vanderbilt's apathetic student body still doesn't seem to care.

> Elizabeth TeSelle Vanderbilt Alumna, Class of '84

War needs honest management

To the Editor:

The stance taken by Chris Donnelly in his article on U.S.-held detainees is shamefully amoral, and is just one more example of how drastically we need a major government overhaul this

In the course of only a few hundred words, Donnelly manages to harshly contradict not only reason and common sense, but many of our societal norms and values as well. Most immediately disturbing is his disregard for established law and general human rights, which becomes evident as he openly advocates the torture of his fellow human beings.

In typical right-wing fashion, Donnelly expresses open contempt for the rights of others, and is all too quick to discard the liberties and values that distinguish us from the terrorists in the first place. He even puts our own Constitution under siege, as he defames our treasured checks and balances and argues for an all-powerful executive that decides when and if our laws and

Furthermore, Donnelly's attempt to justify torture by citing past conflicts and security concerns is horrendously erroneous and intellectually insulting. We can be tough on terrorism without violating human rights, and we can make our nation safer without ignoring foreign and domestic law. Many

politicians in both parties have pointed out that torturing detainees may actually make us less safe, as it simply breeds more anti-American sentiment and makes our troops overseas even more of a target for radical extremists.

The best way to avoid another attack on U.S. soil is to competently and honestly manage the War on Terror, and that is something that the current administration and its rubber-stamp congress have failed miserably at. The very concept of torture is something that goes against everything America stands for, and those now advocating it are only further underlining the abandonment of reason and human dignity by those currently calling the shots in Washington. This is the ultimate values debate, and the side of the political spectrum that so often extols its own moral virtues is now conspicuously hypocritical.

If we really don't care about principle or morals, then let's bring on the redhot irons. But if we feel otherwise, then maybe it's time we voted for change this November. Freedom and human dignity are wonderful things, and it would be a shame to have them sacrificed on an altar of ignorance and political expediency.

Kelson Bohnet Junior, A&S President, Vanderbilt College Democrats

Kirkland uses misdirection

To the Editor:

As the period of Roman dominance came to a close in the early fifth century, St Augustine summarized all the lessons of the fall of Rome when he wrote, "In the absence of justice, what is sovereignty but organized robbery?" What Augustine understood, and what we too often forget, is that there is no absolute right to authority. Authority must be earned; it must be deserved. Augustine's statement is a healthy reminder that when results are achieved without morality, the results are useless, tainted and hollow.

When the much-discussed Wall Street Journal article appeared, Vanderbilt posted an official response on its website that listed the numerous and commendable achievements of Vanderbilt under Chancellor Gee. This response is a misdirection. The article was not attacking our results;in fact, it praised the recent progress of Vanderbilt. The purpose of the article was to challenge our character.

When accusations of waste or other impropriety arise at Vanderbilt, the official response always points to results. But results are beside the point. Wrong is wrong, and all of the billions raised do not change that. Morality does not operate by the rules of the balance sheet. A drop in acceptance rates does not offset a career-long pattern of opulent renovations. Buckets of money deposited on the steps of Kirkland Hall by alumni do not mitigate the use of illegal drugs on university

As an alumnus of Vanderbilt, I spent four years watching Chancellor Gee sell himself as a kinder, gentler sort of educator. He spent time withus, talking about our concerns, and was always anxious to remind us that we, the students, made Vanderbilt great. Perhaps it is now time to remind him that Vanderbilt's greatness is his responsibility as well.

> Timothy Dees Vanderbilt Alumnus

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

represent the Vanderbilt community.

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Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4311 (615) 736-5295

Nashville, TN 37212 (615) 783-0106

OPINION 5

COLUMN

9/11 panel poses important questions

In response to a faculty panel held to reflect on the significance and meaning of Sept. 11, Vanderbilt student Chris Donnelly felt that the forum was so biased and hostile to meaningful dialogue that

Guest Columnist

TYLER

ZIMMER

he complained to the conservative organization Young Americas Foundation. As a result, yesterday Donnelly found himself on "Hannity and Colmes" where he voiced his disapproval of the "liberal bias" and "anti-American" sentiment of the panel.

Like Donnelly, I attended the Sept. 11 panel; however, our experiences of the event were drastically different.

The most valuable thing I took from the conference was a host of unanswered questions that I hadn't considered before. The most pressing, in my opinion, was the obvious but nonetheless extremely difficult question "Why did they attack us?" If you are in the business of recycling rhetoric coming out of the Bush administration then you already have a simple, easy-to-swallow answer. That is, something to the effect of, "They hate freedom," "They're evil men who hate our way of life," or perhaps, "They're crazy fanatics that hate our Judeo-Christian tradition." I find all of these answers unconvincing.

In fact, there are far more complex reasons why Sept. 11 happened, and this was emphasized by most all of the panelists. Their main contention was that we need to critically scrutinize the rhetoric our leaders offer to us, rather than happily gulping it down without another thought as Mr. Donnelly and many pundits have done. All too often, Bush administration officials and pundits offer oversimplified answers to profoundly difficult issues and dismiss any further inquiry as "unpatriotic" or "anti-American." In many cases, their rebuke for critics of American foreign policy is premised on the dogmatic view that "America can do no wrong in foreign affairs."

However, if someone were to ask me why Sept. 11 happened, I would speculate about its causes, but to be honest, I'm not confident that I fully understand why it happened. The fact that many Americans feel this way is a problem that we should examine more closely. Although many panelists speculated about possible causes, the message I took from the talk was that rather than passively accept politicians' rhetoric, we as a nation ought to examine the issue more critically. Despite Hannity's view and Donnelly's sneering at the

thought of "putting ourselves in al-Qaida's shoes," this is precisely what we ought to do if we want to begin to understand why we were attacked.

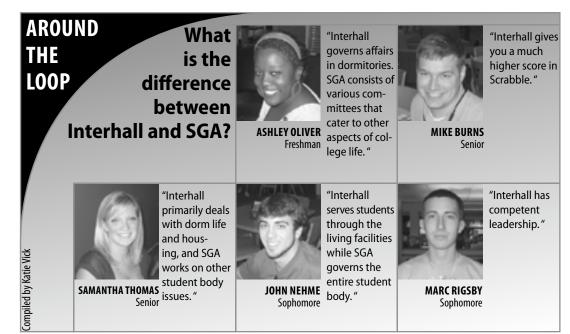
I watched Donnelly's interview with Sean Hannity, and in it he complained that "the professor pretty much shot me down" when he argued that the United States is fighting a war on "Islamo-fascism." If by "shot me down" Donnelly meant that the professor offered arguments and asked questions that exposed the inconsistencies of his reasoning (that is, he refuted him), then on this Donnelly and I can agree. But I am surprised to find someone interested in open debate to be so uncomfortable being in a dialogue with someone he disagrees. Donnelly was given a chance to speak but could not reasonably explain what he meant by employing the term "Islamo-fascism."

After Donnelly's comment, the professor's first remark was something to the effect, "this has got to be the wrong way to think about this," by which he meant that the term "fascist" (which refers to a statist ideology, not a non-state network of cells) could not reasonably be applied to what the United States is fighting. The term is propagandistic and has no meaning beyond establishing a connection in the public mind between Iraq and World War II in order to bolster support for Bush's foreign policy.

This story line posits terrorism as the "new fascism" and likens anyone who advocates changing the course in Iraq to those who "appeased Hitler." This exact line of reasoning has been offered on Fox for the last several weeks by such figures as Newt Gingrich, Sean Hannity and Bill O'Reilly. "Islamo-fascism" is political rhetoric that is a direct response to eroding public support for the Iraq war as well as waning support for the president and the Republican Party.

The difference between what transpired at the panel discussion and what happened on "Hannity and Colmes" epitomizes everything that is wrong with political debate in this country. The juxtaposition is painfully ironic considering Donnelly is the one who purports to be in favor of meaningful, open debate. On the one hand, you have a two-hour forum (where Donnelly was given the floor) trying to make sense out of very complex issues, and on the other you hear a superficial two-minute conversation interspersed with short sound bites which has no hope of ever transcending rhetoric and getting at the heart of the profound problems that we are truly facing.

—Tyler Zimmer is a junior in the College of Arts and Science.



COLUMN

Stereotype still reigns at Vanderbilt

The recently published article "Financial aid statistics contradict Vanderbilt stereotype" brought the attention of the Vanderbilt community to the issue of the financial status of

Columnist

BLYTHE RIDGE

its residents. According to the article, Vanderbilt students are not the stereotypical rich kids whose parents write out a check every semester in the full amount of Vanderbilt's tuition and fees. In fact, 60 percent of the freshman class receives some form of financial aid, which is an even greater amount than the overall 55 percent.

Did anyone else hear what I heard in that statement? Forty percent of the freshman class had parents writing out checks for the full amount of more than \$47,000 per year. This hardly seems a trivial amount of money for people to be dishing out. Obviously, a great amount of students attending our school are in fact those stereotypical rich kids: 45 percent of us to be exact.

In addition, the phrase "some financial aid" is telling in itself. This could include students who have a single \$1,000 grant or even less. While this might be significant at a public university,

it hardly scratches the surface of Vanderbilt's hefty bill. A greater percentage of students at state-funded schools receive financial aid even though their tuition is substantially less than Vanderbilt's. For example, 85 percent of students at Tennessee State University just across town receive financial aid. Even schools in the same price range as Vanderbilt have us beat in the category of economic diversity. Nearly two-thirds of Harvard undergraduates receive financial aid.

The exact statistics are not required to see the economic gap that exists on our campus. A prime example is the very small percentage of students receiving Pell grants at this university. According to Exploration, an online research journal, only 608 Vanderbilt students received such aid in 2002. So while we have 45 percent of our students at one end of the economic spectrum, we have only a handful at the other.

It is ridiculous to try to inform students that we have reached a wonderful state of economic diversity when in fact we are lagging far behind most universities in this respect. For now, at least, the stereotype is still fairly relevant, and Vanderbilt will continue to be less accessible to those of lower socioeconomic status than is desired.

—Blythe Ridge is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Science.

COLUMN

People have right to buy Hitler's art

Watercolor pieces and sketches done by Adolf Hitler, prior to his dictatorship, recently sold for between \$6,000 and \$19,000 in the U.K. after they were found in an attic in Belgium. In the

Opinion Columnist

SAMANTHA SCHREIBER

past, his artwork has sold for up to \$50,000. Controversy arose at the use of a name such as Hitler for money, and many people question the type that would buy a piece of work by someone responsible for so many deaths. Many of the people who bought the works were not willing to answer interview questions or requested anonymity. This is not surprising.

At what point can you look at a piece of work and not think about the artist? Art as a form of expression tells us a lot about the artist, as we see the pain in the works of Van Gogh and trace Picasso's many stages. However, these pastoral, colorful works present no foreshadowing of Hitler's future.

I understand that a lot of people, especially the minorities who were persecuted as a result of Hitler's reign, are unhappy and offended that these works would be used for profit, but auction for his variable.

—Samantha Sch

this is not the first time something like this has happened. Hitler was involved in the prototype and continued development of the Volkswagen Beetle, but no one has protested its sale.

There is something about a piece of art with "A. Hitler" stamped across it that represents almost a lack of respect for those affected. Buying a piece of art signed by someone who caused so many people so much pain is almost as if we are forgetting the fact that it all happened. Perhaps, a portion of the sales should go towards Holocaust memorial funds or museums as a tribute to those who were affected.

On the other hand, freedom of expression is a right. Dictator or not, he produced art that some people may find attractive and have a right to display where they please. While some museums and galleries have chosen not to display works of Hitler that they have, everyone has the personal choice to buy and exhibit what they want. We may not all agree with it, but we must respect those who are able to overlook Hitler's misdeeds.

It would be wrong to ban this artwork, just as it would be wrong to ban other works that discuss similar controversy. I won't be lining up at an auction for his work, but, Adolf Hitler's art will continue to be coveted.

—Samantha Schreiber is a junior in the College of



TEACHFORAMERICA



The Vanderbilt Hustler | Friday, September 29, 2006

SPORTS

Logo adds new dimension to Vandy's defensive line

Dores' front four finding success after new coach puts an emphasis on quickness.

By Will Gibbons SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

When Mike Hart ran for 92 yards in the first half of the Michigan game, it appeared as though it would be a long season for the Vanderbilt defensive line. Four weeks later, the front four appears to have grown into one of the strongest areas of the team.

A new philosophy from firstyear defensive line coach Rick Logo has keyed the success. With the Commodores giving up some size up front, using quickness seems to be the best strategy. Former coach David Turner preached aggressiveness, while Logo, who comes from Troy University, believes in taking what the offensive line gives before attacking.

"The thing we've been trying to tell our players is speed and playing fast," he said. "We lack in size, but we've got to make up for it in speed. The biggest thing is they can't hit what they can't catch. We try to instill that we've got to play faster than our opponents."

The finesse approach seems to be working, and it will only get

games, the defense has given up an more time in the film room average of 119.6 yards rushing. The team ranks 8th in the Southeastern Conference in rush defense, up from 10th last year with 169.9 yards per game. The defense had 14 sacks all of last year, but is on pace for 18 this year. They held star running backs Ken Darby of Alabama and Darren smart," Gatewood said. "That's McFadden of Arkansas in check.

"Coming in, we wanted to show that we were better than we had shown in the past," said defensive tackle Ray Brown. "We understand that we worked hard, but we were probably not producing the way we should have the last couple of years."

Having athletes on the edges has helped the process as well. Curtis Gatewood is a converted linebacker and could have played mid-major college basketball. Broderick Stewart, who is second on the team in sacks, played tight end and wide receiver in high school, in addition to his efforts in track and basketball.

"When you get to a point where you can put a faster guy on Booker, Theo Horrocks and a 300-pound guy and see if we can get a mismatch there," Logo said, "I'll take speed over size any

There has also been a change better with time. In the past three in preparation. The line has spent beginning. ■

scouting opponents than in the past, learning how to read the opposing linemen. This allows them to react to the opposing scheme before barreling ahead during the games.

"He really wants us to play why we do a lot to read pass rushes. He wants us to be smart and get off blocks."

A defensive tackle himself at North Carolina State, Logo seems to bring an expertise to coaching the line that hasn't always been

"He was All-ACC," Brown said, "so he definitely understands the position. The knowledge he brings shows every day. He's more of an 'understand your opponent' type of guy."

Daily improvement is a signature principle for any football team. It's been no different for the Vandy linemen.

"With Ray Brown, Chris Curtis Gatewood, you're talking about a group of guys that as a starting four has made strides," Logo said.

And to think that it's just the



Defensive tackle Ray Brown anchors a much-improved Vanderbilt defensive line. So far Brown, as well as starters Chris Booker, Theo

Horrocks and Curtis Gatewood, have put more pressure on the quarterback and contained some of the SEC's top running backs.

Dores won't take Temple lightly

By Andrew Barge ORTS REPO

After earning its first win of the season, the Vanderbilt football team will look to put together a winning streak against winless Temple. While the Owls have struggled so far this season, don't expect to see an overconfident Vanderbilt squad this Saturday. Coach Bobby Johnson knows that focus and preparation are crucial for the team to keep the momentum going.

"I don't think we will be overconfident for anybody," he said. "We don't take a different approach from a (Southeastern game. We treat them all the same, and we don't think this is a reprieve."

A young Temple team comes to Vanderbilt with losses in each of its first four games. Despite the Owls' record, Johnson can relate to the spirit of an inexperienced team looking for its first

"They are playing a lot of freshmen," he said. "Our guys, back when we were doing that, felt like we could beat anybody. I'm sure Temple is going to come in here and think they have a great opportunity to get a win."

Temple puts most of its offensive

emphasis on the rushing attack. During the loss against Western Michigan this past weekend, freshman starter Jason Harper ran for the team's first touchdown of the season. With coach Al Golden rotating two freshmen at quarterback, look for both Harper and senior Tim Brown to see significant carries against

To counter the run, Vanderbilt will look to its improving defensive line. Johnson attributes the unit's success to new defensive line coach Rick Logo as well as depth within the line.

"Starting defensive tackles Ray Brown Conference) game or an out of conference and Theo Horrocks have just been as steady as they can be in there, and again I attribute that to coach Logo's work with them," Johnson said. "We felt they could be good players. Our backup players are doing a good job of going in there and

spelling them and keeping them fresh." After enjoying one of his best games as a Commodore against Tennessee State last weekend, linebacker Marcus Buggs will look to continue his solid play against Temple. While Buggs' athleticism turned heads this past weekend, Johnson is more impressed with the linebacker's work

"Marcus goes full speed all the time, and he knows exactly what to do," Johnson said. "He studies the game plan, and when you have a guy doing that who has some natural ability, you are going to have a

On the other side of the ball, the Commodores will focus on eliminating mistakes. Quarterback Chris Nickson continues to gain confidence with his improved play. His numbers against TSU were solid, but a fumbled snap and sloppy goal line execution leaves room to improve. Johnson has high hopes for his quarterback, saying that he expects Nickson to improve this week.

"Chris is the first one to tell you that he can do better and he will," Johnson said.

A win over Temple would give our team its first winning streak of the season. For this to happen, Vanderbilt will have to play hard and focus as if it were playing an SEC team. Johnson expects the pride from the first win to have a positive effect on the team's performance.

"I think everybody will be feeling a little bit better when we go out to prepare for Temple," he said. "Winning does that for you. It builds your confidence and just makes everything better."■

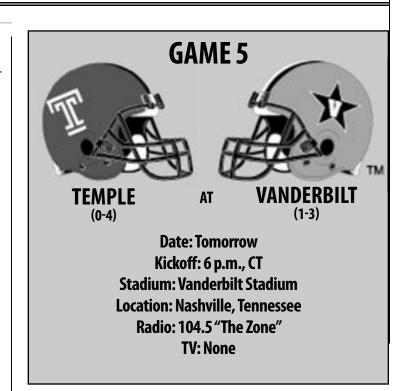


COMEDIAN/ACTOR position **TEMPLE** alma mater THE COSBY SHOW known for sports played | FOOTBALL, TRACK & FIELD PHILADELPHIA, PA hometown

WILL GIBBONS SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

VANDY ALUMNI vs TEMPLE ALUMNI

This depends on whether you prefer the stately or the entertaining. Vanderbilt features such alumni as Al and Tipper Gore, Senator Lamar Alexander, as well as former senators James Sasser and Fred Thompson. Temple, on the other hand, has seen comedians Bill Cosby (who played football at Temple for one year) and Bob Saget walk its campus, in addition to Steve Capus, president of NBC News. Another notable Vandy alumnus, Jay Cutler, will be attending the game, as his Denver Broncos have the week off.



PROJECTED STARTERS	TEMPLE			VANDERBILT			
OFFENSE							
QB	12	Vaughn Charleton	3	Chris Nickson			
FB	33	Alex DiMichele	17	Steven Bright			
RB	34	Jason Harper	22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison			
WR	82	Bruce Francis	10	Earl Bennett			
WR	3	Mike Holley	82	Marlon White			
TE	83	Marcus Brown	83	Brad Allen			
LT	73	Devin Tyler	74	Chris Williams			
LG	75	Brison Manor	78	Josh Eames			
С	59	Alex Derenthal	53	Hamilton Holliday			
RG	60	Neil Dickson 64 Merritt Kirch		Merritt Kirchoffer			
RT	70	Elliot Seifert	72	Brian Stamper			
DEFENSE							
DE	90	Doug Morris	46	Chris Booker			
DE	93	Leyon Azubuike	48	Curtis Gatewood			
DT	98	Andre Neblett	94	Ray Brown			
DT	92	Terrance Knighton	54	Theo Horrocks			
LB	4	Junior Galette	40	Kevin Joyce			
LB	44	Walter Mebane	47	Jonathan Goff			
LB	46	John Haley	24	Marcus Buggs			
СВ	6	David Reese	29	Joel Caldwell			
СВ	37	Abioye Oyeyemi	16	D.J. Moore			
FS	1	Wilbert Brinson	25	Ben Koger			
SS	24	Chris Page	33	Reshard Langford			
SPECIAL							
TEAMS							
Р	47	Jake Brownell	39	Brett Upson			
PK	45	Danny Murphy	8	Bryant Hahnfeldt			

SPORTS

Soccer set for SEC home opener

Commodores host Alabama tonight, Auburn Sunday.

By Max Franklin SPORTS REPORTER

Vanderbilt women's soccer returns home this weekend to kick off the Southeastern Conference season at the VU Soccer Complex. The Commodores (5-1-4, 1-0-1) are coming off a dramatic overtime win at Arkansas after a scoreless tie at LSU.

"It was really important to get that win to start off on the right foot in the SEC," said senior defender Monica Buff. "We were disappointed with the tie on Friday so getting a win on Sunday helped salvage the weekend."

Buff scored the game-winning goal on a diving header off a corner kick from senior forward Lea Lafield, who scored the Dores' first goal on Sunday. It was the first collegiate goal for Buff, who has been a staple at center back for the last three

"She knew the importance of that game," said coach Ronnie Coveleskie. "As a senior captain and leader, she had a diving head ball for the win. We've been talking about doing whatever it takes to win the game, and she did that. I couldn't have been any more proud of her than at that moment. To play against a team that was fresh and hadn't played Friday night, to gut it out and get a win, even if it took overtime, shows a lot about our spirit."

The Dores begin a four-game home stand against Alabama at 7 p.m. today and Auburn at 2 p.m. Sunday. Unbeaten at home this season, the team is eager to keep the momentum going from Sunday's win.

"Both games are going to be really tough and they're both really important for us," Buff said. "We're really excited to be back at home, we're just looking to take it one day at a time. If we play the way we can, the outcome will end up the way we want."

Last season, Vandy won its first seven games at home and started the SEC season with five straight wins. Vanderbilt knows that each game will be a struggle this season.

"It's invaluable to start off strong in the conference," Coveleskie said. "Every game matters in the SEC, and you've got to take care of business every Friday and Sunday, whether on the road or at home. One little slip up could cost you the game, and we're

all trying to win the SEC championship and every game is vital."

Both Auburn (6-3-0, 0-2-0) and Alabama (4-6-0, 0-2-0) had tough opening weekends, losing their first two SEC contests. While both will look to avenge the close losses of last season, Auburn has an extra chip on their shoulder heading into this weekend. Ranked as high as 13th last week in the national polls, the Tigers dropped out of every poll after the weekend. They will certainly be eager to put the Dores away and leave Nashville with a win over a Vanderbilt team hovering just outside the top 25.

"It's really important to start off winning and be the team that everyone else wants to beat," Buff said. "Once you establish yourselves, you place pressure on your opponents playing you, and it's good for our confidence to establish ourselves right away in the SEC."

On Friday night, McDougal's will be giving away chicken tenders before the game, so show up early and support your Commodores. ■



BRETT KAMINKSY /The Vanderbilt Hustle

Freshman Nicole Lukens (7) and the rest of the Dores are happy to play at home this weekend.

Freshman golfer makes 'immediate impact'

By Pete Madden ASST SPORTS EDITOR

Having already carded his first top 20 finish of his young collegiate career at the Carpet Capital Collegiate, freshman golfer Hudson Johnson has provided the Commodores with a muchneeded spark to usher in the 2006 season.

Johnson, the only Commodore to score under par in all three rounds, shot a 2-under-par 70 in his final round at the Carpet Capital Collegiate to finish the tournament in a tie for 11th place at a 4-under 212. He supplemented this outstanding debut with an impressive follow-up performance at the Fighting Illini Invitational at Olympia Fields, finishing in a tie for 33rd place.

"Hudson has made an immediate impact here," said coach Tom Shaw. "It's always difficult to judge how a freshman will adapt to a higher level of competition, but Hudson has had great confidence in his abilities and has showed no signs of backing down."

In fact, Johnson, a native of Longview, Texas, where he was a four-year starter and letter-winner at Longview High School, actually attributes his early success to this healthy spirit of competition among the Commodore squad, an aspect of athletics starkly lacking from his high school career.

"The competition here between myself and my teammates is so helpful," Johnson said. "Where I lived, there was no one else around to push me. It's so great here because everyone is always fighting to make the team."

While the transition from high school to collegiate athletics has undoubtedly been a strenuous one for Johnson, his burdens are eased by the fact that Shaw is embarking on his "freshman" year at Vanderbilt as well. Shaw enters his first season at the helm of the Commodore golfers after serving as the head coach at Tulane since 2000.

"Coach Shaw is also going through a transition," Johnson said, "so we have both been making a lot of adjustments."

"I'm still learning the ropes at Vanderbilt, too," Shaw added, "so I hope that makes him feel a little bit better. He and I are in the same boat. We both have a fresh start."

With the emergence of Johnson and the consistently solid play of senior Luke List, junior Brett Lange and sophomore Jon Curran, the Commodores have established a strong core of golfers that gives Shaw a positive outlook for the upcoming season.

"There's a freshness about our team," Shaw said, "and a feeling among all of us that what is in the past is in the past. We are moving forward with a lot of enthusiasm." ■

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TWENTYANDGRAND_STERLING(a)

CROSSFIREMAIL, COM

KEYS TO THE SA

By Will Gibbons SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

PRESSURE THE TEMPLE QBS

Nobody wants to be the team that was beaten by Temple, the losers of 16

straight games. Letting a desperate team hang around could be a recipe for trouble. Last week's game was still a toss-up in the third quarter, so improvement in this category is necessary. For Vandy, the competition is about to take a step-up in the coming weeks, so making it a habit to stay sharp for four quarters would be wise.

WANDEDDILL HUGELED DIGWG THE WINNED

The Owls play two quarterbacks, neither of whom has seen much success. Forcing some early mistakes could lead to some easy opportunities for Vandy. A team that scored just 10 points all year, Temple will be looking for anything to lift their spirits. It's up to the Commodore defense not to allow it.

SUSTAINING DRIVES

The Commodores are last in the SEC in first downs, which means they are not keeping drives alive on third down. For an offense that has lacked the big play, moving the chains is imperative to the team's success.

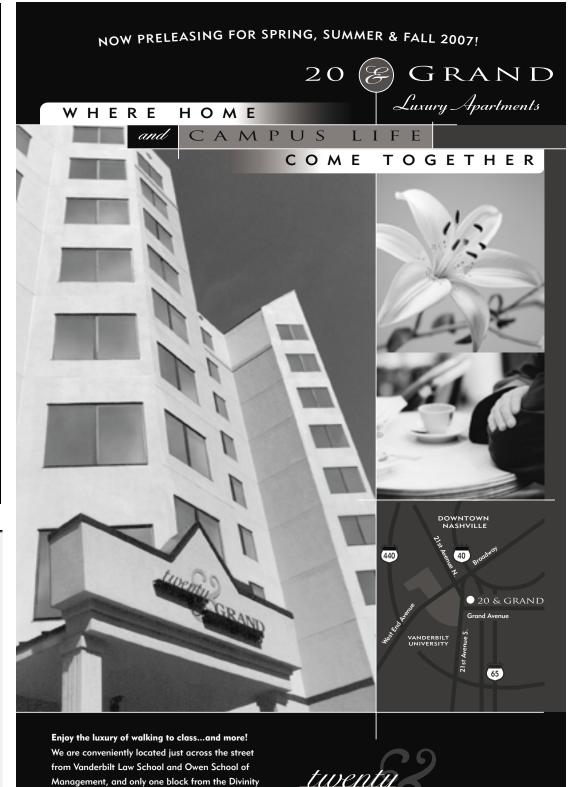
VANDERBILI HUSTLER PICKS THE WINNERS							
MATCHUPS	JARRED AMATO (9-11) Sports Editor	JAMBU PALANIAPPAN (11-9) Assistant Sports Editor	WILL GIBBONS (12-8) Senior Sports Reporter	ALLISON MALONE (13-7) Editor-in-Chief			
Temple @ Vandy	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY	VANDY			
#1 Ohio State @ #13 lowa	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE	OHIO STATE			
#24 Georgia Tech @ #11 Virginia Tech	GEORGIA TECH	VIRGINIA TECH	VIRGINIA TECH	GEORGIA TECH			
Alabama @ #5 Florida	FLORIDA	ALABAMA	FLORIDA	FLORIDA			
Purdue @ #12 Notre Dame	PURDUE	NOTRE DAME	NOTRE DAME	NOTRE DAME			



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The Vanderbilt Hustler | Friday, September 29, 2006

LIFE

Need to know Nashville

For those of us not lucky enough to have been born and raised in Music City USA, there might be a lot you don't know about the city that Vanderbilt calls home.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

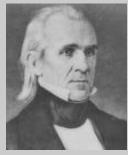
(according to the 2000 U.S. census) Population: 565,352 Area of land: 502 square miles **County: Davidson** Male to female ratio: 48:52 Median age: 34 Median household income: \$39,797

HISTORIC EVENTS:

1779: Nashville was founded as Fort Nashborough by James Robertson and John Donelson, and was named in honor of Revolutionary War general Francis Nash. 1784: Name changed to Nashville. 1806: Nashville officially incorporated as a city. 1843: Nashville became the permanent state capital. 1963: Under the Metropolitan Charter, Nashville and Davidson County were united with a single government.

TRIVIA AND FUN FACTS:

- Nashville was founded on Christmas Eve.
- Two past presidents, Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk, were natives of the greater Nashville area.



- The driveway at Andrew Jackson's estate, The Hermitage, is in the shape of a guitar.
- Nashville is home to both the oldest African-American architectural firm, McKissack and McKissack, and the oldest African-American financial institution. Citizens Savings Bank and Trust, in the country.



Teddy Roosevelt coined the phrase "good to the last drop" in Nashville after drinking locally brewed Maxwell House coffee.

Nashville first garnered its musical reputation during the 1870s when Fisk University's Jubilee Singers toured the country to raise funds for the

university.

The Grand Ole Opry was originally started in 1925 as a radio program entitled the WSM Barn Dance and is the longest continuously running show in radio

The capitol building was designed by famed architect William Strickland, who died during its construction and is said to be

- buried in its walls. Nashville was granted the first FM radio license in the country in 1941.
- Known as the "buckle of the Bible Belt," Nashville is home to over 700 churches, more than any other American city per capita.
- Nashville has the second largest music production industry in the country, after New York. The music business contributes roughly 19,000 jobs and \$6.4 billion per year to the economy.



Whether it's the first time or the hundredth time your parents have come to brighten your weekend, take this opportunity to see and really enjoy all the fabulous historic and cultural places Nashville has to offer. You can use their visit as an excuse to hit all the unique attractions you've been too shy to ask your friends to do with you. Even if your parents aren't in town, invité some friends to explore Nashville.

Blame your parents for making you go to the Frist's "The Quest for Immortality: Treasures of Ancient Egypt" exhibit (and secretly love every minute of it). Tickets are \$17 and well worth it. Who could say no to an afternoon of mummies, sarcophagi and a burial-tomb replication on this weekend of familial bonding? Besides, the best perk of parents weekend is that the folks will probably pay for your admission.

Downtown If it's their first visit to Nashville, then the first place they need to get to know is downtown, where, if you're lucky, you can take the famous Nash-Trash Tour (featured on "Good Morning America") and maybe see a celebrity or two on the way. While downtown, also be sure to visit the Country Music Hall of Fame, which is a spectacular showcase of the music that made Nashville Music City – definitely enjoyable for the casual visitor or a

hardcore country fan.

Historical Venues If you want to prove to your parents that attending Vanderbilt has made you more cultured, consider one of the many historical sites around the area. The Belle Meade plantation is beautifully preserved and the Civil War reenactments will make you feel like you're reliving history with the blacksmith and the butter churner. Be sure to visit the Carter House if Civil War history suits your fancy. The house-turned-museum witnessed one of the war's most haunting battles, the Battle of Franklin. See if you can spot the 1,000+ bullet holes on the property.

A true Tennessee vacation is not complete without visiting The Hermitage, President Andrew Jackson's mansion, a gorgeous estate complete with lavish parlors, a blossoming garden, an indoor museum and even the option of seeing the grounds by wagon.

If it's the outdoors you crave, then go horseback riding at Natchez Trace Riding Stables, or take a day tour at the Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art, where, along with breathtaking nature, you can enjoy the Birdhouse Bonanza exhibit (before all the birds fly south for the winter), walk the sculpture trail and lunch in the elegant Pineapple Room.

Must-See Attractions

For your nighttime destination, take your honky-tonk badonkadonk to the Grand Ole Opry, where tonight's radiobroadcast features Trace Adkins and the legendary Ricky Skaggs (of "Rocky Top" fame). Tomorrow night check out Rhonda Vincent, Cherryholmes, Ricky Skaggs and The Grascals. If you can't get enough of downtown, then head to the Wildhorse Saloon Saturday night. And if a weekend with your parents hasn't frightened you enough, then take the Nashville Ghost Tour to be really spooked. This lantern tour, which also makes a great date, will take you to all of the haunted hot spots of downtown Nashville, such as the Tennessee State Capitol and the Ryman Auditorium, to name a few. When you're done, calm down at Loveless Café on Highway 100, frequently haunted by Nashville's own living celebrities, for homemade supper and dessert that offers a nice change from campus dining.

Nashville in a Nutshell

Nash-Trash Tours	Reservations required. Call (615) 226-7300 for more information.				
Country Music Hall of Fame	222 Fifth Ave. South (Behind the Gaylord on Broadway) also visit www.countrymusichalloffame.com/site/				
Belle Meade Plantation	Visit http://www.bellemeadeplantation.com				
Carter House	Visit http://www.carter-house.org				
The Hermitage	Visit http://www.thehermitage.com				
Natchez Trace Riding Stables	At Highway 7 and Natchez Trace Parkway. Call (931) 682-3706 or visit http://www.natcheztraceridingstab les.com				
Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art	Visit http://www.cheekwood.org				
Grand Ole Opry	Call (615) 871-OPRY for reservations.				
Nashville Ghost Tours	Reservations recommended. Visit http://www.nashvilleghosttours.com or call (615) 884-3999 for more information.				
Loveless Café	Visit http://www.lovelesscafe.com				

DAILY DO

Its that time of the semester when parents get to see the return on their investment by making an appearance at Family Weekend. Show them around our beautiful campus, but don't forget to take them around town to experience all that Nashville has to offer. Continue to explore the city on your own after they leave.

FRIDAY 9/29

Blair's Signature Series of concerts continues this evening with a free family weekend concert featuring Vanderbilt professors John Johns, Amy Jarman, Kathryn Plummer and Jane Kirchner. The show begins at 8 p.m. and will feature works for combinations of guitar, vocal, flute and viola, as well as a set of South American pieces for a guitar solo.

You also can check out the local rock 'n' roll success Will Hoge at Exit/In both tonight and tomorrow night. Hoge's recent album, "The Man Who Killed Love," wowed fans with its addition of a gospel-like backup section as well as horn backup.

SATURDAY 9/30

No family weekend would be complete without letting your parents experience firsthand Vanderbilt's unique sporting traditions. Bring mom and dad along with your pearls, ties and cans of Natural Light to see our Dores take on Temple at 6 p.m.

If football isn't your or your family's thing, take them out to the 3 Crow Bar in east Nashville tonight to hear up-and-coming fiddler Casey Driessen perform with the Colorfools. The show starts at 9 p.m. with an opening performance from Danny Barnes.

SUNDAY 10/1

If your parents will be here until the late evening, take them to the Bluebird Café for the Sunday Spotlight series, which features a different up-and-coming artist every week, and then stick around for the Writer's Night special at 8 p.m.

LIFE | 9

THEATRE

VUT's "The Shape of Things" not at all square

BY LEIGH REMY

Thursday, Sept. 28 marked the opening of VUT's production of Neil LaBute's "The Shape of Things," directed by professor Jon Hallquist. The show traces the relationship between Evelyn, a confident artist working on her master's thesis, and Adam, a shy undergraduate. The cast consists of only four speaking parts, and though Evelyn, played by senior Jill Ginsberg, is arguably the play's protagonist, "The Shape of Things" is truly an ensemble work.

The show cannot be carried solely by Evelyn, and thankfully, it doesn't need to be. Senior Matthew Derby almost effortlessly conveys Adam's insecurity, eagerness, social awkwardness and bookish humor. Beau Henson, also a senior, convincingly plays Adam's arrogant and often misogynistic ex-roommate Philip. And Philip's sweet-natured, sincere, "girl-next-door" fiancée is perfectly captured by senior Mackenzie Shivers (last spring's Ophelia).

Ginsberg, however, gives the standout performance of the production, in part because of the size of her role and ostentation of her character, but also because she is able to make such an overthe-top character believable. Her cryptic, coy caddiness established in the first scene is more

captivating than alienating, and throughout the play she is able to create just enough mystery to hold the audience's attention and curiosity

While the characters might seemingly fit into rather neat stereotypes (the brat, the nerd, the good girl), the actors are able to give their characters complexities and nuances, making the play both more credible and more interesting. There are only a few moments in the play where the actors seem to be playing characters rather than people, and those moments barely detract from the overall experience of the production.

Perhaps the best scene of the play is the final one, where Ginsberg delivers a quite lengthy though essentially flawless monologue that finally enlightens the audience as to Evelyn's actions and motivations throughout the play, as well as gives credence to her slightly affected, "artistic" manner of speaking.

As a required part of the Vanderbilt Visions program, new this year, "The Shape of Things" examines not only the relationships between its characters but also several important issues affecting today's society. It questions the value we place on appearance and material things as well as the ways in which that value might affect



PHOTO PROVIDI

Jill Ginsberg (Evelyn) seduces Matt Derby (Adam) in "The Shape of Things."

the integrity of our decisions and the nature of our relationships with others. The play is at times frustrating, uncomfortable and difficult to watch, which, given the play's dialogue and subject matter during those moments, only means that the actors are doing their job.

This is not to say that "The Shape of Things" is not also humorous and entertaining. With the aptly chosen cast, the production is quite successful at balancing humor with the seriousness of the characters' relationships and the play's social concerns. Beyond addressing social issues at large, "The Shape of Things" is clearly relevant to the Vanderbilt student's

experience and should at the very least promote a greater awareness of how our society affects us. For both its strong acting and examination of our society, all Vanderbilt students attend this production.

The showtimes for this weekend are tonight and tomorrow at 8 p.m. as well as Sunday at 2 p.m. For a complete list of times and for reservations, call the VUT box office at (615) 322-2404 or visit www.vanderbilt.edu/theatre/currentseason.

Disclaimer: If you plan on attending this weekend, you may want to note that "The Shape of Things" contains frequent swearing and sexual references, so prepare your family before

Family Weekend Restaurant ReVUs

Restaurant Zola (3001 West End Ave.)

If you're fishing for some fine dining and exquisite gourmet, encourage your parents to take you to Restaurant Zola on West End. The ambiance is superbly presented in a warm, rustic Mediterranean style that is elegantly comfortable for a casual diner. Their Mediterranean cuisine uses the freshest and finest ingredients and is displayed like a work of art. Personal recommendation: the Turkish spice grilled venison, which is very tender, full of exotic flavor and accompanied by an unbeatable salad. Don't miss out on dessert either—the crème brûlée is worth the dinner alone!

For reservations, call (615) 320-7778.

Tin Angel (3201 West End Ave.)

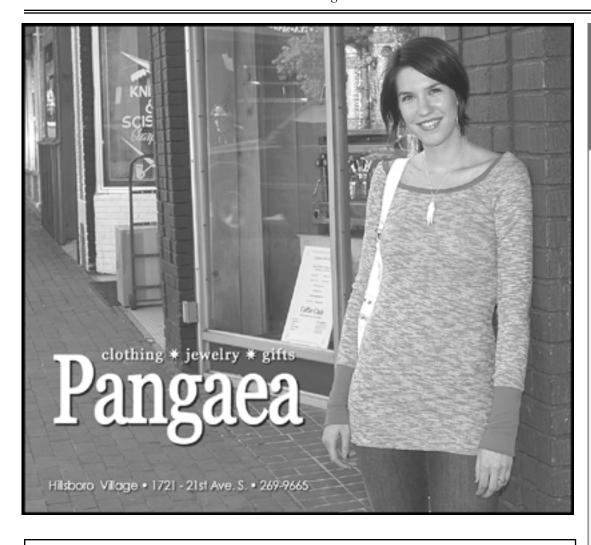
This cozy restaurant, also tucked away on West End, is a great venue for diners who are conscious of both quality and health. The décor inspires a welcoming feel, and the service is equally attentive and friendly. The wait time is never extreme, even on busy weekend nights. There are marvelous salads, a wide variety of vegetarian and meat dishes, and a cappuccino bar-plus-fireplace for the after-dinner digestif or cocoa. For reservations, call (615) 298-3444

Hog Heaven (115 27th Ave. N.)

Not in the mood to discuss international politics or transitional Romanesque architecture? Then tie that napkin around your neck and prepare for some good Nashville barbecue at Hog Heaven, where the service is friendly, the view of Centennial Park from the picnic tables is relaxing and comfortable, and the barbecue sauce is quite literally what put the hog in heaven.

No reservations required.

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MONDAY 10/2

Scottish singer-songwriter KT Tunstall is performing tonight at City Hall at 8 p.m. See ticketmaster.com or cityhallnashville.com for tickets and info.

Fans of Jimi Hendrix and the Rolling Stones won't want to miss a performance by legendary British blues-rock guitarist Robin Trower tonight at Mercy Lounge. Visit mercylounge.com for tickets and details.

TUESDAY 10/3

Popular folk duo the Indigo Girls are performing tonight at the Ryman Auditorium at 8:30 p.m. with the Weepies.

Lecturer and Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Dr. Helen Caldicott is speaking tonight at Ingram Hall at 7 p.m. to discuss her latest work, "Nuclear Power is Not the Answer." This event is free, and there will be a post-talk reception and book signing.

WEDNESDAY 10/4

If you are looking to expand your lunchtime activities beyond waiting in long lines at Rand, you should attend the Public Affairs Department's "Thinking Outside the (Lunch) Box" series. Today's discussion, "Why do People Become Environmental Activists?" is being presented by political science professor Florence Faucher-King at the Nashville Public Library. RSVP to lunchbox@vanderbilt.edu.

The first 300 to register receive a complimentary box lunch. Pixies' front man Frank Black is performing tonight at Mercy Lounge at 8 p.m. with Kentucky Prophet in support of his latest release, the double album "Fast Man Raider Man." See mercylounge.com for tickets.

THURSDAY 10/5

Mod pop band Starlight Mints are performing tonight at Mercy Lounge at 9 p.m. Fans of the Kinks and the Flaming Lips will appreciate this Oklahoma quintet's dreamy and heavy instrumental style of pop music. See mercylounge. com for tickets.





Fashion essentials for every Vandy guy

After consulting numerous students, both male and female, I compiled a list of fundamental fashion tips for every guy. These are relatively elementary guidelines; however, an understanding of these rules is critical. A moment of clarification before I begin: while I am sure there are many students who embrace the Growing up Gotti look of hair gel and wife beaters or, perhaps, the Dazed and Confused look of Birkenstocks and socks, I, inevitably have a mild penchant for the prep style. Regardless, I hope that guys of all styles can find some help in the following fashion tips. I've assembled a little acronym that outlines the essential checklist items a guy should quickly review before he leaves the house. The acronym is "Please Go Self-Check." The first letter of each word stands for a key topic: P is for patterns, G is for gym clothes, S is for scent and C is for colors. Tip # 1: Check for clashing patterns. (PLEASE)

Plaid shorts are an excellent addition to any wardrobe. However, if plaid is mixed with any other pattern such as stripes, gingham or seersucker, it is literally a painful sight. If you wear plaid shorts, pair them with a solid color polo or oxford. Conversely, if you wear a striped or gingham polo, you should wear solid colored shorts or chinos. This way, the solid piece will provide an aesthetically pleasing balance to the pattern.

Tip # 2: Avoid gym clothes. (GO)

While mesh shorts and old T-shirts are fine for low-key weeknights of lounging around with friends, when venturing downtown and attending large parties, you should steer clear of any gym wear. This includes: sneakers, mesh shorts, old T-shirts (pre-2000, that awkward age of not yet vintage, yet definitely not new) and anything else, such as sweatbands and old mismatched socks. I'm not saying you have to wear Gucci loafers out; flip-

flops will suffice. Nights downtown allow you to spice up your outfits with dress shoes. Every guy should own one pair of brown dress shoes and one pair of black dress shoes. However, wearing designer shoes to a frat is like feeding your shoes to a Labrador retriever. So, when frat hopping, it's safer if you stick to flip-flops by Rainbow or Vineyard Vines. That said, unless you're already trying to bring back the hippie look of the '90s, under no condition should you compliment your sandals with socks. Socks are for closedtoe shoes only, but remember that loafers and boat shoes do not require socks.

Tip # 3: Find a scent that compliments you

Numerous studies indicate that scent is the strongest form of memory. If you're looking to make a positive impression, a pleasant scent is imperative. There are a plethora of body sprays, colognes, aftershaves and shower gels to help combat sweat at late night dance parties. One of the most popular men's colognes today is Dolce & Gabanna "D&G", which is a nice blend of citrus, lavender and tobacco scents. Another fine choice is Calvin Klein "Contradiction." This scent is a very masculine blend of lime, clementine, wood and ebony. A great everyday scent is Polo "Blue," a new scent that comes in shower gel, cologne, aftershave and deodorant. The most popular scent, of course, is Axe body spray, a product that deserves the hype. Axe, which is light but not musky, comes in many different forms, such as shower gel and body spray deodorant. Just remember not to go overboard on scent. You want someone to admire your cologne as they pass you, not from across the room. Furthermore, realize that your best friend's "hot cologne" might not smell as good on you as it does on him. The way a scent smells on a particular individual is a matter of chemistry. Subsequently, even if two people use the same cologne, each is likely to have a distinct scent.

Tip # 4: Review the color scheme of your outfit (CHECK)

Never wear navy and black together. If you're wearing a navy oxford, you should absolutely not wear black loafers. Instead, opt for tan shoes. Even brown shoes (while not the optimal choice) are an improvement from black. Also, combinations of red, pink and purple are strongly forbidden.

Other tips to consider:

- Unless you star on "True Life: I go to the Jersey Shore," no hair gel please.
- I am never a fan of wife beaters; however, if you insist upon wearing one, consider covering it up with an
- If you own jorts (the nickname coined for men's jean shorts), I recommend giving them to an elementary school to use as scraps for an arts and crafts project.
- Don't be afraid to wear pink. A lot of girls love it when guys can pull off pink. Generally, pink works better as a top than a bottom. However, Nantucket red Bermudas or chinos paired with a blue oxford is always a winning look.

Obviously, style is based on way more than what a guy wears. It's the combination of his actions (does he hold open the door?), his sense of humor (does he imitate Will Ferrell?) and his general character (does he call his mom?). Nonetheless, what we wear is a large part of the way we present ourselves. Our attire can serve as an indicator of our personality, self-respect, habits and overall lifestyle. If you need further advice, Askmen.com is dedicated to answering men's questions concerning fashion, lifestyle, health and many other miscellaneous everyday concerns. Just remember: Please Go Self-Check! ■

MUSIC

The Decemberists prepare to set their 'Crane' free

BY IOHN PARKER LIFE STAFF WRITER

With the upcoming Oct. 3 release of "The Crane Wife," Colin Meloy and The Decemberists take a big step forward with a more aggressive approach following their switch to industry mogul Capitol Records from their previous outfit Killing Rock Stars. Featuring more prominent percussion, prog rock epics, and that ohso-recognizable Meloy panache, The Decemberists' fourth LP is a sure buy, if not Meloy's most impressive work to date.

At first listen, those who have followed The Decemberists may be slightly disappointed. The move to a major label can be a source of worry, and one wonders if that had any effect on some of the more glossy, electric guitar-heavy songs that don't resemble many previous Meloy outputs. Songs such as "The Perfect Crime 2" and "When the War Came" can truthfully be a turn off the first couple of spins, while others, such as the opening track "The Crane Wife 3," seem excessively refined and monotonous. However, within a few listens these tracks will begin to fill their niche and become bearable in conjunction with the rest of the album.

It is with the second track, "The Island: Come and See, The Landlord's Daughter, You'll Not Feel The Drowning," an epic 12-and-a-half minute song featuring various segments, that it becomes clear that Meloy has taken a different slant. This eccentric outburst of prog rock is a wonderful addition and does not subtract from the more classic

Decemberist songs on the album, "Shankhill Butchers" and "The Crane Wife 1 and 2." "Shankhill Butchers" may be one of the most enjoyable Meloy songs to date, featuring minimal guitar and melodic organ accompanying Meloy's admonition of marauding butchers with insatiable blood lust. "The Crane Wife 1 and 2" is another 12-minute track featuring steel guitar and a more recognizable Decemberists style. Finishing with the fingersnapping "Sons and Daughters," Meloy crescendos into a more optimistic finale than the previous tragic tales and darker content contained in some of the earlier songs.

Whether it be the Japanese folk stories or cleaver-wielding butchers, those looking forward to the fanciful storytelling that is predominant in most Decemberist songs will not be disappointed. There may not be anything to rival the wonderful tale of the vengeful sailor in the whale's belly in "Mariner's Revenge Song" of Picaresque (their 2005 album), but it is hard not to go back and listen to every song closely just to enjoy the wonderful visionary ability Meloy possesses.

When the year comes to an end, "The Crane Wife" will not receive many accolades, and its overly polished presentation and lack of inventiveness will make it somewhat forgettable. However, like every Decemberists album, "The Crane Wife" will be a very enjoyable experience for most listeners and a worthy addition to The Decemberists expanding discography.







Lambchop

Damaged

The Thermals
The Body, The Blood, The Machine

WRITING

A new way of seeing: writer Heather Sellers visits Vanderbilt

BY MONIKA BLACKWELL

Heather Sellers, a fiction writer, poet and memoirist, read from her book of short stories in Buttrick Hall yesterday evening as part of the Visiting Writers Program.

Sellers said she grew up observing others from "the edges," watching people from the outside to understand who they are on the

A professor at Hope College, Sellers gears much of her writing specifically at college students. Considered young adult literature, her book "Georgia Under Water" aims to mix humor with somewhat darker themes to create a coming-

Sellers' poetry, specifically her collection "Drinking Girls and their Dresses," explores the idea

that where people grow up and the landscape that surrounds them affects who they become as people. Now living in Michigan, Sellers said the book contains poems that are "all love poems to Florida," her

Always reading as a child, Sellers began writing at the age of six, but she said she didn't know then what she knows now. Last year, she was diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder called prosopagnosia (sometimes referred to as "face blindness").

The disorder prevents her from recognizing people's faces. Sellers believes the disorder was part of the reason she loved books so much as a child. "I just read books," she said, "because I could recognize those people."

Sellers' forthcoming memoir, called "Face First," recounts her

experiences with this disorder and what she considers her "second coming-of-age." The book layers both personal narrative and scientific facts, and starts from the moment she was in the fMRI before working backwards.

While there is no cure for prosopagnosia, Sellers said that if there were a procedure available she'd "have to think about it for a long time" before agreeing to it.

"I like what it gives me," she said. "It's forced me to look inside of people. To focus on the stuff that I am going to remember about them since I can't remember the surface."

Despite the shame the disorder initially caused her, Sellers wonders if she would even be a writer if she didn't have prosopagnosia.

Sellers, whose case is extremely severe, has even been on the Today Show and ABC's Primetime Medical Mysteries to discuss her experiences with the disorder. "It can be terrifying and very disorienting," Sellers said, but she has learned to recognize people by their gait, voice and even scent.

Sellers' latest book of poetry will come out in the spring, and she is still finishing her memoir. For now, she doesn't know if she'll go back to fiction right away, and she hopes to continue writing nonfiction. No matter what she writes, Sellers remains focused on accuracy. "The big thing is getting it right, getting it accurate ... just trying to be really present and engaged and honest and authentic," she said.

Her work is acclaimed for this very trait. It is clear that Heather Sellers knows firsthand what it means to find and re-find one's identity from inside. ■

Drink to your health: The benefits of green tea

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BY LEIGH REMY

During the school year, most college students consume between 100 and 350 milligrams of caffeine per day, but during exam time or periods of high stress, that consumption can increase several times over. Most health care professionals consider caffeine to be of no value to your health and suggest limiting consumption to 300 milligrams per day. However, if you are a regular caffeine-drinker or find yourself in need of an energy boost when your workload is particularly heavy, you may want to consider the many health benefits of teas before grabbing a cup of coffee or an energy drink. Most teas have roughly 70 milligrams of caffeine

per bag, whereas coffee has about 110 milligrams per 12-ounce glass and Red Bull has 80 milligrams per can. Depending on the brand, soda has 35-70 milligrams per 12-ounce can. While coffee may be the most concentrated form of liquid caffeine, it does not procure any of the health benefits associated with tea.

Although all types of tea are healthier choices than coffee or soda, green tea is believed to be the most beneficial to health. Green, black and red teas are all made from leaves of the camellia sinensis tree. Green tea leaves, however, are steamed, while black and red tea leaves are fermented. The additional processing of black and red tea leaves converts the primary antioxidant of green tea, known as EGCG (epigallocatechin

gallate) into various other compounds. EGCG is a catechin polyphenol that is believed to inhibit the growth of cancer cells, lower LDL ("bad") cholesterol levels, prevent blood clots and increase metabolic rate and fat oxidation. Herbal teas, which are usually a combination of herbs, leaves and dried fruits, are not derived from the same type of leaf, and therefore do not have the same beneficial properties. Before selecting a tea, check the label to see if it is derived from the green tea leaf.

If you generally do not care for the taste of tea, but you still appreciate the health benefits, there are several options that do not have the typical tea flavor. Request a chai tea bag and a cup of hot water the next time you're at your favorite coffee

shop. Drink it plain or add milk and Splenda to make a chai latte. This is a great option because it tastes great but does not contain the sugar or preservatives found in a pre-made chai latte mix.

Remember that even when drinking tea, consuming more than 300 milligrams of caffeine per day will increase the rate at which your body releases fluids, thus causing mild dehydration. If you are going to consume caffeine in excess of 300 milligrams per day, alternate caffeinated drinks with plain water to counter the dehydrating effect. ■

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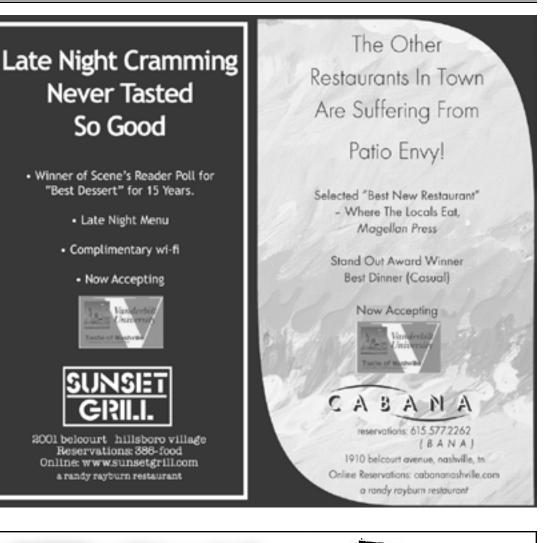
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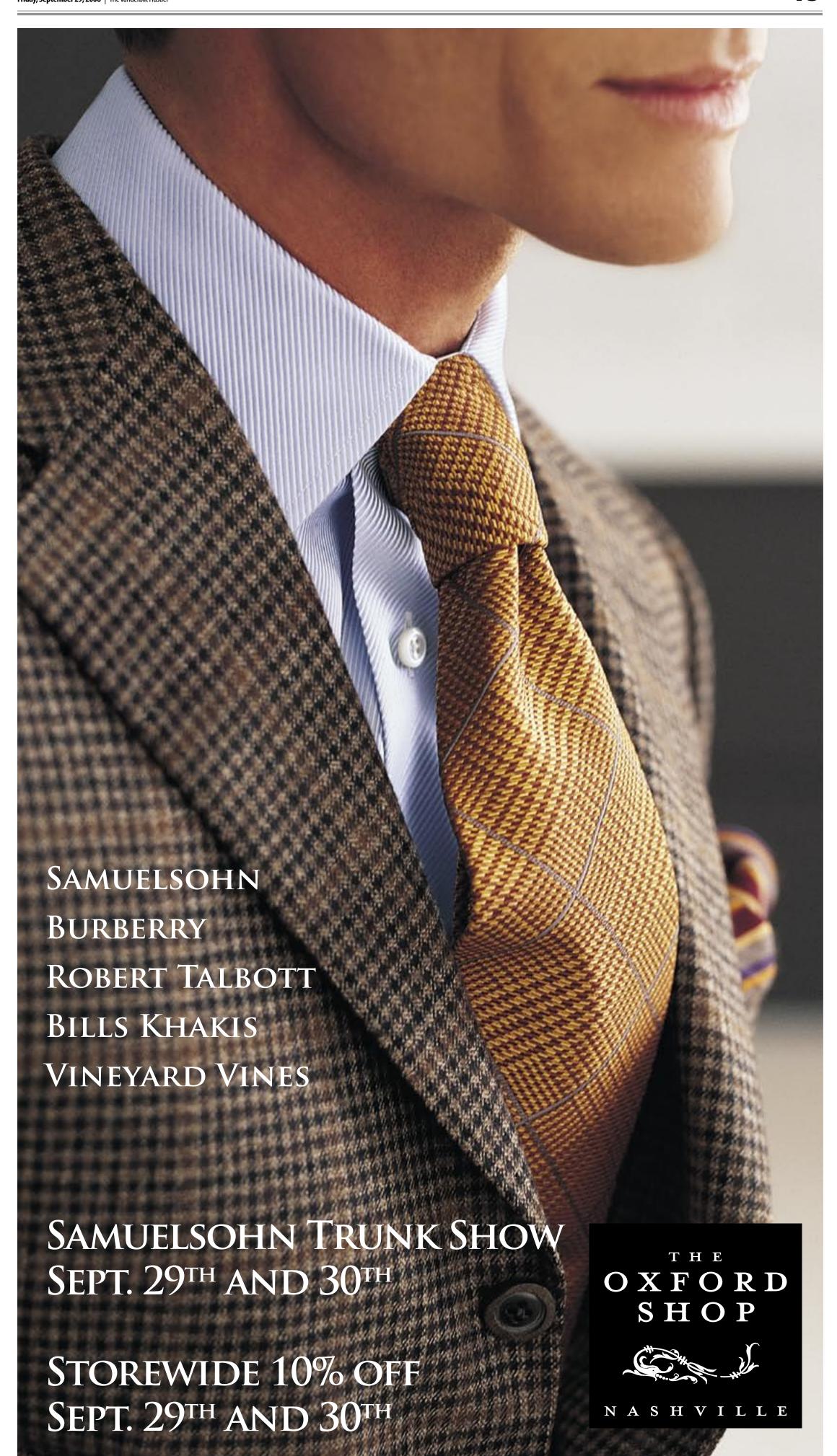
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13



FUN & GAMES

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Peak on Crete
- 4 Not up yet "Tracey Takes
- On" star 14 Prohibit
- 15 Sign away 16 Used-car deal
- 17 Voting age 19 Out-of-body
- projection
- 20 Turf 21 AWOL student
- 23 Part of RSVP 24 Magi gift
- 26 "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon" co-star Joanne
- 27 Undersized 28 Country club
- requirement 32 Tam-o'-shanter,
- 35 Stinker
- 36 Resident immigrant
- 39 Ammunition 41 Property holding
- 43 Length of yarn 44 Wash thoroughly
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- 50 End of grace 52 What the weasel
- coes 53 Inflatable floaters
- 57 Chou En-
- 58 Fish hawk
- 61 Dry: pref. 62 Biblical prophet
- 64 San Francisco newspaper
- Tuna relative 67 Missile shelter
- 68 Cool dude
- 69 Maintain firmly 70 Lamb dish
- 71 LAX info
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- girder 2 Cow collective
- 3 Enrage
- 4 Play part 5 Sugar source
- 6 German river 7 Strips
- 31 Safe haven 32 Eye network 33 Alcidine
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(witticism)

- 38 Earn as profit
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9/29/06

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8 Seventh planet

9 For fear that

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wombat

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- 49 Yellow cab 50 Defense focus
- 51 Bricklayer
- 54 Enclosing
- 55 Pick up the tab
- 58 Horse feed 59 Egress 60 Ivy League
- member 63 Roman
- threesome 65 Do the lawn

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