

Dore Ways

A forum for exchanging ideas

From the Editor

Returning

IN JULY OF 1961, PROFESSOR FERNANDO F. SEGOVIA BOARDED A PLANE in La Habana, Cuba. His destination: the United States of America. For 41 years Cuba remained fixed in his memory, frozen in the chaos of revolution, with contemporary life in his former home experienced only through stories told by others or realities created through his own imagination. For Segovia, Cuba represented a complex mixture of sensory details and emotional turmoil.

Many, probably most, of us can only imagine his experience.

I'm grateful for Segovia's generosity in allowing *Vanderbilt Magazine* to help give voice to his story. For helping me understand—just a little bit—the experience of an individual exiled who, in returning to the country of his birth, rediscovers his past, who out of that rediscovery begins to hope that he can take part in what is to come. His story is at once a memorial to the people and the country he loved and a prayer for that country's future. It's a story of a life lost, and it's a story of a life found. It's a story of humanity.

"I walked through the city with full remembrance of things and places, people and events, dates and stories. I knew where to go and where to turn, what I would find and what had happened there. I was in my city and among my people, and my memory, physically triggered into action after a long hiatus, gushed abundantly and endlessly."

With these words, Segovia begins the process of coming to terms with the emotional and physical geography of returning to his native country. And with these words, Segovia gave me an entry into his struggle—and, I would argue, *our* struggle—to lift Cuba from the confines of perceptions based on a past defined by revolution, and allow it the opportunity to create a future.

"The living and the dead intermingled at will," Segovia writes of his experience in Cuba. "I was young and old at the same time. In this enchanted and enchanting world, I could not but think of the future."

KEN SCHEXNAYDER



Divinity Professor Fernando F. Segovia returned in 2003 to his homeland of Cuba for the first time since departing in 1961. Accompanying him was his wife, Elena Olazagasti-Segovia, senior lecturer in Spanish at Vanderbilt. Segovia's homecoming story begins on page 44.

From the Reader

Wrong Words

THE MAGAZINE IS NOW WONDERFUL, [with] great articles, and very informative—worth reading.

But why include that statement by Bush on page 14 [Fall 2004 issue]? Granted, it is an honor to have the president visit Vanderbilt, and he expressed some excellent thoughts about Vanderbilt which could have been included. However, that statement you included has very little evidence to support [it], and is probably incorrect. You should have checked with your medical school and law school faculty about "frivolous lawsuits running up the cost of medicine"—it is my impression from the literature that malpractice costs [make up] less than 1 percent of the cost of medical care and are insignificant in explaining the rapid increases in medical-care costs.

DR. G. OCTO BARNETT, BA'52
Newton, Mass.

The Right Perspective

I'M WRITING BECAUSE I'M DISTURBED by the tone of three letters ["From the Reader"; DeMain, Fall 2004 issue, and Conner and Smith, Summer 2004 issue] which, taken together, suggest that you and your magazine should do something to revise its ideological stance, specifically, to move it to the right.

Don't you dare do any such thing. And don't, for god's sake, try to be ideologically neutral. Because there is no such thing.

There are, however, important issues at stake. Allow me to state the important issues as I see them:

1. Whether all Americans and their institutions have the right of free speech, regardless of what they say, and regardless of when or how they say it;

2. Whether or not we must be compelled to support a war based on a false pretext, i.e., that Saddam Hussein threatened the securi-

ty of the United States. The people of Iraq, one of the oldest cultures on Earth, have the misfortune of living atop 13.5 billion barrels of oil reserves. In a world of rising oil demand and ever-shrinking reserves, I'm afraid they've only begun to suffer for it; and

3. Whether or not we will continue to have our personal freedoms put under attack on the pretext of national security. The actions of the 18 Saudi men who hijacked four airplanes cannot be undone. But we must resist being controlled by fear. In the last election, politicians on both sides used our fear in order to manipulate our opinions, and politicians on both sides today continue to do so. But fear puts our personal freedoms under direct attack.

Thanks also to the writers of the letters I referred to above. Their expression of thought moved me to write this letter. The struggle for truth continues.

PATRICK F. FEEHAN, BE'72
Columbia, Mo.

{ Featured Letter }



Confederate Hall

PLEASE POLL THE ALUMNI TO see how many think the famous Fugitives of Vanderbilt would take their stand for "Confederate Hall" to remain on the building in controversy. Thanks.

JACK D. WALKER, A'49
Antioch, Tenn.

Perry Wallace

AS A MEMBER OF THE FIRST GRADUATING class of a public high school in the South to be integrated (Oak Ridge, Tenn., 1956), the article about Perry Wallace brought back memories of a black high-school classmate. Fred was also a basketball player who played in home games and only those road games in which the opposition would allow him to play—one all season. He wasn't a great player, but a proud young man who had to suffer the same indignities of the times as did Perry Wallace in the '60s.

As Perry Wallace, student athlete, found a mentor in Ron Brown, the later secretary of commerce, it is only fitting to mention that, like Wallace, Brown's successor in the Clinton cabinet was also a native of Nashville, a Vanderbilt varsity athlete (baseball) and lawyer, Mickey Kantor (BA'61).

DR. ARTHUR E. DIAMOND, A'60
Melbourne, Fla

Gerald Holly

I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR THE wonderful article you had in *Vanderbilt Magazine* about my father, Gerald Holly [Fall 2004 issue, "The Eloquent Eye," p. 28]. My family and I are so glad that no one has forgotten him. He was a wonderful photographer, whom no one will ever forget. He was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather, and a wonderful friend. I hope the young people who want to be photographers will look at his pictures as signs of how hard work and determination can be an inspiration for life.

CAROL HOLLY
Grand Ridge, Fla.

Uganda

THANK YOU FOR PUBLISHING LISA DuBois' article "Singing for Survival: the Music of AIDS in Uganda" in your Fall 2004

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Letters are always welcome in response to contents of the magazine. We reserve the right to edit for length, style and clarity. Send signed letters to the Editor, VANDERBILT MAGAZINE, VU Station B 357703, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37235-7703, or e-mail vanderbiltmagazine@vanderbilt.edu.

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From the Reader *continued from page 6*
issue [p. 52]. It captured the difficulties as well as the innovative approaches used in the struggle against the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Uganda. Regrettably, however, the article gives the erroneous impression of slow delivery of anti-retroviral medicines to Uganda through President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

In fact, the U.S. Mission team is quite proud that within five weeks of the appropriation passing Congress, we were delivering anti-retroviral medications (ARVs) to some of Uganda's poorest and sickest residents in March 2004.

Since then we have built on our speedy response—really an unprecedented performance—to accelerate the delivery of drugs and expand the number of recipients. Over the past year the number of Ugandans receiving anti-retroviral therapy (ART) has tripled, with more than 35,000 Ugandans receiving

ART. Among these, more than 26,000 are direct beneficiaries of the president's Emergency Plan. By October 2005, we estimate that our efforts will result in more than 43,000 Ugandans treated. These medications are not only reaching the urban minority, but are being delivered through more than 50 health facilities throughout the country. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has pioneered a home-based AIDS-care strategy [that is] delivering ARVs to rural homes, now adopted as a model by other organizations to reach Africans most in need.

The struggle to address AIDS in Uganda remains massive, but efforts are in full swing and expanding constantly. We are proud of our efforts and will work to build upon them in the future to help Uganda turn back the tide against this killer disease.

MICHAEL C. GONZALES
*Deputy Public Affairs Officer
Embassy of the U.S.A., Uganda*

Sports *continued from page 18*

she says. "I've always wanted to work with kids, so that's a big part of it." She volunteers two hours a week rocking premature infants in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital's neonatal unit.

Hahn's success has translated into success for the University's overall athletics standing as well. Thanks in large measure to her performances on the national stage, Vanderbilt's

overall sports program ranked 28th in the nation out of 278 institutions, a rise from 54th place the year before. "If anything we do as athletes helps promote the school in general, I think it's great," Hahn says. "I love being here, and I want everyone else to enjoy this as much as I do."

VJournal *continued from page 7*

tense undercurrents, but Vanderbilt now has a sampling of books, political pamphlets, papers and posters from that early Sandinista era. Our students and scholars can glean a sense of those turbulent times.

Some of my best finds have been on personal trips. A bookseller in a remote Vermont farmhouse sold me one of the best early Latin American travel accounts we have in Special Collections. A driving trip to the village of bookshops in Hay-on-Wye in the Welsh countryside yielded a collection of 19th-century Mexican materials belonging to a Benedictine monk. Not yet thoroughly unboxed or priced, it was a steal. Several small public library book sales in New England have turned up other early travel accounts. These lucky finds, however, are no substitute for trips to Latin American countries.

Archaeological discoveries at Maya sites in Guatemala and digs by members of Vanderbilt's anthropology faculty have inspired us to work toward becoming a national resource in Mesoamerican anthropology and archaeology. Stretching the library budget to aim for such strength has required creativity and resourcefulness. I was in Guatemala when a noted archaeologist was selling his private library, and the Friends of the Library (Vanderbilt's donor society that supports the University library system) gave us funds to buy a portion of it. Over tea in his lovely colonial