

11 | CHARLES WRIGHT

14 | KYLE SHURMUR

5 | LADARIUS WILEY

58 | JUSTIN SKULE

ANCHOR DOWN

V SCHEDULE/FACTS/CONTENTS

TEAM INFORMATION

COACHES/STAFF

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Derek Mason..... | Head Coach |
| C.J. Ah You..... | DL |
| Terrence Brown..... | CBs |
| Gerry Gdowski..... | QB |
| Andy Ludwig..... | Offensive Coordinator/RBs/TEs |
| Aaron Moorehead..... | WRs |
| Chris Marve..... | ILBs |
| Marc Mattioli..... | Secondary |
| Shawn Mennenga..... | Special Teams Coordinator |
| Cameron Norcross..... | OL |
| Jason Tarver..... | Defensive Coordinator/OLBs |
| James Dobson..... | Head Strength Coach |
| Tyler Clarke..... | Assistant Director, Strength |
| Aaron Hill..... | Assistant Coach, Strength |
| Fahd Jindani..... | Assistant Coach Strength |
| Matt Manning..... | Assistant Coach, Strength |
| Bret Ingalls..... | Senior Offensive Analyst |
| Osia Lewis..... | Senior Defensive Analyst |
| Patrick Ashford..... | Graduate Assistant (Off.) |
| Keith Jones..... | Graduate Assistant (Off.) |
| Bryce Lewis..... | Graduate Assistant (Def.) |
| TJ Weyl..... | Graduate Assistant (Def.) |
| Tate Benton..... | Quality Control (Def.) |
| Ryan Blakney..... | Quality Control (Off.) |
| Darris Darden-Box..... | Quality Control (Off.) |
| Jovan Haye..... | Quality Control (Def.) |
| Rayna Stewart..... | Quality Control (Spec. Teams) |

A QUICK LOOK

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Head Coach..... | Derek Mason (Northern Arizona) |
| Career Record..... | 18-31 (5th year) |
| 2017 Team Record..... | 5-7 |
| 2017 SEC Record..... | 1-7 (6th in SEC East) |
| Home/Away..... | 3-4/2-3 |
| Home Attendance..... | 219,390 (31,341) |
| Number of Bowl Appearances..... | 8 |
| All-Time Bowl Record..... | 4-3-1 |
| Last Bowl..... | 2016 Independence |
| Last Bowl W/L..... | NC State (L, 41-17) |

INFORMATION/STAFF

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Location..... | Nashville, Tenn. |
| Founded..... | 1873 |
| Undergraduate Enrollment..... | 6,871 |
| Nickname..... | Commodores |
| Colors..... | Black and Gold |
| Conference..... | Southeastern |
| Stadium..... | Vanderbilt Stadium (40,350) |
| Surface..... | Synthetic (Shaw Sportex) |
| All-Time Record..... | 600-613-50 (.495) |
| Nicholas S. Zeppos..... | Chancellor |
| David Williams II..... | Athletics Director |
| Jason Grooms..... | Assistant AD/Football |
| Jake Kirkendall..... | Director, Football Operations |
| Charlotte Siegel..... | Assistant to Coach Mason |
| Dr. Christiana Russell..... | Director, Player Development |
| Austen Everson..... | Director, Player Personnel |
| Eric Lammers..... | Director, Recruiting |
| Andrea P. Cain..... | Director, Recruiting Relations |
| Corey Phillips..... | Assistant Recruiting Coordinator |
| Haley Schaafsma..... | Assistant Recruiting Coordinator |
| Jordan Hunt..... | Football Equipment Manager |
| Chas Petrone..... | Director, Football Video Production |
| Erica Duane..... | Graphic Designer |

2018 VANDERBILT SCHEDULE

| Date | Opponent | Kickoff | Location | Venue |
|----------|------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Sept. 1 | Middle Tennessee | 6:30 p.m. | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |
| Sept. 8 | Nevada | 11 a.m. | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |
| Sept. 15 | at Notre Dame | 1:30 p.m. | South Bend, Ind. | Notre Dame Stadium |
| Sept. 22 | South Carolina* | TBA | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |
| Sept. 29 | Tennessee State | TBA | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |
| Oct. 7 | at Georgia* | TBA | Athens, Ga. | Sanford Stadium |
| Oct. 13 | Florida | TBA | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |
| Oct. 20 | at Kentucky* | TBA | Lexington, Ky. | Kroger Field |
| Oct. 27 | at Arkansas* | TBA | Fayetteville, Ark. | Reynolds Razorback Stadium |
| Nov. 10 | at Missouri* | TBA | Columbia, Mo. | Faurot Field |
| Nov. 17 | Ole Miss* | TBA | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |
| Nov. 24 | Tennessee* | TBA | Nashville | Vanderbilt Stadium |

Notes: All kickoff times are central. * SEC opponent



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STAT LEADERS/CREDITS



COMMODORE CREED

WORK ON YOUR WEAKNESSES
UNTIL THEY BECOME YOUR STRONG POINTS

REMEMBER THAT A GREAT EFFORT IS USUALLY
THE RESULT OF A GREAT ATTITUDE

DEDICATE YOURSELF TO A MIGHTY PURPOSE.
WIN WITH HUMILITY. LOSE WITH GRACE

IGNORE THOSE WHO DISCOURAGE YOU

WORK TO IMPROVE YOUR MORAL AND SPIRITUAL
STRENGTHS AS WELL AS YOUR PHYSICAL ONES

REMEMBER THAT HOW YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF
OFF THE FIELD IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS HOW YOU
CONDUCT YOURSELF ON THE FIELD.

TALENT IS GOD GIVEN - BE HUMBLE
FAME IS MAN GIVEN - BE THANKFUL
CONCEIT IS SELF GIVEN - BE CAREFUL

DON'T ASK TO BE DEPRIVED OF TENSION AND DISCIPLINE
THESE ARE TOOLS THAT SHAPE SUCCESS

DO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE WHEN IT HAS TO BE DONE,
AND AS WELL AS IT CAN BE DONE

REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU ARE NOT WORKING TO IMPROVE,
YOUR COMPETITION IS.

ALWAYS GIVE YOUR BEST.
PRACTICE LIKE A CHAMPION
PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION

TOP STATISTICAL RETURNEES

| RUSHING | | G | Att. | Yards | Avg. | TD | Long | | |
|-------------------|-------|----------|---------|--------------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Khari Blasingame | | 11 | 45 | 147 | 3.3 | 0 | 31 | | |
| Jamauri Wakefield | | 11 | 28 | 115 | 4.1 | 0 | 13 | | |
| PASSING | | GP | EFF. | ATT-COMP-INT | PCT | YARDS | TD | LONG | Avg/G |
| Kyle Shurmur | | 12 | 137.6 | 220-380-10 | 57.9 | 2823 | 26 | 73 | 235.2 |
| RECEIVING | | G | Rec. | Yards | Avg. | TD | Long | Avg/G | |
| Kalija Lipscomb | | 12 | 37 | 610 | 16.5 | 8 | 47 | 50.8 | |
| Jared Pinkney | | 12 | 22 | 279 | 12.7 | 3 | 38 | 23.2 | |
| Donaven Tennyson | | 9 | 8 | 116 | 14.5 | 0 | 35 | 12.9 | |
| DEFENSE | | G | UA-A-TT | TFL/Yds. | Sacks | INT | PBU | FF/FR | QH |
| LaDarius Wiley | 12-12 | 58-30-88 | 1.0-3 | 0.0-0 | 1-11 | 5 | 1/0 | 0 | |
| Jordan Griffin | 12-5 | 32-30-62 | 8.5-29 | 1.0-5 | 0 | 1 | 0/1 | 1 | |
| Charles Wright | 12-12 | 18-25-43 | 10.5-67 | 9.0-65 | 0 | 0 | 0/0 | 8 | |
| Joejuan Williams | 12-12 | 33-6-39 | 2.5-11 | 0.0-0 | 0 | 10 | 1/0 | 0 | |
| Dare Odeyingbo | 12-11 | 23-13-36 | 11.0-46 | 4.5-30 | 0 | 2 | 1/0 | 4 | |

ON SOCIAL MEDIA

VU Football Twitter@VandyFootball
Derek Mason Twitter.....@CoachDerekMason
VU Football Instagram.....@VandyFootball
VU Athletics WebsiteVUCommodores.com

FACT BOOK CREDITS

The 2018 Vanderbilt Fact Book was produced by the Athletic Communications Office.

ON THE COVERS: The fact book covers are the work of Vanderbilt graphic designer Shaun Senn.

Commodore student-athletes featured are:
PAGE 1 – From left: linebacker Charles Wright, offensive tackle Justin Skule, quarterback Kyle Shurmur and safety LaDarius Wiley.

INSIDE BACK COVER – From left: tight end Jared Pinkney, running back Khari Blasingame and defensive lineman Dare Odeyingbo.

BACK COVER – From left: cornerback Joejuan Williams, defensive lineman Dayo Odeyingbo, running back Ke'Shawn Vaughn and wide receiver Kalija Lipscomb.

PHOTO CREDITS: Most of the images in the 2018 Vanderbilt Football Fact Book are the work of Vanderbilt University shooters John Russell, Joe Howell, Steve Green and Anne Rayner. We are also grateful for other images provided by the Associated Press, Getty Images, Christopher Hanewinckel, Petre Thomas, Zach Bland, Steven Bridges, Lee Adams, Doug DeVoe, Chad Driver, Phillip Faulkner, Donn Jones, Stan Jones, Chris Justice, Ed Rode, Mike Strasinger, John Amis, Shane Epping, Donny Crowe, Jonathan Adams and Kayla Schoen.

PRINTING: Vanderbilt Printing, Nashville

GRATITUDE: The staff wants to offer a special thank you to author H. Jackson Brown, Jr., who gave permission for the team to use the "The Commodore Creed" adaptation from his "The Champion's Creed."

SPECIAL THANKS: The SEC, NCAA, CBS Sports, ESPN, SEC Network, College Football Hall of Fame, Associated Press, *Tennessean*, NBC Universal, Country Music Association, Getty Images, Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau, Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame, Arizona Cardinals, Houston Texans, L.A. Chargers, Minnesota Vikings, New England Patriots, New York Jets, Tennessee Titans and Atlanta Braves.

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Vanderbilt Athletic Communications was honored in 2012 with the "Super 11" Award by the Football Writers Association of America.

ALL-SEC PROSPECTS



KYLE SHURMUR

Sr. • 6-4, 225 • Quarterback

Shurmur on the preseason watch list for the Walter Camp Award and Maxwell Award.

Shurmur enters his senior campaign after producing one of the finest seasons ever by a VU signal caller.

Shurmur's team-record 26 touchdown passes in 2017 was the second highest SEC total. His 2,823 passing yards ranked third in the conference.

Shurmur's career totals of 40 touchdown passes and 5,735 passing yards ranks second among SEC active quarterbacks..

JUSTIN SKULE

Sr. • 6-6, 318 • Left Tackle

Skule started all 12 games at left tackle in 2017, extending his consecutive starts streak to 25 games.

In his first year protecting the quarterback's blind side from the left tackle post, Skule registered 19 domination blocks and allowed just two sacks in 2017.

Skule has been extremely durable. In 2017, he participated in 98 percent of Vanderbilt's 751 offensive snaps.



CHARLES WRIGHT

Sr. • 6-3, 240 • Outside Linebacker

Wright, a preseason Bednarik Award watch list member, produced nine quarterback sacks in 2017. It is tied for the second highest season total in team history.

A second-team All-SEC selection by the Associated Press, Wright's sack total ranked fourth among SEC defenders.

In 2017, Wright also topped the Commodores with eight quarterback hurries and ranked second with 10.5 tackles for loss.

LADARIUS WILEY

Sr. • 6-1, 209 • Safety

In 2017, Wiley topped the Commodores with 58 solo tackles and 88 total tackles.

Wiley ranked seventh in solo tackles and 11th in total tackles in the SEC last year.

In 2017, Wiley averaged 8.1 tackles vs. SEC teams. He posted double-digit tackle totals in three SEC games.

ALL-SEC PROSPECTS



JOEJUAN WILLIAMS

Jr. • 6-3, 210 • Cornerback

Blessed with length and athleticism, Williams became one of the SEC's elite cover cornerbacks as a sophomore in 2017.

In 2017, Williams had 10 passes defended, ranking fourth among returning SEC cornerbacks.

As a 12-game starter in 2017, Williams posted season career highs with 33 solo tackles and 42 total tackles.

DARE ODEYINGBO

Sr. • 6-2, 282 • Defensive End

Active, physical defensive end blossomed as an 11-game starter in 2017, posting season highs in virtually every stat category.

Odeyingbo's 11 tackles for loss last year, a team high, ranks 9th among returning SEC defensive linemen.

Odeyingbo ranked second among Commodore defenders with 4.5 quarterback sacks and third in quarterback hurries.



JARED PINKNEY

Jr. • 6-4, 255 • Tight End

Named to the 2018 Mackey Award watch list, Pinkney enters his third year ranked among the top of SEC returning tight ends with 44 career receptions and 553 receiving yards.

Pinkney hauled in 22 catches in 2017, the fourth highest total among returning SEC tight ends. His 279-yard receiving total ranks third.

A 16-game career starter, Pinkney has the speed to be a downfield receiving threat and the physicality to benefit the VU running game.

KALIJA LIPSCOMB

Jr. • 6-1, 201 • Wide Receiver

Lipscomb ranks as the Commodores' active career leader with 64 receptions, 929 receiving yards and 10 touchdown catches.

As a sophomore in 2017, Lipscomb posted season highs with 37 receptions and 610 receiving yards.

Lipscomb's eight touchdown receptions in 2017 tied for the team's sixth highest season total, and ranks second among all SEC returning receivers.



COMMODORES IN THE NFL



**CASEY
HAYWARD**

Hayward has established himself as one of the NFL's premier cornerbacks. The Charger standout earned his second consecutive All-Pro recognition in 2017 after snaring four interceptions. With more and more frequency, opposing quarterbacks are looking to attack anyone in Charger blue besides Hayward. This May, the NFL Network moved Hayward up to No. 59 among the "NFL Top 100 Players of 2018." He enters his seventh year with 20 career interceptions.



**ZACH
CUNNINGHAM**

It didn't take Cunningham long to impact the Houston defense. The linebacker earned 13 starting assignments and registered 90 tackles, the second highest total among all rookie defenders during the 2017 season.



**JORDAN
MATTHEWS**

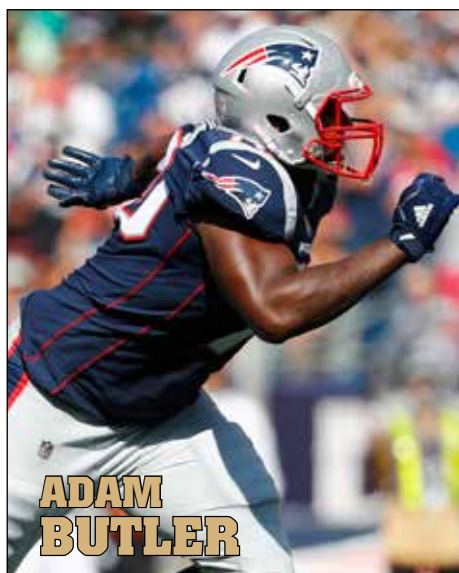
After an injury-plagued 2017 season in Buffalo, Matthews has joined the New England Patriots and quarterback Tom Brady. Matthews enters his fifth NFL season with 250 career receptions, 2,955 receiving yards and 20 touchdowns.



**ANDRE
HAL**

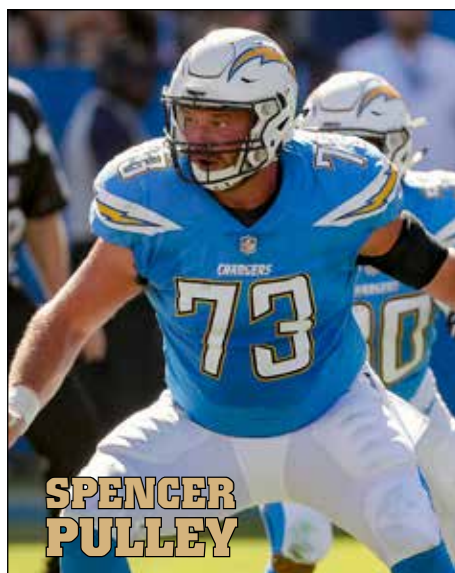
Hal has been on the minds of Commodore fans since early June when the Texans' starting safety announced a diagnosis of Hodgkin lymphoma, which he is aggressively treating. The diagnosis came after Hal's finest year in the NFL.

COMMODORES IN THE NFL



ADAM BUTLER

In a matter of months, Butler went from undrafted rookie free agent to starter in New England. He finished the year with 19 tackles and two sacks.



SPENCER PULLEY

Pulley started all 16 games at center for the Chargers in 2017, his second year in the league. He has the versatility to play center and guard.



WESLEY JOHNSON

Johnson started 15 games at center for the New York Jets in 2017, then signed a free agent contract with Detroit during the offseason.

EIGHTEEN COMMODORES ON PRESEASON ROSTERS

Eighteen former Vanderbilt standouts are signed with National Football League teams looking to continue or start pro careers.

The list includes 10 defensive players and eight offensive standouts.

Eight of the former Commodores – **Adam Butler** (Patriots), **Zach Cunningham** (Texans), **Andre Hal** (Texans), **Casey Hayward** (Chargers), **Will Holden** (Cardinals), **Wesley Johnson** (Jets), **Jordan Matthews** (Bills) and **Spencer Pulley** (Chargers), won starting roles during the 2017 campaign.

Four NFL franchises – the Houston Texans, Los Angeles Chargers, Minnesota Vikings and New England Patriots – have multiple Dores on their preseason rosters.

Linebacker **Oren Burks** was selected in the 2018 NFL Draft by Green Bay. Seven more 2017 seniors are rookie free agents entering preseason camps.

DORES IN THE NFL

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|--------------|
| Oren Burks | LB | Green Bay |
| Adam Butler | DL | New England |
| Zach Cunningham | LB | Houston |
| C.J. Duncan | WR | Arizona |
| Andre Hal | DB | Houston |
| Casey Hayward | DB | LA Chargers |
| Tre Herndon | DB | Jacksonville |
| Will Holden | OL | Arizona |
| Wesley Johnson | OL | Detroit |
| Kenny Ladler | DB | Washington |
| Jordan Matthews | WR | New England |
| Spencer Pulley | OL | LA Chargers |
| Caleb Scott | WR | Seattle |
| Trent Sherfield | WR | Arizona |
| Emmanuel Smith | LB | Atlanta |
| Ralph Webb | RB | New England |
| Stephen Weatherly | DL | Minnesota |
| Jonathan Wynn | DL | Minnesota |



WILL HOLDEN

Holden earned five starts as a rookie offensive tackle for the Arizona Cardinals, and enters 2018 preseason camp competing for a starting role.



STEPHEN WEATHERLY

In his second year in Minnesota, Weatherly made 15 appearances at defensive end as the Vikings made an impressive playoff run in 2017.



BURKS IMPRESSES AT NFL SCOUTING COMBINE

After strong performances at the postseason East-West Shrine Game and Reese's Senior Bowl, linebacker Oren Burks continued to impress pro personnel at the NFL Scouting Combine and Vanderbilt's Pro Day. Eventually, Burks was selected by Green Bay in the third round of the 2018 Draft.



SHERFIELD'S TALENT ON DISPLAY

Wide receiver Trent Sherfield blazed a 4.40 40, board-jumped 10'2" and impressed scouts during position drills. He later signed with Arizona.



SCOTT SHOWS QUICKNESS, AGILITY

Wide receiver Caleb Scott ran a 4.42 40 and showed excellent athleticism in agility testing en route to signing a free agent deal with Seattle.

NFL SCOUTS GATHER ON CAMPUS AT PRO DAY TO EVALUATE SENIORS

Ten Commodore seniors from a year ago earned rookie free-agent contracts or tryouts after putting together impressive workouts in front of NFL scouts at Vanderbilt's annual Pro Day activity on campus.

Seven Commodores – wide receivers **C.J. Duncan**, **Caleb Scott** and **Trent Sherfield**, cornerback **Tre Herndon**, linebacker **Emmanuel Smith**, running back **Ralph Webb** and defensive end **Jonathan Wynn** – used Pro Day to earn rookie free agent deals and remain with their clubs entering preseason camps in late July. They join linebacker **Oren Burks**, who was the lone Commodore senior selected in the 2018 Draft.

Two others – defensive lineman **Nifae Lealao** and kicker **Tommy Openshaw** – also received rookie minicamp invitations following Pro Day workouts.



HERNDON RISES

Cornerback Tre Herndon's athleticism caught the attention of Jacksonville Jaguar scouts .



WEBB FLASHES SPEED

Record-breaking running back Ralph Webb impressed New England with a 4.48 40-yard dash and 27 bench press repetitions of 225 pounds.

INTENT ON SUCCESS



INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

11 All-America recipients

34 All-Conference recipients

3.10 GPA of VU student-athlete population (2017-18 academic year)

134 Student-athletes earning Dean's List

213 SEC Academic Honor Roll recipients

'17-18 VANDERBILT TEAM SUCCESSES

Bowling

- Women capture team's second NCAA Championship

Women's Tennis

- SEC regular season and tourney champions advanced to NCAA Championship Finals

Baseball

- Reached NCAA Super Regionals

Men's Golf

- Reached NCAA Championships, just missed match-play finals

Men's Tennis

- Advanced to NCAA tournament, reaching Round of 16

Women's Golf

- Reached NCAA Regionals

Soccer

- Advanced to NCAA postseason

Football

- Notched win over Tennessee for second consecutive year

DORES ACHIEVE AT HIGH LEVELS IN COMPETITION AND CLASSROOM

Vanderbilt student-athletes enjoyed plenty of success, on and off fields of competition, in 2017-18.

The bowling team captured its second NCAA championship - and the department's third in the last four years. The women's tennis team played for an NCAA title. Five other Commodore teams reached NCAA postseason play. Derek Mason's football squad just missed back-to-back bowl appearances, but finished on a high note by defeating Tennessee.

Off the field, Mason's team was stellar, with 45 SEC Academic Honor Roll recipients and a high national ranking in graduation rates.

Across the board, Vanderbilt student-athletes performed at a high level. Ralph Webb rewrote VU rushing records. Senior golfer Theo Humphrey earned SEC Player of the Year. All-America tennis standout Astra Sharma led the Commodores to a conference title.



WEBB'S INCREDIBLE CAREER

Running back Ralph Webb concluded his Commodore career as one of the SEC most accomplished backs. He owns numerous career team records, including 4,173 rushing yards and 32 rushing touchdowns,



WHERE VU RANKS

#14 Among national universities

#2 Among universities in the South

U.S. News & World Report 2018

ELITE ACADEMICS IN SCENIC URBAN SETTING

Located in Nashville's popular Midtown district, Vanderbilt is regarded among the nation's leading universities. The private research university enrolled 6,885 undergraduate and 5,707 postgraduate students last year. Those students came from all 50 states and countries around the globe.

Vanderbilt students are pleased with their college choice. In fact, the university ranks No. 1 nationally for happiest students, according to *Princeton Review's* "2018 Best 379 Colleges" survey.

The university was founded 145 years ago when magnate Cornelius "Commodore" Vanderbilt provided an initial endowment.

Vanderbilt holds charter membership in the Southeastern Conference and remains its lone private institution.

The campus is just west of downtown Nashville on a scenic property that is designated as a national arboretum. Two areas of campus closed to vehicles – the Peabody campus and the collection of academic buildings surrounding Kirkland Hall that form the original campus – are frequently named among the South's most beautiful college environments.



VANDERBILT: BY THE NUMBERS

7-1 Student-to-faculty undergrad ratio

10.9% Acceptance rate for undergrad admissions

55% Percentage of female undergraduates

330 Total acreage of the Vanderbilt campus

97% Retention rate for freshmen students

40% Students that study abroad

90% Students living on campus



MUSIC CITY'S APPEAL CONTINUES TO GROW

Vanderbilt's hometown of Nashville is one of America's most vibrant cities. It is also recognized among the nation's most appealing locations for young professionals seeking opportunity and tourists in search of a fun, exciting weekend.

It seems everybody's jumping on the Nashville bandwagon.

Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff and visitors cite Music City as one of the leading perks of the university, which is located in the popular Midtown district just two miles from a bustling downtown.

Nashville has become one of the nation's top urban attractions, offering all of the charm and hospitality one expects from a grand Southern capital city with the amenities expected in the largest destinations.

The secret is out on Nashville and its surrounding population of nearly 1.7 million. Popular magazines rave about the city's diversity in attractions, accommodations and niche districts. The city's downtown is exploding with retail and residential growth, and an array of entertainment alternatives for all ages.

The city enjoys a top job market for young adults, unique neighborhoods and parks for its residents, and an abundance of unique commercial districts virtually encircling downtown.

VISITING NASHVILLE

#7 America's Friendliest Cities

Travel and Leisure, 2017

Best Places to Go in 2018

Condé Nast Traveler

One of America's Hottest Cities

Forbes, 2017

#13 Best U.S. Cities to Live

U.S. News & World Report, 2017



NASHVILLE: SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT GALORE

In a city historically known for making great music, Nashville is fast becoming a haven for sports fans.

Nashville is starting to develop a national reputation as a superb locale for college and professional sports.

For lovers of college sports, Vanderbilt is enjoying athletic success while exposing Nashville residents to other SEC programs.

Residents also have two professional franchises to follow: the NFL's Tennessee Titans and NHL's Nashville Predators. The Titans are expected to contend this year in the AFC South Division. In 2017, the nation discovered Smashville, the nickname fondly created by the Predators, as Nashville's NHL franchise advanced to the Stanley Cup finals.

Nashville's musical roots remain strong. CMA Fest brings more than 100,000 fans to downtown each June. Bridgestone Arena, which hosts SEC and NCAA basketball tournaments, is one of the nation's busiest mid-size concert venues.

On campus, Vanderbilt Stadium is set to host Beyonce and Jay-Z in concert this summer. U2, Dave Matthews Band and Luke Bryan have played the stadium in recent years.

