



THE MASON ERA BEGINS

"DEREK IS A TREMENDOUS PERSON, AN OUTSTANDING TEACHER,
A SPIRITUAL MODEL, A STRONG COMMUNICATOR,
A HARD WORKER AND A CONSUMMATE WINNER." - JIM HARBAUGH

"ONE OF THE BEST DEFENSIVE MINDS
IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL!" - RICHARD SHERMAN

DEREK MASON
HEAD COACH





ANCHOR





DOWN



FACTS/SCHEDULE/CONTENTS

Team Information

COACHING STAFF

Derek Mason	Head Coach
Karl Dorrell	Offensive Coordinator/QBs
David Kotulski	Defensive Coordinator/ILBs
Charles Banks	Special Teams Coordinator/RBs
Gerry Gdowski	Recruiting Coordinator/TEs
Kenwick Thompson	Associate Head Coach/OLBs
Keven Lightner	Offensive Line
Marc Lubick	Wide Receivers
Brett Maxie	Secondary
Frank Maile	Defensive Line
Ryan Anderson	Graduate Assistant (Def.)
Johnell Thomas	Graduate Assistant (Def.)
A.J. Haase	Graduate Assistant (Off.)
Chandler Henley	Graduate Assistant (Off.)
Bill Hughan	Director, Sports Performance
Cedric Calhoun	Asst, Sports Performance
Jamey Mroz	Asst, Sports Performance
Teddy Thompson	Asst, Sports Performance

A QUICK LOOK

Head Coach	Derek Mason (1st year)
Career Record	0-0
2013 Team Record	9-4
2013 SEC Record	4-4 (4th in SEC East)
Associated Press Rank	No. 24
USA Today/Coaches' Rank	No. 23
Home	5-2
Away	3-2
Neutral	1-0
Home Attendance	249,728 (7 games)
Average Home Attendance	35,675
Number of Bowl Appearances	7
All-Time Bowl Record	4-2-1
Last Bowl	2013 BBVA Compass
Last Bowl W/L	Houston (W, 41-24)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location	Nashville, Tenn.
Founded	1873
Undergraduate Enrollment	6,875
Nickname	Commodores
Colors	Black and Gold
Conference	Southeastern
Stadium	Vanderbilt Stadium (40,350)
Surface	Synthetic (Shaw Sportexe)
All-Time Record	582-582-50 (.499)
Chancellor	Nicholas S. Zeppos
Athletics Director	David Williams II
Dir. of Football Operations	Jason Grooms
Asst. Dir. of Football Operations	Matt Britain
Dir. of Player Personnel	Tyler Barnes
Asst., Player Personnel	Eric Lammers
Dir. of Player Development	Tosin Abari
Asst., Player Development	Vavae Tata
Asst., Recruiting	Matt Ruland
Quality Control Asst.	Rod Chance
Quality Control Asst.	Chris Marve
Quality Control Asst.	Mike Morita
Head Athletic Trainer	Tom Bossung
Head Equipment Manager	Chris Singleton

2014 Vanderbilt Schedule

Date	Opponent	Kickoff	TV	Location	Venue
Aug. 28 (Thur.)	Temple	8:15 pm CT	SEC Network	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium
Sept. 6	Ole Miss *	3:30 pm CT	ESPN	Nashville	LP Field
Sept. 13	UMASS	11 am CT	FSN	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium
Sept. 20	So. Carolina *	TBA	TBA	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium
Sept. 27	Kentucky *	TBA	TBA	Lexington, Ky.	Commonwealth Stadium
Oct. 4	Georgia *	TBA	TBA	Athens, Ga.	Sanford Stadium
Oct. 11	Charleston So.	TBA	TBA	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium
Oct. 25	Missouri *	TBA	TBA	Columbia, Mo.	Faurot Field
Nov. 1	Old Dominion	TBA	TBA	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium
Nov. 8	Florida *	TBA	TBA	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium
Nov. 22	Miss. State *	TBA	TBA	Starkville, Miss.	Davis Wade Stadium
Nov. 29	Tennessee *	TBA	TBA	Nashville	Vanderbilt Stadium

* denotes Southeastern Conference opponent



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STAT LEADERS/CREDITS



Athletic Communications

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Derek Mason: @CoachDerekMason
Vanderbilt Football: @VandyFootball

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



Returning Starters

OFFENSE: 7

NAME, POSITION	2013 NOTES
Jerron Seymour, RB	Eight-game starter rushed for 716 yards, record-tying 14 rushing TDs
Jordan Cunningham, WR	Started six games at freshman, posting 15 catches for 123 receiving yards
Steven Scheu, TE	Registered nine catches for 123 receiving yards during seven starts
Joe Townsend, C	A leader in the interior, Townsend has started 20 consecutive games
Jake Bernstein, OG	Bernstein started last 11 games at left guard, has 17 career starts
Spencer Pulley, OG	A second-year starter, Pulley started all 13 games at right guard
Andrew Jelks, OT	Earned SEC All-Freshman, Freshman All-America honors as tackle

DEFENSE: 5

NAME, POSITION	2013 NOTES
Kyle Woestmann, DE	Woestmann posted team-high six QB sacks while starting every game
Adam Butler, DT	Started six games at tackle, registering 25 stops, 6.0 tackles for losses
Vince Taylor, DT	Interior lineman contributed 18 total tackles as first-year starter
Darreon Herring, LB	Ranked second on team with 84 total tackles; third with 47 solo stops
Jake Sealand, LB	A six-game starter, Sealand ranked fifth on squad with 45 total tackles

SPECIALISTS: 1

NAME, POSITION	2013 NOTES
Taylor Hudson, Punter	Averaged 42.9 yards as first-year starter. Had 13 punts of 50+ yards

Top Vanderbilt Statistical Returnees

RUSHING							
	G	Att.	Net.	Avg.	TD	Long	Avg./G
Jerron Seymour	12	164	716	4.4	14	58	59.7
Brian Kimbrow	12	81	341	4.2	3	25	28.4
PASSING							
	G	Effic.	Comp.-Att.-INT	Pct.	Yards	TD	Avg./G
Patton Robinette	10	117.2	46-88-5	52.3	642	4	64.2
RECEIVING							
	G	Rec.	Yards	Avg.	TD	Long	Avg./G
Jerron Seymour	12	19	126	6.6	0	22	11.4
Jordan Cunningham	13	15	123	8.2	0	14	9.5
Kris Kentera	13	10	100	10.0	1	23	7.7
DEFENSE							
	G	UA-A-TT	TFL/Yds.	Sacks	INT	PBU	FF/FR QH
Darreon Herring	13	47-37-84	3.0-14	1.5-11	1-3	11	0/0 1
Jake Sealand	13	14-31-45	2.5-6	0.0-0	0-0	1	1/0 0
Kyle Woestmann	13	21-19-40	7.0-29	6.0-28	0-0	1	1/0 2
Caleb Azubike	10	21-10-31	9.5-53	4.0-42	0-0	0	0/1 3
Barren Dixon	13	10-16-26	4.5-15	2.5-10	0-0	2	0/0 1
Adam Butler	12	16-9-25	6.0-18	0.0-0	0-0	2	1/1 1

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ALL-STAR CANDIDATES



ANDREW JELKS

Sophomore, Offensive Tackle

As starting RT, Jelks earned Freshman All-America and SEC All-Freshman honors in 2013. Jelks could replace Wesley Johnson at left tackle this year.



ADAM BUTLER

Sophomore, Defensive Line

Butler contributed 25 tackles, including six stops resulting in losses, as a redshirt freshman starter at defensive tackle in 2013, then impressed in Vanderbilt's 3-4 defensive alignment during Spring Ball.



DARRIUS SIMS

Sophomore, Return Specialist

As a true freshman in 2013, Sims ranked among the SEC leaders with a 22.8-yard kickoff return average.



JOE TOWNSEND

Senior, Center

A leader on the Commodore offensive interior, Townsend has a 20-game consecutive start streak entering his final season.



TAYLOR HUDSON

Senior, Punter

As a first-year starter, Hudson averaged 42.9 yards in 2013. It ranks as the 10th highest single-season average by a Commodore.

ALL-STAR CANDIDATES



KYLE WOESTMANN

Senior, Outside Linebacker

Blessed with a tremendous motor, Woestmann has amassed 12 quarterback sacks and 15 tackles for loss entering his final year.



VINCE TAYLOR

Senior, Defensive Tackle

Coming off his best season in 2013, the powerful Taylor seems a perfect fit for Vanderbilt's nose tackle role in new 3-4 alignment.



JERRON SEYMOUR

Junior, Running Back

The compact, yet physical Seymour rushed for 716 yards and tied a single-season team record with 14 rushing touchdowns as a first-year starter in 2013.



DARREON HERRING

Junior, Linebacker

Herring became the team's most productive linebacker in 2013. He is Vanderbilt's active career leader with 66 solo tackles and 117 total stops.



CALEB AZUBIKE

Junior, Outside Linebacker

Like Woestmann, Azubike is moving to a new role of outside linebacker. In his first two years, Azubike has totalled 52 tackles, eight quarterback sacks and 14 tackles for loss.

COMPETITIVE SUCCESSES

VANDERBILT ATHLETICS...

Vanderbilt Athletics enjoyed an abundance of success on and off the playing field during the 2013-14 campaign.

The football team's 9-4 record and post-season Top 25 ranking added significantly to one of the most successful 12-month stretches in Vanderbilt history. Eight Commodore varsity

teams, highlighted by a national championship performance by the Vanderbilt baseball squad, advanced to 2013-14 NCAA postseason competition.

Off the field, Commodore student-athletes also enjoyed plenty of success.

The student-athlete population concluded the 2013-14 calendar year with a 3.086 collective GPA, with 206 Southeastern Conference Academic Honor Roll recipients and 125 Dean's List honorees.

Vanderbilt's dogpile celebration

Vanderbilt 2013-14 Athletic Achievements

Football

9-4 season, bowl victory,
Top 25 postseason ranking

Baseball

NCAA National Champions

Women's Bowling

Finished 5th at NCAA
Championships

Women's Tennis

Advanced to NCAA Sweet 16,
Finished T-9th at NCAA

Women's Golf

SEC Champions; NCAA Region
Champions; Finished T-10th at
NCAA Championships

Men's Golf

Finished T-16th at 2014 NCAA
Championships

Men's Tennis

Advanced to 2nd round
of NCAA, Finished T-17th
at NCAA Championships

Women's Cross Country

Advanced to NCAA
Championships for second
time in team history

Women's Basketball

Advanced to NCAA tourney
for 15th straight season

at the 2014 College World Series enabled the program to improve its final ranking in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings for a record-extending fifth year in a row. The Commodores finished the 2013-14 year ranked No. 45 in the Directors' Cup, its highest result since 2007.



THREE STRAIGHT BOWL APPEARANCES

The Vanderbilt football team continued to achieve in 2013. The Commodores reached nine wins in consecutive seasons for the first time in team history. The squad defeated SEC East rivals Florida, Georgia and Tennessee for the first time ever in the same season, won a second straight bowl, and earned a Top 25 postseason ranking in the Associated Press and coaches for the second consecutive year.



GOLF STANDOUTS

Simin Feng (left) and Hunter Stewart led their respective teams to the 2014 NCAA Championships. Feng captured medalist honors at the SEC Championships by a stunning eight-stroke margin and went on to earn All-America recognition. Through qualifying, Stewart played in the 2014 U.S. Open at Pinehurst.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS



NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPS

Tim Corbin's Vanderbilt baseball team capped a remarkable 51-21 season by winning its first NCAA national championship, defeating Virginia for the 2014 College World Series crown. The win marked Vanderbilt's initial NCAA team title in men's competition.

A PROGRAM ON THE RISE

Commodore Athletics: By the Numbers

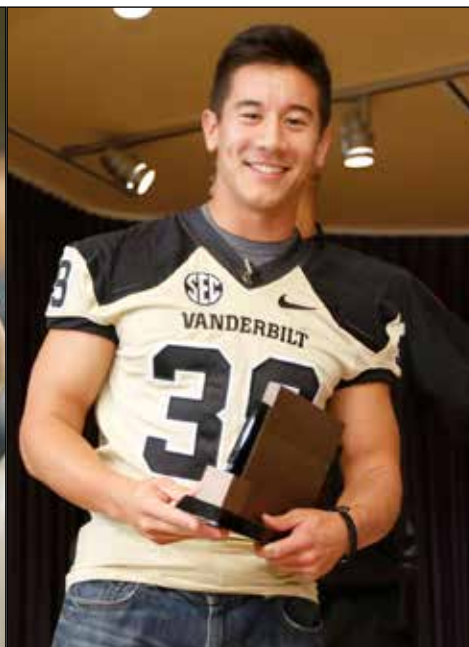
9 Program's Final Rank in
Capital One Cup
*NCAA men's programs

13 Student-athletes earning
All-America recognition

45 Final rank in Learfield
Sports Directors' Cup
*NCAA competitive
achievements ranking

3.08 Cumulative GPA of
Vandy student-athletes
*as of June 26, 2014

125 Vandy student-athletes
earning Dean's List



RECOGNITION ON AND OFF THE FIELD

Two Commodore seniors from the 2013 squad, Jordan Matthews (left) and Carey Spear, were standouts on and off the gridiron. Matthews became the SEC's all-time receiving and reception yardage leader. Spear ranked among the squad's best kickers ever and became the first 'Dore ever named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works national team.

'DORES IN THE PROS



JAY CUTLER

In his eighth NFL year, Cutler teamed with Chicago receivers Brandon Marshall and Alshon Jeffery to create one of the league's most potent passing attacks. Cutler's 89.2 QB rating last year was the highest of his career. The former SEC Offensive Player of the Year enters 2014 with 155 career touchdown passes and nearly 25,000 career passing yards.

EIGHTEEN FORMER 'DORES ACTIVE ON NFL ROSTERS

Eighteen former Vanderbilt standouts, including eight from the 2013 Commodore roster, are currently signed with National Football League

teams looking to continue or start pro careers.

The list of former Commodores includes nine offensive players, eight defensive standouts and a placekicker.

Three pro teams – the Buffalo Bills, Green Bay Packers and Philadelphia Eagles – have multiple former Commodores on their preseason rosters.

Two former 'Dore offensive linemen, **Chris Williams** and **Thomas Welch**, signed free agent deals with new teams: Williams with Buffalo and Welch with New Orleans.

Three seniors off the 2013 squad were selected in the 2014 NFL Draft. All-America wide receiver **Jordan Matthews** was picked in the second round by Philadelphia, All-SEC offensive tackle **Wesley Johnson** was

taken in the fifth round by Pittsburgh and all-conference cornerback **Andre Hal** was a seventh round pick of the Texans.

Commodores in the NFL

- **Brandon Barden**, TE, Jacksonville
- **Steven Clarke**, CB, Miami
- **Jay Cutler**, QB, Chicago
- **Tim Fugger**, LB, New York Jets
- **Andre Hal**, CB, Texas
- **Casey Hayward**, CB, Green Bay
- **Wesley Johnson**, OT, Pittsburgh
- **Jonathan Krause**, WR, Cleveland
- **Kenny Ladler**, S, Buffalo
- **Walker May**, OLB, Atlanta
- **Jordan Matthews**, WR, Philadelphia
- **D.J. Moore**, CB, Tampa Bay
- **Sean Richardson**, S, Green Bay
- **Ryan Seymour**, OG, San Francisco
- **Carey Spear**, PK, Philadelphia
- **Zac Stacy**, RB, St. Louis
- **Thomas Welch**, OT, New Orleans
- **Chris Williams**, OG, Buffalo



ZAC STACY

Vanderbilt's all-time leading rusher was a rookie sensation for St. Louis. Stacy became the Rams' most productive offensive weapon during the 2013 season, rushing for 973 yards and seven touchdowns. Stacy ranked second among all NFL rookies in rushing yards.

'DORES IN THE PROS



FORMER 'DORES IN PACKERS' SECONDARY

At times during the 2013 season, former Vanderbilt teammates Sean Richardson, left, and Casey Hayward roamed the secondary for the Green Bay Packers. Richardson returned from injury to see substantial playing time for the Packers at safety while Hayward struggled with injuries after putting together a sensational rookie campaign in 2012.



CHRIS WILLIAMS

The former first-round pick enjoyed an excellent season for the St. Louis Rams in 2013. After starting every regular season game at guard, Williams signed an attractive free agent contract with the Buffalo Bills during the offseason.



SENIOR BOWL PARTICIPANTS

Kenny Ladler (above) and Wesley Johnson joined Jordan Matthews at the Reese's Senior Bowl in late January to showcase their skills in front of an array of NFL coaches and scouts.



JORDAN MATTHEWS

The record-setting Matthews became the first Vanderbilt player ever to attend the NFL Draft. The wide receiver walked to the stage after his name was announced early in the second round.

IMPRESSING PRO SCOUTS



UPCLOSE WITH MATTHEWS

After seeing Vanderbilt All-America Jordan Matthews at the Combine and sharing a personal moment with him at pro day on campus, Philadelphia Eagles' head coach Chip Kelly drafted the wide receiver with the No. 42 overall pick.



ON DISPLAY AT THE COMBINE

Wesley Johnson was one of four Commodores that participated in the NFL Combine. He was joined by Andre Hal, Kenny Ladler and Jordan Matthews.

PRO DAY HELPS FOUR SENIORS GET ROOKIE NFL DEALS

In the last three years, a dozen 'Dore senior who did not attend the NFL Combine have used Vanderbilt's Pro Day as their avenue into pro football.

The on-campus activity comes in mid-March as NFL teams are evaluating draft-eligible prospects.

In 2014, four former Commodores used the activity held for the first time in the team's Indoor Practice Facility to earn rookie free agent deals. They were outside linebacker **Walker May**, Atlanta; wide receiver **Jonathan Krause**, Cleveland; cornerback **Steven Clarke**, Miami; and kicker **Carey Spear**, Philadelphia.



FLEET KRAUSE

Jonathan Krause earned an eventual rookie deal with Cleveland after running a low-4.4 40 and impressing in position drills at Pro Day.

COMMODORES IMPRESS WITH COMBINE RESULTS

All four Commodore seniors participating the 2014 NFL Combine – **Jordan Matthews, Andre Hal, Wesley Johnson and Kenny Ladler** – get plenty to earn the attention of pro scouts in attendance.

Nearly three months later, Matthews, Johnson and Hal were drafted while Ladler became a coveted rookie free agent.

After erasing concerns about

speed with a 4.46 40-yard dash, Matthews went on to do 21 reps of the 225-lb. bench press and post a 35.5-inch vertical jump.

Ladler was among the top safeties in three competitions, including a 36.5-inch vertical, while Hal responded with a sub-4.5 40 and excellent agility tests. Johnson ranked among the top linemen in the broad jump and 3-cone drill.



BUSY HAL

Cornerback Andre Hal stayed busy prior to getting drafted by the Texans. After playing in the East-West Shrine Bowl, Hal performed well at the NFL Combine, then returned to campus to train with Commodore teammates for Pro Day where he completed position drills.

TEAM FACILITIES



ON-CAMPUS INDOOR FACILITY

Inclement weather should not hinder Derek Mason's Commodores in the future. The team will have access to a new indoor practice facility that opened last November. The venue, located near the team's outdoor practice complex, features a regulation-size football field, synthetic surface, video board and video systems.

FIRST FULL SEASON WITH INDOOR PRACTICE VENUE



CORRIDOR DECOR

The Corridor of Captains near the team's player locker room has undergone a thorough redesign. It highlights academic achievers, All-America and All-SEC recipients, the program's coaching legacy, bowl appearances and all-time Commodores in the NFL.

Foul weather should not affect the Commodores' preparations, thanks to an indoor facility that opened close to the Vanderbilt football offices and locker rooms last November.

The \$31 million project includes a regulation-length football field, synthetic turf similar to the stadium playing surface, an array of modern video technologies, along with a 300-meter track.

The expansive indoor facility is one of several improvements that have produced positive impacts to the Vanderbilt football team. In the last two years, the program has witnessed the addition of a 140-seat team auditorium and position meeting rooms, revitalization of the players' locker room, and cushioned Shaw Sportex synthetic turf in the stadium field.

A thorough redesign of the Corridor of Captains, football weight room and coaches' offices, should be complete this summer.

Recent program upgrades

INDOOR PRACTICE FACILITY (November, 2013)

- Regulation-size football field
- In-house video system

VANDERBILT STADIUM (completed 2012)

- Video board, berm added in north end zone
- Shaw Sportex synthetic turf surface installed
- Stadium lighting system replaced

MEETING ROOMS (completed 2012)

Second-floor expansion of McGugin Athletics Center includes 140-seat team auditorium, seven position rooms and an executive meeting room.

LOCKER ROOMS (completed in 2012)

Thorough revitalization of players' locker rooms in McGugin Center and gameday locker room in stadium.



WALL DECOR

Stylish 'Anchor Down' art decor greet guests to the football office.



WEIGHT ROOM RENOVATION

A complete renovation of the weight room to achieve improved functional movement and injury prevention is in place. Keiser air-resistance systems (above), Versa Climbers (right), GHR machines and Core boards have become part of the team's daily training program.



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



VANDERBILT STUDENT-ATHLETES AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Twenty football players, including four All-SEC performers, received diplomas during Vanderbilt Commencement ceremonies last May. Vanderbilt Athletics' teams posted the highest Academic Progress Rate (APR) scores of any Southeastern Conference school in seven of the varsity sports that compete in the league.

Where Vanderbilt ranks:

17th Among U.S. national universities

2nd Among universities in southeastern U.S.

11th Best schools, best value for undergrads

1st Graduate School of Education: Peabody

Source: U.S. News & World Report
Best Colleges 2014 Edition

STUDENT-ATHLETES ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

During the 2013-14 school year, thirty-five members of Vanderbilt football team received Dean's List recognition from the university.

Commodore student-athletes are aided by a full-time staff of 11 highly qualified advisors and counselors in the Stratton Foster Academic Center.

Four academic advisors – Eugene Henderson, Max-Maurice Martin, Ashley Vogl and academic support director Elizabeth Wright – devote their energies to helping football student-athletes fulfill their academic obligations with discipline, perseverance, and integrity.

The bi-level Stratton Foster complex in McGugin Athletics Center was thoroughly renovated in 2011. It serves as a resource center to meet with a tutor or academic advisor, use a computer, or to study and read during spare moments.

The University: By the numbers

8-1 Undergrad ratio for student-to-faculty

13% Acceptance rate for undergrad admissions

36 Number of residence halls and apartments

50% Percentage of female undergraduates

94% Vanderbilt students that live on campus

96% Retention rate for freshmen students

34% Students that study abroad

87% Students graduating in four years





ELITE ACADEMICS; SCENIC URBAN FEEL

Located in the popular Midtown district of Nashville, Vanderbilt is regarded among the nation's finest universities. The private research university enrolled 6,875 undergraduate and 5,960 postgraduate students last year. Those students came from every state and around the globe.

The university was founded 141 years ago when magnate Cornelius "Commodore" Vanderbilt provided an initial endowment.

Vanderbilt is a charter member of the Southeastern Conference, and is the only private school among its 14-member universities.

Vanderbilt is considered among the top universities in America. In its popular annual "Best Colleges" edition, *U.S. News & World Report* most recently ranked Vanderbilt No. 17 among all national universities and No. 2 among schools located in the Southeast.

The campus is just southwest of downtown Nashville on 330 pristine acres that are 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.

Though located within walking distance of downtown activities, the quality of Vanderbilt life is reflected in much smaller, less public ways – attending an athletic event, grabbing a late-night snack with friends, or having dinner at a professor's home.

Most Vanderbilt undergraduates live on campus during their time at the university. Nearly residential halls dot the campus, including two of the nation's most unique residential communities for undergraduates: The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons on the Peabody campus and the Warren and Moore college halls of Kissam on the main campus.

Vanderbilt offers numerous degrees in four undergraduate colleges: the College of Arts and Science, Peabody College, School of Engineering and Blair School of Music.



NASHVILLE: THE "IT" CITY



TENNESSEE TITANS

The Titans was guided by first-year head coach Ken Whisenhunt, who served as a Vanderbilt assistant coach in the 1990s.

NASHVILLE OFFERS PLENTY OF SPORTS

Nashville has become one of the South's top cities for sports enthusiasts.

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

Enthusiasts of pro sports have two successful teams in the market: the NFL's Titans and the NHL's Predators. Both play downtown: the Titans at spacious LP Field and Preds in Bridgestone Arena.

Bridgestone Arena will host several SEC basketball tournaments in coming years, starting with the men's tourney in 2015 and 2016.



NHL PREDATORS

Formed in 1998, the Nashville Predators of the NHL has made hockey hip in the Music City.



MUSIC CITY: COOL & HAPPENING

Vanderbilt's vibrant hometown of Nashville has become one of the fastest-growing cities and visitor destinations in the United States. And virtually everybody's jumping on the Music City bandwagon.

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

Nashville has become one of the nation's top urban attractions, exuding 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 metro population of nearly 1.8 million. Popular magazines rave about the city's diversity in attractions, accommodations and niche districts. Conventions are the newest to discover the city. Nashville is now must-see destination.

The success of ABC's popular song-filled drama "Nashville" hasn't hindered its soaring appeal.

Nashville enjoys a diverse and youthful population, unique neighborhoods and parks, and an abundance of entertainment districts.

Taking notice of Our Town

"Most Electric Spot in the South"
GQ, 2014

"Coolest, Tastiest City in South"
Bon Appetit, 2012

"America's Next It City"
The New York Times, 2013

"Best Music City in the Nation"
Rolling Stone, 2011

No. 1: Friendliest City in U.S.
Travel & Leisure, 2012-13

"Nashville is Nowville"
Forbes, 2013

"America's Best City for BBQ"
Travel & Leisure, 2014



MUSIC: PART OF NASHVILLE'S CORE

Music is a fabric of Nashville's soul and it's the reason many current and rising stars call the city home. Nashville continues to create and host incredible music opportunities, including the can't-miss CMA Festival and Awards Show. America's finest entertainers, many from non-country music genres, want to be among the performers. National acts are drawn to two top venues in the city, Bridgestone Arena and Ryman Auditorium.



SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE



THE SEC: WITHOUT PEER



Vanderbilt is a charter member of the Southeastern Conference. During the last decade, Vanderbilt has shared in the league's unparalleled success. With the SEC Network coming this August, the conference's competitiveness promises to capture even more of the nation's college football attention.

- Incredibly, SEC football teams won seven of the last eight national titles, and nine of the 16 championships, during the BCS Era (1998-2013). The SEC also captured seven more BCS titles than any other conference.
- From 2006-13, more than half of the slots in the BCS Championship Game were taken by SEC teams (10 of 18).
- SEC teams were 54-12 (.818) in non-league play last year. Vanderbilt was 5-0 in non-league play.
- Since 2006, the SEC has accrued more bowl wins (49) than any other conference. Vanderbilt is 3-1 in postseason appearances during the span.

- On the opening weekend of NFL play in 2013, an all-time high 340 former SEC players were on active rosters. That's more than any other conference. Ten of those players were former Vanderbilt standouts.
- In the 2014 NFL Draft, 49 former SEC players were selected, including the No. 1 and No. 2 overall picks. It was the most of any conference.
- For the second straight year, the SEC tied a record with 11 first round picks in the 2014 Draft. Two former Vanderbilt standouts, **Jay Cutler** and **Chris Williams**, have been selected in the first round since 2006.

The Commodores on National Television

Vanderbilt is part of the Southeastern Conference's unmatched television package that promises to expand this season with the unveiling of the SEC Network.

On Thursday, Aug. 28, the Commodores will help christen SEC Network's initial season with a primetime home game against Temple.

The SEC Network promises to widen the league's footprint across America. The Network will air three SEC games each Saturday, along with producing a live "SEC Nation" morning show that will feature Joe Tessitore, Tim Tebow and Paul Finebaum among others.

Every Vanderbilt game is available on television due to national contracts between the SEC, ESPN and CBS Sports, and a regional package with FOX.



In 2013, Vanderbilt's dramatic win over Georgia was the Commodores' first national appearance on CBS in 12 years. The 'Dores also faced Ole Miss, South Carolina and Tennessee in national primetime games.

The Vanderbilt-Ole Miss game on Saturday, Sept. 6, will be aired on ESPN. The "SEC Nation" show also will broadcast that morning from Nashville's LP Field.

