

# THE PLAYERS



**63 CHRIS AARON**

**R-Jr. ★ Center/Guard ★ 6-4 • 285  
Palos Verdes, Calif. ★ Palos Verdes HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** A transfer, Aaron showed plenty of promise last year prior to suffering a head injury that limited his action. The junior should compete with junior Joey Bailey as the backup to Bradley Vierling. Aaron also earned additional snaps last spring at guard.

**2008** Saw action as reserve center in early season win at Miami (Ohio)... Playing time was limited during season due to effects of injury suffered

during practice.

**2007** Did not play as walk-on after transferring from I-AA Lehigh University... Served as practice squad offensive lineman... Named team's Offensive Scout of the Week after Kentucky game.

**2006** Participated as tackle/guard at Lehigh University as a freshman, getting action in junior varsity games.

## HIGH SCHOOL

Senior captain... Three-year starter on offensive line... Helped team to state playoffs during senior season... Named team's top OL... Earned all-conference recognition... Recipient of National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame Scholar-Athlete Award.

**ACADEMICS** Aaron is working toward a degree in Human and Organizational Development. He is a 2008 SEC Academic Honor Roll recipient.

**PERSONAL** Christopher William Aaron... Son of Tony and Beth Petak-Aaron... Born May 5, 1988... Only child... Dad is an accountant for Ernst & Young; mom is a retired middle school teacher... Transferred to Vanderbilt after one year at Lehigh... Likes to surf, golf and skateboard.



**9 MACKENZI ADAMS**

**R-Sr. ★ Quarterback ★ 6-3 • 220  
Tulsa, Okla. ★ Union HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** The team's most experienced signal caller, Adams enters preseason camp competing for the starting job with sophomore Larry Smith. As a part-time starter in each of the last two seasons, Adams has displayed a dual-ability at quarterback, and demonstrated both toughness and solid leadership skills. Either as a starter or in a relief role, Adams has played a key role in several of the Commodores' biggest wins in recent years. Entering his final year, Adams looks to bolster his throwing accuracy.



**2008** Finished regular season by completing 74 of 146 passes for 811 yards and five TDs... Played in every game, starting against Georgia, Duke and Florida... Saw limited action in Music City Bowl due to shoulder and knee ailments... Had a career performance in national spotlight game against Auburn, coming off the bench to throw 13-for-23 with two TDs and 153 yards in Commodore victory... Captured Pontiac's Game Changing Performance of the Week for effort against Auburn, and helped squad to earn Tostitos Fiesta Bowl National Team of the Week... Alternated starts with Chris Nickson in second half of season... Saw action in every game at quarterback... Started against Georgia, Duke and Florida... Went 16-for-32 with two TDs against Georgia, while adding four rushes for 26 yards... Threw for 210 yards and a TD touchdown against Duke... Connected with WR Sean Walker for a 79-yard TD against Duke, career long efforts for both... Passed for 192 yards against Tennessee... Suffered shoulder injury in relief role at Wake Forest.

**2007** Provided quality leadership as first-year starting signal caller... Started final six games at quarterback in relief of opening-game starter Chris Nickson... Saw action in every game... Finished year as team passing leader in completions (101), attempts (182), yards (1,043) and

## More on Adams

*The son of a coach, Adams was an Oklahoma track star, winning two individual hurdle state titles as a senior. He also guided Union to the 2004 football state crown.*

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touchdowns (9)... Also ended year as team's third leading rusher with 289 yards and three touchdowns... Passing yardage total ranks sixth all-time by Commodore sophomore QB... Completed 55.5 percent of pass attempts, throwing just six interceptions in 192 attempts... Guided Commodores to road victory over No. 6 South Carolina in first career start, rushing for team-high 84 yards and throwing two touchdown passes... In second start, led Commodores to 24-13 home win over Miami (Ohio)... Completed career-high 20 passes – two for touchdowns – in narrow loss to Kentucky... Threw three touchdown passes at Tennessee – another career high – to give Vanderbilt a 15-point lead before Volunteers stormed back late to win... Rushed for two scores at Florida... Completed 13 of 23 passes for 108 yards and a touchdown early in season versus Alabama... Inserted into lineup at Auburn after injury to Nickson... Named team's Offensive Player of the Week after solid performance in narrow loss to Georgia... Completed seven of 10 passes for 125 yards and a score and rushed for 46 yards vs. Bulldogs... Guided late drive deep into Georgia territory for potential game-winning drive only to have Bulldogs recover fumble by Vanderbilt running back at 8-yard line.

## Adams Career Highs:

**COMPLETIONS:** 20, vs. Kentucky, 11/10/2007  
**PASS ATTEMPTS:** 38, vs. Tennessee, 11/22/2008  
**PASSING YARDS:** 210, vs. Duke, 10/25/2008  
**TD PASSES:** 3, at Tennessee, 11/17, 2007  
**RUSHING YARDS:** 84, at So. Carolina, 10/20/2007  
**RUSHING TDS:** 2, at Florida, 11/3, 2007

**2006** Saw action in every game as first varsity season... Was team's No. 2 quarterback behind Chris Nickson, and served as primary holder in all placekicking situations... Played three games at quarterback, including most of the

Commodores' road contest at Ole Miss... Subbing for Nickson in Oxford, Adams threw for 176 yards and ran for 51 yards... Also saw action at quarterback in wins over Tennessee State and Duke... Earned team's Specialist of the Week honors after Florida and Georgia games.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Named team's Offensive Scout of the Week after Richmond and Florida games.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Team captain... Led Tulsa Union to 6A state title, avenging early season loss to nationally ranked Jenks HS during win in state finals... Threw for 220 yards in title game... Completed 95 passes for 1,635 yards and 23 TDs for team that finished 13-1 and No. 19 nationally... Named 2005 Male Athlete of the Year... Transferred to Union as senior from Tulsa Metro Christian... Passed for 5,146 yards and 49 TDs and rushed for 11 TDs in Metro Christian career... Two-time All-State... Won 110-meter and 300-meter hurdles state titles as senior; ran 49.0 leg on 4x400-meter relay.

**ACADEMICS** Adams is enrolled in postgraduate courses after completing his undergraduate degree last spring in Human and Organizational Development. Adams is a three-time SEC Academic Honor Roll recipient.

**PERSONAL** John Mackenzi Adams... Son of Jeff and Laurie Adams... Born March 24, 1986... Dad was head coach at Metro Christian before joining coaching staff at Union HS in 2004... Mom is personal trainer... Has a young-er sister... Involved in FCA activities... Plays guitar.

### ADAMS' CAREER OFFENSIVE STATISTICS

	ATT/COMP-INT	Yds.	Pct.	TD	LONG	RUSH-Yds	AVG	TD	LONG
<b>2008</b>	<b>156-77-8</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>62-136</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>181-101-6</b>	<b>1043</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>87-289</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>29-15-1</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>19-86</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Career</b>	<b>366-193-15</b>	<b>2,149</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>168-511</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>



## 55 ROB ASHABRANNER

**R-Sr. ★ Center/Off. Guard ★ 6-2 • 280**  
**Beaumont, Texas ★ Cathedral Christian**

**2009 PROSPECTS** Ashabranner continues to work toward a contributing role on the Commodore offensive line, having taken snaps last spring at guard and center. Ashabranner must continue an effort to build strength and quickness through the squad's offseason conditioning program.

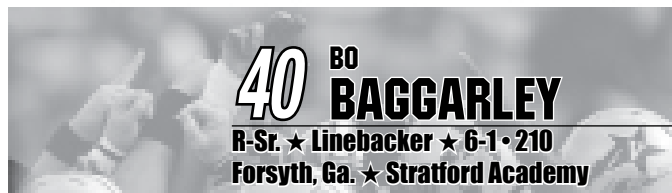
**2008** Reserve offensive lineman who saw action in early-season game at Miami (Ohio)... Moved to center during season to provide position depth.

**2007** Ashabranner spent first year on campus as a redshirt defensive tackle... Worked to add bulk through conditioning program... Earned Defensive Scout of the Week honors after Miami (Ohio) win.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Three-time captain... Three-time Division III All-State selection... Named All Southeast Texas Private School Player of the Year... Three-year starter for squad that won Bi-District title in 2005... Played several offensive line positions, but ended prep career as a quarterback, throwing for 1,198 yards and 12 TDs... Amassed 289 total tackles and 16.5 QB sacks in career as DT... Two-time All-State as baseball catcher.

**ACADEMICS** Ashabranner is working toward a degree in Secondary Education from Vanderbilt's Peabody College.

**PERSONAL** Robert Daniel Ashabranner... Son of Bob and Dee Ashabranner... Born Oct. 9, 1988 in San Antonio... Oldest of three siblings: sister, Hannah, and brother, Wesley... Dad played football collegiately at Stephen F. Austin (Texas) University... Dad is coach and teacher at Cathedral Christian; mom is a registered nurse.



## 40 BO BAGGARLEY

**R-Sr. ★ Linebacker ★ 6-1 • 210**  
**Forsyth, Ga. ★ Stratford Academy**

**2009 PROSPECTS** A team player and effective scout contributor since arriving as a walk-on in 2005, Baggarley enters his final year attempting to work his way on the field as a special teamer and reserve linebacker.

**2008** Did not see action as fourth-year linebacker candidate... Continued role as dependable defensive scout player.

**2007** Did not see action as junior walk-on... Named team's Defensive Scout of the Week after Eastern Michigan and Tennessee games.

**2006** Did not play as a sophomore... Earned Defensive Scout of the Week honors after Alabama and Tennessee State games.

**2005** Walk-on, did not see action as freshman... Named team's postseason Defensive Scout Team Player of the Year.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain... Helped team to state title in 2004... Two-time All-State LB... Also participated in wrestling, track and baseball... Four-time Eagle Pride Award winner... High honors student, receiving Wofford Scholar and Brake Memorial Math Scholarship.

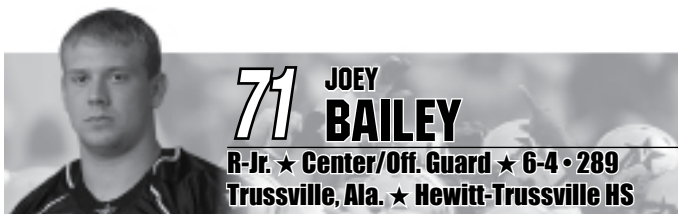
**ACADEMICS** Baggarley is majoring in History from the College of Arts and Science. He is a 2007 SEC Academic Honor Roll recipient.

**PERSONAL** Sherman Glenn Baggarley... Son of Buddy and Cindy Baggarley... Oldest of four siblings... Dad is a forester; mom is a homemaker... Hopes to attend medical school... Involved in various community service projects.

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**71 JOEY BAILEY**

**R-Jr. ★ Center/Off. Guard ★ 6-4 • 289**  
**Trussville, Ala. ★ Hewitt-Trussville HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** Bailey exited Spring Practice as the team's No. 2 center behind captain Bradley Vierling, giving coaches added confidence in his snapping abilities. A part-time starter in 2008, Bailey also should see time during preseason drills at either guard position as the staff works to create more quality depth up front.

**2008** Played in nine games... Opened season as starter, working at right guard through first five games until he was forced out of the lineup due to injury... Earned starting role after moving from center to guard in preseason... Also saw practice time at tackle.

## More on Bailey

*Bailey's high school, located northeast of Birmingham, Ala., is known for producing athletes. Other noted Hewitt-Trussville graduates are former Alabama standout QB Jay Barker, multi-year starting Auburn QB Brandon Cox and former MLB infielder Mike Mordecai.*

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Earned postseason Offensive Scout Most Valuable Player Award from coaches... Received top offensive scout honors after Ole Miss and Duke games.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Selected as offensive team captain... Three-year letter-



winner, two-year starter on offensive line... Allowed one quarterback sack playing left tackle as senior, helping team to 6-5 record and first round of 6A playoffs... Named second team All-Metro by *Birmingham News*... Squad went 7-4 in 2004, again advancing to first round of playoffs... Played catcher in baseball... National Honor Society member.

**ACADEMICS** Bailey is working toward a degree in Human and Organizational Development from the Peabody College.

**PERSONAL** William Joseph Bailey II... Son of Joe and Stacy Bailey... Born Dec. 30, 1987... Dad is self-employed; mom is a teacher at rival high school... Has two younger brothers, Jacob and Joshua... Former SEC QBs Brandon Cox (Auburn) and Jay Barker (Alabama) also graduated from Bailey's prep alma mater.



**6 BRANDON BARDEN**

**R-So. ★ Tight End ★ 6-5 • 245**  
**Lincolnton, Ga. ★ Lincoln County HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** Once opportunity arrived in 2008, Barden developed into one on the nation's top young receiving tight ends, constantly making key catches for the Commodore offense as a redshirt freshman. Still relatively new to the position, Barden should continue to improve as he added physical strength needed for blocking responsibilities. Forms excellent 1-2 tight end duo with Austin Monahan.

**2008** Former high school quarterback developed into one of the team's top receiving targets in first year of action... Played in every game at tight end, starting final 10 games after season-ending injury to Austin Monahan... Finished season as top freshman receiving TE in nation with 28 receptions... Named by coaches to All-SEC Freshman squad... Earned Freshman All-America recognition... Also saw action on punt coverage units... Made quick impact on offense, catching key 31-yard TD pass in victory over South Carolina... Posted at least two receptions in seven of final eight games...

## More on Barden

*The nation's leader for catches by freshman tight ends last year, Barden originally signed with Virginia Tech. The former prep quarterback stayed in Blacksburg just one semester before transferring to join the Commodores in Nashville.*

Catch in back of end zone provided winning points in victory over Auburn... Contributed season-high five catches and 53 receiving yards vs. Duke... Also had four receptions and superb 1-yard catch and TD in win at Kentucky... Notched Commodores' only touchdown in season finale, catching 5-yard pass from QB Larry Smith... Had one catch for four yards in Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl victory.

**2007** Did not play as redshirt freshman... Named Offensive Scout of the Week after Wake Forest game... Transferred to Vanderbilt after originally signing and enrolling at Virginia Tech for one semester.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Versatile QB who helped pilot history-rich Georgia school to consecutive A state titles in 2005-06 seasons... As senior, passed for 520 yards, rushed for 604 yards and caught 10 passes for 181 yards... Played TE as sophomore... Named Most Valuable Player on school's baseball team.

**ACADEMICS** Barden is enrolled in the Peabody College, working toward a degree in Special Education.

**PERSONAL** Brandon Michael Barden... Son of Mike Barden and Becky

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## Barden Career Highs:

RECEPTIONS: 5, vs. Duke, 10/25/2008  
RECEIVING YARDS: 53, vs. Duke, 10/25/2008  
LONGEST CATCH: 31, vs. So. Carolina, 9/4/2008

Barden... Has an older sister, Brittany... Born March 15, 1989... Mom is principal of Lincoln County High School; dad is private constructor... Barden's alma mater

produced former Georgia standout tailback Garrison Hearst.

### BARDEN'S CAREER RECEIVING STATISTICS

	RECEPTIONS	YARDS	AVG	TD	LONG
2008	28	209	7.5	4	31

## Player Leadership Council

For the fifth consecutive year, the Commodores will be served by a Leadership Council. Initiated by Coach Johnson, the council meets periodically to address team and student-athlete issues and serves as the players' voice communicating with coaches.

The council, elected by teammates based on position groupings, includes co-captains Patrick Benoist, Ryan Hamilton and Bradley Vierling, and Mackenzi Adams, Brandon Barden, Jared Hawkins, Steven Stone, Brett Upson, Thomas Welch and Justin Wheeler.



## 15 ARCHIBALD BARNES

R-Fr. ★ Linebacker/Def. End ★ 6-4 • 222  
Tampa, Fla. ★ Berkeley Prep School

**2009 PROSPECTS** A prep quarterback, Barnes could help the Commodores at a number of defensive positions. Extremely coachable and athletically gifted, Barnes should continue to develop this season after participating as a practice squad linebacker last year. He also was effective adding weight and strength during his initial year on campus.

**2008** Barnes spent his first year on the Vanderbilt campus as a redshirt,

## More on Barnes

*Raised in a military family, Barnes earned All-European honors as a wide receiver in football and goalie in soccer during a year of high school when father, an Air Force colonel, was stationed in Germany.*

working at several defensive positions on the practice squad.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Two-year captain and versatile starter... Played QB as senior, rushing for more than 1,000 yards and passing for 600 yards... Also saw action as OLB and free safety as senior... Played safety in postseason Hillsborough County All-Star Game... Started at WR as junior at Berkeley Prep...

Standout forward in basketball,

and letterwinner in track & field... All-European WR and outstanding soccer goalie as sophomore competing in Germany.

**ACADEMICS** Barnes is enrolled in the College of Arts and Science, but is undecided on a major.

**PERSONAL** Archibald Cornelius Barnes... Son of Russell and Marie Barnes... Born May, 19, 1990 in New York... Dad is enlisted in the U.S. Air Force; mom teaches in Tampa public schools... Enrolled at Berkeley Prep after family moved from Germany... Has three brothers: Russell, a graduate of Princeton; Tim, a senior at Virginia Tech; and Reggie, a 10th grader at Berkeley Prep.

## Commodore Duo Studies Abroad



Two Commodore football players, senior safety Joel Caldwell and junior tailback Gaston Miller, spent the month of May studying abroad in Greece. They were participating with 10 other Vanderbilt students taking a three-hour course on ancient Greek culture. Miller is shown in front row wearing a backpack; Caldwell is back left.





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## 30 PATRICK BENOIST

Sr. ★ Linebacker ★ 6-0 • 224  
Southlake, Texas ★ Carroll Senior HS

**2009 PROSPECTS** The co-captain enters his final year established as one of the Southeastern Conference's top linebackers. Included in the Lott Trophy preseason watchlist, Benoist blends superb preparedness, excellent instincts, smarts and a nose for the football in his All-SEC abilities.

Benoist's leadership role was evident last year when he helped mentor inexperienced linebackers Chris Marve and John Stokes into solid performers for a defensive unit that ranked among the nation's best. As Marve continues to blossom, Benoist could be in for another all-conference campaign.

**2008** In first full year as starter, Benoist put together a superb campaign at linebacker, finishing the year ranked among the Southeastern Conference's top tacklers... Started every game at WLB, concluding with career highs in solo tackles (48), total tackles (109), tackles for loss (6.5) and defended passes (5)... Second Team All-SEC pick by coaches and writers... Also concluded two QB sacks and a fumble recovery for the Commodore

defense... Paced the Commodores in total tackles during the regular season... Consistent performer, providing at least five tackles in every game, topped by four double-digit tackle efforts... Named Bronko Nagurski Trophy's National Defensive Player of the Week honors and added

## More on Benoist

*As a high school senior, Benoist starred for the USA Today's No. 1-ranked prep team. He helped Carroll Senior H.S., located north-west of Dallas, to consecutive 5A titles and a 32-0 overall record.*

weekly recognition from league office after 15-tackle, 2-tackle for loss, 1-QB sack effort to spark Commodores' 24-17 early season win over nationally ranked South Carolina... In victory over Auburn, Benoist added 13 total tackles, a sack and two tackles for loss... Shared team defensive player of the week honors after both South Carolina and Auburn wins... Also

had nine total tackles, including career-best seven solo stops, in narrow loss at Mississippi State... Had nine total tackles, a QB hurry and defended pass in victory over Boston College in Music City Bowl.

**2007** Played in nine games as outside linebacker... After recovering from preseason foot injury, moved into starting role by midseason... Concluded season with four starts... Set career single-highs of 18 solo tackles and 32 total tackles... Four-sack total tied for second among 'Dore defenders... Also credited with three quarterback hurries, a forced fumble and recovered fumble... First career start came against Georgia... Superb play in road win at South Carolina – four solo tackles, six total tackles, a QB sack and forced fumble – resulted in sharing team's Defensive Player of the Week honors... Also had sacks against Auburn, Kentucky and Tennessee... First career fumble recovery came at Tennessee, resulting in Commodore field goal... Matched season high of six total tackles in Kentucky game... Posted at least three tackles in final seven games.

**2006** Initial season ended early with foot injury... Played in first seven games of season before sustaining the injury while covering opening kickoff of South Carolina contest... Injury kept Benoist out of uniform for last four games... Contributed 14 total tackles as reserve linebacker... Posted six solo stops, eight total tackles in win over Temple.

## Benoist Career Highs:

**TOTAL TACKLES:** 15, vs. So. Carolina, 9/4/2008  
**SOLO TACKLES:** 7, at Miss. State, 10/11/2008  
**TACKLES FOR LOSS:** 2, most recently vs. Auburn, 10/4/2008

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior co-captain... Two-year starter at linebacker, helping Dragons to Texas 5A state titles in 2004-05... Voted defensive MVP as senior, contributing 172 total tackles, 29 tackles

for loss and three sacks... Named First Team 5A All-State Linebacker by Texas Sports Writers Association and finalist for Jack Pardee Award, given to Texas' top LB... Earned school's Green Jacket Award for overall achievement... National Honor Society... Academic All-State honoree.

**ACADEMICS** Benoist is expected to complete his undergraduate work this year. He is majoring in Economics from the College of Arts and Science. Benoist is a two-time *ESPN The Magazine*/CoSIDA District IV Academic All-American (2007-08), and also a three-time SEC Academic Honor Roll recipient.

**PERSONAL** R. Patrick Benoist... Son of Glenn and Tanya Benoist... Dad is in commercial real estate... Has an older brother and younger sister... Brother, Jake, played football at Sam Houston (Texas) State... Collects autographed NFL jerseys and enjoys hunting... Carroll has produced many football standouts, including former Missouri standout quarterback Chase Daniel.

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## BENOIST'S CAREER DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2008	48-61-109	6.5-21	2-14	0-0	0/1	5
2007	18-14-32	4-35	4-35	0-0	1/1	3
2006	10-4-14	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0
Career	76-79-155	10.5-56	6-49	0-0	1/2	8



**56 GREG BILLINGER**

Sr. ★ Defensive Tackle ★ 6-3 • 297  
Lilburn, Ga. ★ Parkview HS

**2009 PROSPECTS** Coming off one of the most productive campaigns by a Commodore defensive tackle in years, Billinger enters his senior season ready to establish himself as one of the Southeastern Conference's top interior players. As a junior, Billinger produced his finest season, and helped stabilize a Vanderbilt interior defense that lacked experience entering the year. This season, with a bevy of eager redshirts hoping to contribute, Billinger should continue to blossom.

**2008** Counted on heavily in the preseason due to graduation losses of both starting DTs from 2007, Billinger came through with the best year of his Commodore career... Served as a solid run-stopper in the middle of Vanderbilt defense, starting every game at tackle... Played more snaps than any other DT on squad... Finished the year with career bests in virtually every statistical category,

## More on Billinger

*As a high school senior, Billinger was seriously injured in a car accident as his family returned to their north Georgia home from Nashville following a Vanderbilt football game.*

including total tackles (57), solo tackles (17), tackles for loss (6.5), quarterback sacks (2) and fumble recoveries (1)... Among line-men, shared team high in total tackles with DE Steven Stone... Contributed multiple tackles in 10 of 12 games... One of top efforts came in Music City Bowl victory

over Boston College, posting career-high seven tackles... Played outstanding in victory over ranked South Carolina, earning a share of team's Defensive Player of the Week honors with six-total tackle performance... The effort was highlighted by a pair of QB sacks, including one late in the game that virtually sealed the victory, and a blocked Gamecock field goal in the second half... Also shared top defensive honors against Duke... Played through pain for much of latter stages of season.

**2007** Played in 10 games, missing Alabama and Miami (Ohio) contests to injury... Served key role as reserve behind senior defensive tackles Theo Horrocks and Gabe Hall... Contributed two tackles in narrow loss to Georgia and added a tackle and interception in victory over Eastern Michigan... Shared in tackle for loss vs. Kentucky.

**2006** Developed into key reserve defensive tackle, becoming the only true freshman to see action on either of Vanderbilt's interior lines... Ended season with six total tackles... Saw action in every game... Contributed two tackles in first career game at Michigan.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain and three-year starter at OT and DE for powerful school that went 11-2 in 2005, advancing deep in AAAAAA playoffs... Team also won state title during three-year varsity career... Named "Super Southern" by *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*... Missed the second half of senior season due to injuries suffered in a family car accident near Nashville... Posted 60 tackles as junior DE... Also played basket-



ball and threw discus... Participated in Gwinnett Student Leadership Conference and IDEALS Leadership training... Honors student.

**ACADEMICS** Billinger is expected to finish his work this year on a Communication Studies undergraduate degree from the College of Arts and Science.

**PERSONAL** Gregory Billinger II... "Tank"... Son of Greg and Lora Billinger... Born March 12, 1988... Younger sister, Morgan, participates in volleyball and track & field

at Parkview... Dad is a graphic artist; mom is a paralegal... Volunteered in various community projects... Enjoys going to movies, hanging out with friends and cooking.

## Billinger Career Highs:

**TOTAL TACKLES:** 7, vs. Boston College  
12/31/2008  
**SOLO TACKLES:** 3, (4 times), most recently vs.  
Boston College, 12/31/2008  
**TACKLES FOR LOSS:** 2, vs. So. Carolina, 9/4/2008

## BILLINGER'S CAREER DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2008	17-30-47	6.5-21	2-14	0-0	0/1	2
2007	1-5-6	0.5-1	0-0	1-0	0/0	2
2006	5-1-6	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0
Career	23-36-59	7.0-22	2-14	1-0	0/1	4

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**89 TERELL BRANNON**

**R-Jr. ★ Defensive End ★ 6-3 • 242**  
**Spartanburg, S.C. ★ Broome HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** Brannon enters this preseason with a different mindset than ever before. After playing little for two years on campus, Brannon developed into a valuable contributor at defensive end last year, concluding the season with a starting assignment in the team's Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl victory. After showing more improvement in spring drills, Brannon should contend for a significant playing role.

## More on Brannon

*Brannon and his close friend, 2008 Commodore All-America cornerback D.J. Moore, guided Broome High School to South Carolina state titles in football and basketball.*

**2008** Played in 12 of 13 games, seeing increased action in latter stages of season at defensive end... Earned first career start at defensive end in Music City Bowl victory over Boston College... Concluded season with three total tackles, including sharing a tackle for loss vs. Tennessee.

**2007** Played sparingly as a red-shirt freshman end, seeing action

only in win over Eastern Michigan... Earned assisted tackle vs. EMU.

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Participated as scout team end, earning Defensive Scout of the Week honors after Georgia game.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain and three-year starter at defensive end and tight end... Twice named All-State as senior... On defense, totalled 17 tackles for loss, and 15 QB sacks... Helped Centurions to AA state title in 2004... Two-year post starter for two-time AA champion basketball team... Also participated in triple jump and discus in track.

**ACADEMICS** Brannon is enrolled in the Peabody College, working toward a degree in Human and Organizational Development.

**PERSONAL** Terrell Marcu Moore Brannon... Son of Robert and Lesene Brannon... Born Nov. 9, 1987... Has a twin brother, Jerrell... Also has an older sister, Latonia... Raised in Spartanburg area... Active in student government.



## BRANNON'S CAREER DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH	PD
2008	2-2-4	0.5-1	0-0	0	0/0	1	1



**35 BRANDON BRYANT**

**R-Sr. ★ Linebacker ★ 6-1 • 234**  
**Cincinnati, Ohio ★ St. Xavier HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** When healthy, the athletically gifted Bryant has the ability to be one of the Commodores' top defensive players. Unfortunately for the fifth-year senior, Bryant's participation has been restricted for nearly

## More on Bryant

*Regarded among the team's top physical hitters, Bryant enjoys reading and writing poetry away from the gridiron.*

two years due to a series of injuries, including fractures to the wrist and lower leg. Bryant sat out all of 2008 and missed Spring Practice in a slow rehabilitation stemming from the leg injury. Bryant's status for the coming season is dependent on continued improvement during the summer. Prior to injury, Bryant

was a starting interior linebacker, flashing an impressive physical presence with excellent pursuit abilities.

**2008** Did not play after undergoing surgical procedure to repair fractured lower leg suffered in the offseason. After the surgery, medical clearance was not given to allow Bryant to participate in practice.

**2007** Promising sophomore campaign hindered by leg injury... Played in eight games at outside linebacker, but never was totally healthy, opening the year wearing a protective arm cast and sustaining lower foot injury during midseason game at Auburn... Started three games (Alabama, Ole Miss and Auburn), then missed four straight games after the injury at Auburn... Limited duties in final three games... Concluded

year with career-best 30 total tackles, including 17 solo stops... Also contributed a quarterback sack, 1.5 tackles for loss and a pair of quarterback hurries... Effective through the first five games, contributing at least five tackles in each appearance... Matched career high with seven-tackle effort in win over Eastern Michigan... Lone QB sack ended third quarter Ole Miss drive with Vanderbilt leading 14-10... Fearless and effective on coverage teams, was named team's Specialist of the Week for his



# THE PLAYERS

contribution in Eastern Michigan victory.

**2006** Athletic reserve LB who played in 11 of 12 games... Earned reputation as heavy hitter and sure tackler in redshirt freshman campaign... Ended season with 18 total tackles, including 17 solo stops... Also contributed two forced fumbles and a pair of tackles for loss in limited minutes... Posted career high seven tackles in win over Temple... Also had three tackles against Florida... Solid performer on coverage units, Bryant shared team's Specialist of the Week honors after win over Duke.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman, working at LB during fall practices.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain... Team MVP in 2004 when he totalled 56 tackles, including a school-record 14 sacks... Recorded 24 tackles for loss and five forced fumbles... Played inside linebacker for Bombers as junior, moving to outside linebacker during senior campaign... Named Second Team Division I All-Ohio, First Team All-Southwest Ohio and

First Team All-City by *Cincinnati Enquirer*... Selected as conference's 2004 Defensive Player of the Year, helping squad

## Bryant Career Highs:

**TOTAL TACKLES:** 7, vs. Eastern Mich., 9/29/2007  
**SOLO TACKLES:** 5, vs. Alabama, 9/13/2007

went 11-1 and second round of playoffs.

**ACADEMICS** Bryant is expected to complete his undergraduate degree this December in Human and Organizational Development. He is a 2008 SEC Academic Honor Roll recipient.

**PERSONAL** Brandon Kyle Bryant... Son of Clinton and Deborah Bryant... Born Oct. 5, 1986... Has an older brother, Clint, and older sister, Brittany... Tragically lost younger sister, Brianna, to a sudden illness in June 2008... Dad is business banker; mom is security officer.

## BRYANT'S CAREER DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
<b>2008</b>	<i>did not play due to injury</i>					
<b>2007</b>	17-11-28	2.0-7	1.0-3	-	-/-	1
<b>2006</b>	5-1-6	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0
<b>Career</b>	<b>22-12-34</b>	<b>2.0-7</b>	<b>1.0-3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>



## 75 MICHEAL BRYANT

**R-Fr. ★ Offensive Line ★ 6-4 • 285**  
**La Vergne, Tenn. ★ La Vergne HS**

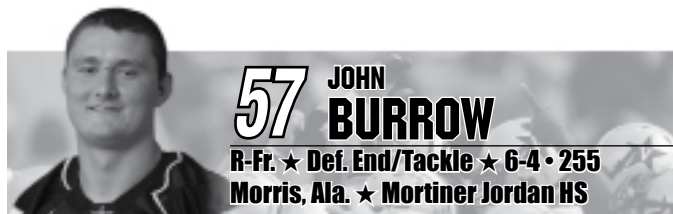
**2009 PROSPECTS** After spending his initial year on campus improving strength and foot quickness in the weightroom, Bryant showed signs of becoming a contributor at either offensive guard slot this season. He exited spring drills competing with Chris Aaron as the top reserve behind expected right guard starter Eric Hensley.

**2008** Bryant redshirted this season, his first on the Vanderbilt campus. He worked as an offensive lineman on practice squads... Earned team's top offensive scout award for preparations leading to Kentucky game.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain... Three-year starter... Played both OG and OT positions before settling into LT slot as junior... Set school record with 29 pancake blocks... Named to *Tennessean's* "Dandy Dozen" team... Helped Wolverines to 5A playoffs in 2005-06... As senior, named All-Region 4-5A... Participated in East vs. West Tennessee All-Star Game.

**ACADEMICS** Bryant is working toward a degree in Human and Organizational Development.

**PERSONAL** Michael Christopher Bryant... Son of Stephen Bryant and Jennifer Bryant, and stepson of Robin Bryant... Born on Feb. 9, 1989... Dad is computer analyst; stepmother is health information compliance auditor... Enjoys playing basketball.



## 57 JOHN BURROW

**R-Fr. ★ Def. End/Tackle ★ 6-4 • 255**  
**Morris, Ala. ★ Mortimer Jordan HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** Burrow spent his first year on campus adding strength in the weightroom and enters the season with the versatility to compete at either tackle or end on the defensive line. If he can add the necessary weight, Burrow could develop into an athletic interior tackle.

**2008** Burrow redshirted this season, his first on the Vanderbilt campus.. Worked as defensive end on practice squads.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Named captain after season... Four-year varsity letter-winner; three-year starter at DE... Posted 138 total tackles and nine QB sacks as senior... Accumulated nearly 400 tackles in career... Helped squad to state playoffs in 2006... Two-time All-State and two-time area Defensive Player of the Year... Lettered in basketball, baseball and track... Named Mr. Mortimer Jordan... Regional winner of prestigious Bryant-Jordan Scholarship.

**ACADEMICS** Burrow is working toward a degree in Human and Organizational Development.

**PERSONAL** John Allen Burrow... Known as "Jabo" to teammates... Son of Mike and Vivian Burrow... Born Nov. 20, 1989... Has an older sister and two younger brothers... Dad coaches at Jordan H.S.; mom is an editor... Father also was All-SEC OL at Auburn, drafted by Buffalo... Plays the piano.



## 65 RICHARD CAGLE

**R-Fr. ★ Offensive Line ★ 6-4 • 275**  
**Houston, Texas ★ St. Pius X HS**

**2009 PROSPECTS** Cagle enters preseason camp looking to move into a reserve role at offensive guard. After spending his initial year on campus as a scout offensive lineman, Cagle needs to be effective in the weightroom this season, seeking to add bulk and strength.

**2008** Cagle spent his first year on campus as a redshirt, working on the offensive line of scout teams... Earned team's top offensive scout after Miami (Ohio) and Ole Miss game.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Three-year starter for Panthers, helping team to consecutive TAPPS 6A state titles in 2006-07... Started at DE as soph.; became starter at RT as junior... In 2007, earned TAPPS first team All-State as team won state title; 2006 team went undefeated at 13-0 en route to title.

**ACADEMICS** Cagle is majoring in Earth & Environmental Science from the College of Arts and Science.

**PERSONAL** Richard Major Cagle... Son of R. "Cactus" Jack and Janet Cagle... Born Sept. 10, 1989... Has two younger sisters, Victoria and Elizabeth... Dad is Harris County (Texas) civil court judge; mom is physical therapist and teacher... Participated in choir... In 2006, worked for two months as a safari nature guide in South Africa.

RETURNNEES

