

2007 OUTLOOK

Bobby Johnson is looking for Vanderbilt's 2007 squad to take the next step to fulfill his desire that Commodore players, coaches and followers come to expect greater success on the gridiron.

"We are continuing to focus on building the program, and getting it to the point where there's an expectation of success among everybody associated with our program. Our players, our coaches, our students and our fans deserve to enjoy such an expectation," Johnson said.

Johnson, in his sixth year at the helm of Vanderbilt football, continues to make progress in the ultimate pursuit of upgrading the Commodore program to the point where it contends for Southeastern Conference championships.

When Johnson opens preseason camp the first Saturday of August in Nashville, he will be greeted by the deepest Commodore squad in years. Fifty-two letterwinners, the most in the Johnson Era, will compete for starting and key reserve roles. This summer, obvious holes in the Commodore lineup will be more difficult to identify for Johnson's coaching staff.

"The overall talent is definitely upgraded from our earlier teams," Johnson said, "and that has resulted in improved depth at most positions. We still have a ways to go, but we're getting the program closer to where it has to be for us to enjoy success."

Seventeen starters from the 2006 squad – nine on offense and eight on defense – are back trying to retain their assignments. The returnees include some of the SEC's finest players, including All-America prospects Earl Bennett at wide receiver, Jonathan Goff at interior linebacker and Chris Williams at offensive tackle. The Commodores' entire offensive front, topped by Williams and fellow tackle Brian Stamper, could return intact. The offensive backfield led by junior quarterback Chris Nickson will be deeper than a year ago. Back on the defensive front are Curtis Gatewood and Theo Horrocks, two extremely productive seniors. The linebackers, led by Goff and fellow senior Marcus Buggs, are more mobile than recent Commodore units. The secondary, paced by two-year starting safety Reshard Langford, is young but athletic. Both kicking specialists also return from the past year.

"We have some talented players, no question," Johnson said. "We simply have to develop more guys that can go in, and play effectively against the best competition in America. I expect some guys will step forward when camp opens and make their case for playing time."

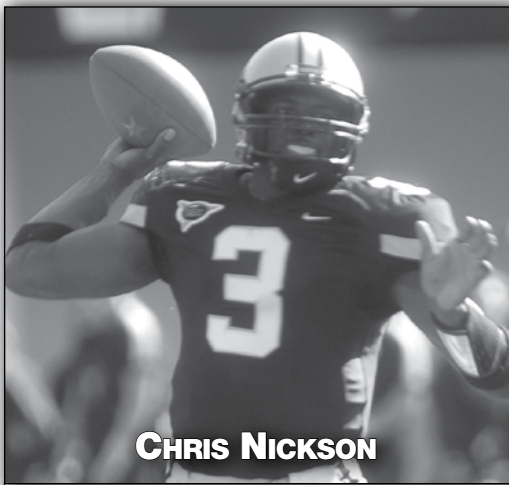
For the last two years, Johnson's Vanderbilt squads have been extremely competitive. Their nine wins in the span is the most since a 10-win accumulation by the 1993-94 Commodores. Those wins have included three of the Commodores' biggest road victories in many years: 28-24 wins at Arkansas and Tennessee in 2006 and a 24-22 triumph at Georgia in 2007.

"We're going to compete, I know that about this team," Johnson said. "We've been very competitive the last two years. Now, we just have to keep getting better. We have to execute, to eliminate mistakes, make plays and give ourselves the very best chance for victory."

COMMODORE OFFENSE

QUARTERBACK Without overstating the obvious, Vanderbilt's chances for more team success substantially improve with the continued development of its signal calling corps led by **Chris Nickson** (6-1, 210, R-Jr.). The group took initial steps in spring drills, with Johnson telling SEC writers that the position was one of the most improved on the team.

Nickson produced an array of remarkable individual performances as



CHRIS NICKSON

QUARTERBACK

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
9	Mackenzi Adams	6-2	215	R-So.	1VL
12	Jared Funk	6-2	195	R-Fr.	
15	Richard Kovalcheck	6-2	220	R-Sr.	1VL
3	Chris Nickson	6-1	210	R-Jr.	2VL
19	Larry Smith	6-2	200	Fr.	

a first-year starter in 2006. A threat with his arm and legs, Nickson guided the Commodores to a huge victory at Georgia, and generally put together a solid campaign. As a passer, he threw for 2,085 yards and 15 touchdowns while hitting 55 percent of his attempts. As a rusher, Nickson was the team

leader with 694 yards and nine scores, both tops among all SEC quarterbacks. His 2,779-yard accumulation in total offense has been bettered by just three quarterbacks in Vanderbilt history.

The coaches expect Nickson's leadership and mental approach to the game to blossom this season. The staff will also look for Nickson to display better accuracy with medium range passing routes and produce greater efficiency in short yardage and red-zone situations.

The quarterback competition features two others with experience from a year ago in **Mackenzi Adams** (6-2, 215, R-So.), **Richard Kovalcheck** (6-2, 220, R-Sr.), untested redshirt freshman **Jared Funk** (6-2, 195) and highly touted freshman **Larry Smith** (6-2, 200).

One of the Commodores' top athletes, Adams looked good in limited duty last year, showing an ability to manage the offense while producing yards equally with his arm and legs. Kovalcheck spent his first year on campus last year after transferring from the University of Arizona where he started games over portions of two varsity seasons. Kovalcheck is the team's best drop-back passing option. In spring drills, Funk displayed plenty of upside, including perhaps the strongest arm of the group. Smith comes in off a remarkable prep career, but is not expected to challenge the veterans for playing time in 2007.

RUNNING BACK Preseason camp should be exciting for the Commodores' deep and talented corps of backs.

While the two top performers from last year's one-back set are **Cassen Jackson-Garrison** (6-1, 215, Sr.) and **Jared Hawkins** (5-10, 195, R-So.), arguably the most watched back might be **Jeff Jennings** (6-1, 215), a redshirt junior that didn't play a snap last year.

Jackson-Garrison started all 12 games last year, showing plenty of grit by playing the season opener at Michigan just two weeks after undergoing an appendectomy. He set a career high in rushing yards, but struggled in crucial short yardage situations. Hawkins displayed an excellent power-running style as a productive rusher in his redshirt freshman campaign. Hawkins also averaged nearly seven yards a carry, displaying an awesome ability to read teammates' blocks. As he adds

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JEFF JENNINGS

CASSEN JACKSON-GARRISON

JARED HAWKINS

RUNNING BACK

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
41	Jermaine Doster	5-10	205	Fr.	
31	Jared Hawkins	5-10	195	R-So.	1VL
22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison	6-1	215	Sr.	3VL
21	Jeff Jennings	6-1	215	R-Jr.	2VL
27	Gaston Miller	5-7	165	So.	1VL
28	Kennard Reeves	5-11	195	R-Fr.	
34	Ryan Van Rensburg	6-1	215	Fr.	

versatility as a more deft blocker and receiver, Hawkins value to the offense could soar.

Jennings missed all last season recuperating from a knee injury that occurred late in the 2005 campaign. The months of rehab became obvious in Spring Practice with Jennings showing the explosiveness and physicality that made him a starter two years ago. If Jennings returns to '05 form, the Commodores will be, without question, an improved and deeper team. Jennings' top strengths – running downhill inside the tackles, converting on key third and short situations, catching the ball as a receiver and effectively blocking blitzing linebackers – were occasional areas of concern with the Commodore attack last year.

The Commodores also have four young candidates with plenty of upside at running back. **Gaston Miller** (5-7, 165, So.) is a lightning quick runner while **Kennard Reeves** (5-11, 195, R-Fr.) made greater strides than any Commodore during spring drills. The staff also is enthusiastic about the power and athleticism of **Ryan van Rensburg** (6-1, 215, Fr.) and the elusive potential of **Jermaine Doster** (5-10, 205).

TIGHT END/FULLBACK/H-BACK The Commodores expect improvement from their top two tight ends – **Brad Allen** (6-3, 240, R-Jr.) and **Jake Bradford** (6-6, 263, R-So.) – after each experienced their most substantial roles a year ago.

Allen developed into a solid blocker as a first-year starter in '06, but needs to improve his route-running and receiving abilities to become a bigger offensive weapon. Bradford possesses ideal size, and should develop into a steady contributor as he sees increased playing time.

Justin Green (6-6, 230, R-Fr.) progressed off the field, working hard to add weight and strength, and gives the team its best downfield receiver at the position. **Matt Bubis** (6-0, 228, R-So.) could contribute on special teams and in a reserve role.

Any of four incoming freshmen – **Brandon Barden** (6-5, 225), **Tim Fugger** (6-4, 225), **Austin Monahan** (6-6, 235) and **van Rensburg** – have a chance to secure playing roles with productive showings in fall camp.

WIDE RECEIVER All-America **Earl Bennett** (6-1, 202, Jr.) tops the Commodore wide receiving corps. A preseason Biletnikoff Award candidate

and unanimous preseason All-SEC prospect, Bennett is in the midst of a career that could go down as one of the finest in team and league history. After racking up huge stats for the second straight year in 2006 – 82

catches, 1,146 receiving yards, six touchdowns – Bennett stands just 48 receptions shy of the all-time SEC record.

Though Bennett has a knack for making huge plays at key moments, he's anything but a stat-oriented star for the Commodores. He's as good a teammate as any Vanderbilt player, a guy that favors team success over individual achievement.

When preseason camp opens, the starting receivers along with Bennett in three-wide sets will be **George Smith** (6-3, 200, R-Jr.) and **Sean Walker** (6-0, 180, R-Jr.). Smith was the team's No. 3 receiver in 2006 and enters this season in the best shape of his career. Walker was one of the Commodores' most pleasant surprises a year ago, catching 16 passes in his first year of serious participation. Walker's quick burst and overall speed might be Vanderbilt's most electrifying player in the receiving corps.



GEORGE SMITH

SEAN WALKER



EARL BENNETT

RECEIVING CORPS

WIDE RECEIVERS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
81	Bryant Anderson	6-3	210	R-Jr.	2VL
10	Earl Bennett	6-1	202	Jr.	2VL
18	Larry Simmons	5-9	165	R-So.	
36	Chris Reinert	5-9	175	R-Jr.	
88	George Smith	6-3	200	R-Jr.	2VL
23	Udom Umoh	6-0	175	Fr.	
7	Sean Walker	6-0	180	R-Jr.	2VL
4	Alex Washington	5-9	180	R-So.	1VL
80	Justin Wheeler	6-1	180	R-So.	1VL
13	Turner Wimberly	6-0	195	R-Fr.	

TIGHT ENDS/FULLBACKS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
83	Brad Allen	6-3	240	R-Jr.	2VL
87	Brandon Barden	6-5	225	Fr.	
85	Jake Bradford	6-6	263	R-So.	1VL
32	Matt Bubis	6-0	228	R-So.	1VL
82	Justin Green	6-6	230	R-Fr.	
42	Tim Fugger	6-4	225	Fr.	
86	Austin Monahan	6-6	235	Fr.	



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Bryant Anderson (6-3, 210, R-Jr.) is a steady possession-type receiver and one of the corps' most physical blockers. The coaches expect either **Alex Washington** (5-10, 180, R-So.) or **Justin Wheeler** (6-0, 180, R-So.) to blossom in camp, and force a playing role. Other receiver prospects are **Chris Reinert** (5-9, 185, R-So.), **Larry Simmons** (5-10, 165, R-So.) and **Udom Umoh** (5-11, 175, Fr.).

OFFENSIVE LINE For the first time in the Bobby Johnson era, Vanderbilt's offensive line is blessed with an abundance of talent, size and experience.

Conceivably, position coach Robbie Caldwell could field a unit that features five starting seniors and two others that started multiple games one year ago.

The group is led by captain and 2006 All-SEC left tackle **Chris Williams** (6-6, 320, R-Sr.), a two-year starter who could go down as one of the finest Commodore blockers in modern history. Named to the Outland Trophy preseason watchlist, Williams has all the tools

— massive size, excellent footwork, uncommon agility — and gets better with every snap.

The Commodores' line depth and quality are greatly enhanced if **Brian Stamper** (6-5, 295, R-Sr.) returns healthy following back surgery that came late in the 2006 season.

A former captain, Stamper earned All-SEC honors in 2005 before missing most of last year with the back injury. Though Stamper missed most of Spring Practice with a foot injury, he has worked without pain through the team's summer conditioning program.

With a productive Stamper in uniform, the Commodores own an outstanding tandem at tackle. Without Stamper, the squad likely will look to a pair of relative newcomers to solidify the position. Former tight end **Thomas Welch** (6-7, 295, R-So.) enters the preseason off an outstanding effort in spring drills. Some observers think the agile Welch will compete for the starting right tackle role, regardless of Stamper's status. **Eric Hensley** (6-6, 320, R-So.) has steadily progressed, and appears ready to play in his third preseason camp.

In the middle, the Commodores bring back durable senior **Hamilton Holliday** (6-3, 290) at center. Holliday was a valuable starter in 2006, displaying sound blocking techniques and committing few mental errors while handling nearly all the team's offensive snaps.

Holliday is backed up by a potential standout in **Brad Vierling** (6-3, 290, R-So.), **Ryan Vance** (6-3, 280, R-So.) and **Joey Bailey** (6-4, 275, R-Fr.).

Two redshirt seniors, **Merritt Kirchoffer** (6-5, 320) and **Josh Eames** (6-5, 305), started more than half of last season at left and right guard, respectively, and will enter preseason with a chance to nail down the starting roles. Kirchoffer is a physical specimen and one of the team's strongest players, but has yet to come into his own. Kirchoffer has the natural gifts to blossom into a superb player in his final year. Eames is the unit's Mr. Reliable, always knowing which defender to take on, and is arguably the best blocker on the team. Eames missed four games due to injury and enters camp needing to show he is fully healthy.

Ryan Custer (6-3, 295) and Vierling are versatile players with the ability to move into the starting lineup at guard. After spending part of Spring Practice working at defensive tackle, Custer has experience at both guard positions. Vierling is a hard-nosed player who could compete at guard or center. Several young prospects, including **Drew Gardner** (6-6, 300, R-So.) and **Nick Forte** (6-, 290, R-So.), will try to earn playing roles. The Commodores' signing class also includes two talented newcomers in **Kyle Fischer** (6-6, 300) and **James Williams** (6-6, 300).

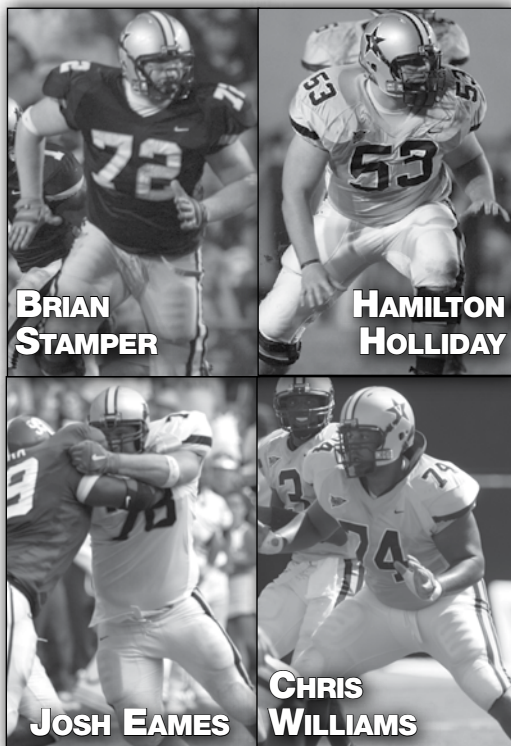
COMMODORE DEFENSE

DEFENSIVE LINE The leader at tackle is co-captain **Theo Horrocks** (6-3, 290, Sr.), a two-year starter and one of the most productive Commodore interior linemen in years. The all-conference caliber Horrocks goes hard every snap, and leads on and off the field. In 2006, Horrocks posted career numbers in virtually every statistical category while playing more than 90 percent of the defensive plays.

Gabe Hall (6-1, 290, Sr.) and **Greg Billinger** (6-3, 280, So.) will compete for the starting tackle position next to Horrocks. A beast in the weightroom, Hall has trimmed down to 290 pounds and appears ready to battle for the starting job. Hall played well for the Commodores early in the 2006 season only to become limited by injuries as the season wore on. Perhaps the Commodores' most athletic interior lineman, Billinger played as a true freshman in 2006, and should improve with each game.

Adam Smotherman (6-4, 275, R-Fr.) also sparked in spring drills before being slowed by a leg injury, and could earn playing time in camp.

With a strong showing in camp, either **David Whittington** (6-2, 275, R-Jr.), **Brandon Holmes** (6-3, 295, R-Jr.) or **Derrius Dowell** (6-3, 280, R-So.) could claim a substantial reserve role. Two freshmen, **Rob Ashabranner** (6-2, 270) and **T.J. Greenstone** (6-3, 265), will get a



OFFENSIVE LINE

CENTERS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
71	Joey Bailey	6-4	275	R-Fr.	
53	Hamilton Holliday	6-3	290	Sr.	3VL
60	Bradley Vierling	6-3	290	R-So.	1VL

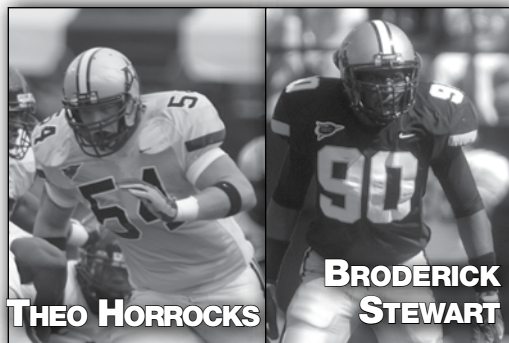
GUARDS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
73	Ryan Custer	6-3	295	R-So.	1VL
68	Josh Eames	6-5	305	R-Sr.	3VL
70	Drew Gardner	6-6	300	R-So.	1VL
64	Merritt Kirchoffer	6-5	320	R-Sr.	3VL
79	Ryan Vance	6-3	280	R-So.	

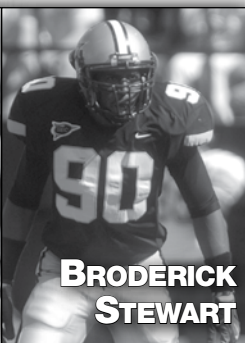
TACKLES

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
65	Kyle Fischer	6-6	300	Fr.	
66	Eric Hensley	6-6	320	R-So.	1VL
68	Reilly Lauer	6-6	245	R-Fr.	
72	Brian Stamper	6-5	295	R-Sr.	3VL
76	Thomas Welch	6-7	295	R-So.	1VL
74	Chris Williams	6-6	320	R-Sr.	2VL
77	Jamie Williams	6-6	300	Fr.	

2007 OUTLOOK



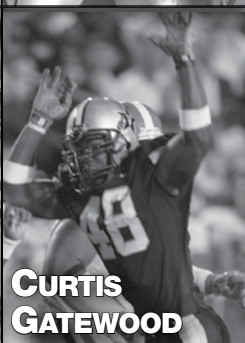
THEO HORROCKS



BRODERICK STEWART



STEVEN STONE



CURTIS GATEWOOD

DEFENSIVE LINE

TACKLES						
No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	
62	Rob Ashabranner	6-2	270	Fr.		
98	Greg Billinger	6-3	280	So.	1VL	
99	Derrius Dowell	6-3	275	R-So.		
58	T.J. Greenstone	6-2	270	Fr.		
56	Gabe Hall	6-1	290	Sr.	2VL	
92	Brandon Holmes	6-3	295	R-Jr.	2VL	
54	Theo Horrocks	6-3	290	Sr.	3VL	
59	Adam Smotherman	6-4	275	R-Fr.		
44	David Whittington	6-2	275	R-Jr.	1VL	

ENDS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	
89	Terrell Brannon	6-3	235	R-Fr.		
48	Curtis Gatewood	6-3	245	R-Sr.	3VL	
93	Theron Kadri	6-3	230	Fr.		
93	David Leinweber	6-5	250	R-So.		
94	Kikko Logan	6-2	236	R-Fr.		
95	Sam Panke	6-2	230	R-Fr.		
90	Broderick Stewart	6-5	230	R-So.	1VL	
96	Steven Stone	6-5	255	R-So.	1VL	

contributing five sacks while Stone produced 6.5 tackles for loss among his tackles.

Other candidates at end are **Terrell Brannon** (6-3, 235, R-Fr.) and **Kikko Logan** (6-2, 236, R-Fr.). Walk-ons **David Leinweber** (6-5, 250, R-So.) and **Sam Panke** (6-2, 230, R-Fr.) also will get repetitions. The Commodores also signed freshman **Theron Kadri** (6-3, 230) as a prospect at end.

LINEBACKER Nagurski and Butkus award candidate **Jonathan Goff** (6-4, 235, R-Sr.) is a physical presence from his middle linebacker position and ranks among the top defensive players in the SEC. Goff and strongside linebacker **Marcus Buggs** (5-11, 225, R-Sr.) give the

close look in camp.

Curtis Gatewood (6-3, 245, R-Sr.) is back at defensive end after posting a superb season last year as a first-year starter. Gatewood positioned himself for All-SEC consideration by displaying off-the-edge quickness and the toughness to take on 300-pound tackles as a junior. He ended the year among the league leaders in sacks and forced fumbles and had 36 solo tackles.

Across from Gatewood, Commodore coaches will look to a pair of talented redshirt sophomores, **Broderick Stewart** (6-5, 225) and **Steven Stone** (6-5, 255), as the starter. Stewart was a big-play specialist last year,

Commodores a pair of solid performers and excellent leaders returning for their final year.

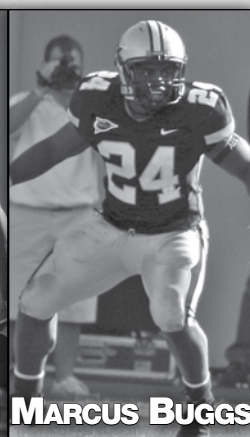
Goff, highly regarded by NFL draft experts, continues the superb Commodore tradition at linebacker, and enters 2007 with 27 consecutive starts to his resume. He also ranks as the Commodores' active career leader – and third best among SEC players – in total tackles and solo stops. Goff also enters camp five pounds lighter than a year ago in an effort to add quickness.

Buggs is an emotional leader and impact hitter for the Vanderbilt defense. As a starter in 2006, Buggs displayed a big-play ability and a willingness to punish ball carriers. He should continue to blossom, and like Goff, serves as an excellent example at practice for the more inexperienced linebackers.

Two linebackers coming off excellent Spring Practice efforts, **Brandon Bryant** (6-1, 228, R-So.) and **Patrick Benoist** (6-0, 215, So.), are expected to compete for the open outside linebacker role. On numerous occasions last spring, the coaches bragged on the development of both players.



JONATHAN GOFF



MARCUS BUGGS

LINEBACKERS

MIDDLE LINEBACKERS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.
46	Michael Garcia	6-0	240	R-Fr.	
47	Jonathan Goff	6-4	235	R-Sr.	3VL
45	Chris Johnson	6-1	225	R-So.	1VL
43	Chris Marve	6-0	230	Fr.	
37	Dom Morias	6-0	215	Sr.	

WEAKSIDE LINEBACKERS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.
24	Marcus Buggs	5-11	225	R-Sr.	3VL
52	Nate Campbell	6-3	228	R-Fr.	
91	Austin Newton	6-2	215	R-Fr.	
49	John Stokes	6-5	230	Fr.	

STRONGSIDE LINEBACKERS

No.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.
40	Bo Baggerly	6-1	210	Jr.	
30	Patrick Benoist	6-0	215	So.	1VL
35	Brandon Bryant	6-1	228	R-So.	1VL

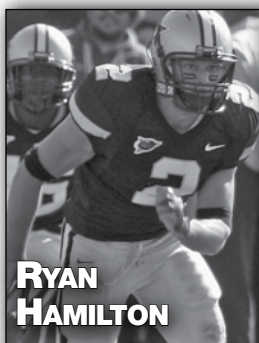
Others in the mix for key reserve responsibilities include **Nathan Campbell** (6-3, 228, R-Fr.), **Chris Johnson** (6-1, 230, R-So.), and **Austin Newton** (6-2, 215, R-Fr.). The coaches also were impressed with the practice ability and weightroom effort of **Michael Garcia** (6-0, 240, R-Fr.). Walk-ons **Dom Morias** (5-11, 215 Sr.) and **Bo Baggerly** (6-1, 210, Jr.), also will compete for playing time next fall.

The Commodore signing class includes two prep standout linebackers from Memphis: **Chris Marve** (6-0, 230) and **John Stokes** (6-5, 230).

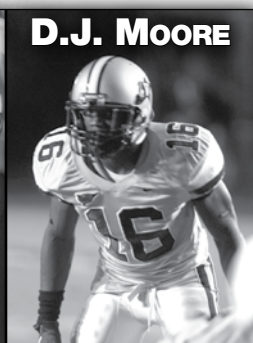
SECONDARY The undisputed leader in the Vanderbilt secondary is starting strong safety **Reshard Langford** (6-2, 207, R-Jr.), an All-SEC caliber player who blends a nose for the football with a hard-hitting style



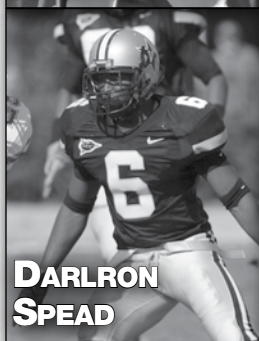
2007 OUTLOOK



**RYAN
HAMILTON**



D.J. MOORE



**DARLRON
SPEAD**



**RESHARD
LANGFORD**

SECONDARY

CORNERBACKS

NO.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
14	Josh Allen	5-9	182	R-Jr.	2VL
20	Jared Fagan	5-9	180	R-Jr.	2VL
25	Jamie Graham	6-0	180	Fr.	
5	Myron Lewis	6-2	195	So.	1VL
17	D.J. Moore	5-10	175	So.	1VL
6	Darlron Spead	5-10	185	R-So.	1VL
16	Alan Strong	5-9	170	R-Fr.	

STRONG SAFETIES

NO.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
33	Reshard Langford	6-2	207	R-Jr.	2VL
11	Brent Trice	6-3	210	So.	1VL

FREE SAFETIES

NO.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
29	Joel Caldwell	6-1	195	R-So.	1VL
35	Ryan Hamilton	6-2	208	R-So.	1VL
4	Roger Herndon	5-11	200	R-So.	

Hamilton (6-1, 208, R-So.) returns as the starting free safety. Thrust into a starting job in 2006, Hamilton improved with every game despite playing the entire campaign at less than full speed. Hamilton is coming off an outstanding Spring Practice, and is positioned to have a banner year in 2007.

Langford's backup at strong safety, **Brent Trice** (6-2, 210, So.), is one of the most gifted athletes on the Commodore roster. After playing a key role as a true freshman last year, Trice has a chance to develop into an outstanding player in the future. **Joel Caldwell** (6-1, 190, R-So.) moved to free safety during spring drills after starting several games at cornerback last year. Caldwell will contend for valuable minutes for the Commodore secondary as he becomes more familiar with the safety responsibilities. Walk-on **Roger Herndon** (5-11, 200, R-So.) also will get a look at safety in camp.

A pair of talented sophomores, **Myron Lewis** (6-2, 195) and **D.J. Moore** (5-10, 175) exited spring drills as the likely starters at cornerback.

Moore got a taste of the SEC as a freshman, starting nine straight games after the season opener. An athletic corner, Moore also is solid in run support

and rarely witnessed on the Commodore campus.

Langford also brings a field general presence to the Commodore secondary. As a two-year starter entering the season, Langford knows the responsibilities of every secondary position and will serve as a steadying force to an otherwise youthful corps.

Darlron Spead (5-10, 185, R-So.) also returns as one of the team's top playmakers in the secondary. Spead was the Commodores' top nickelback and snared three interceptions as a redshirt freshman last year. Though limited in spring drills due to an offseason knee procedure, Spead is expected back 100 percent in fall camp.

Across from Langford, **Ryan**

and earned a big-play reputation in 2006. The experience Moore gained last year should be a huge benefit in his sophomore season. Lewis' involvement in the Commodore secondary last year was limited, but he came on with a tremendous Spring Practice to earn the starting job entering preseason camp. Lewis blends outstanding size with superb athleticism.

The Commodores also return a pair of former starters at cornerback in redshirt juniors, **Josh Allen** (5-9, 182) and **Jared Fagan** (5-9, 180). Allen enjoyed a solid Spring Practice after finishing 2006 in the starting lineup, while Fagan watched his participation increase as the season endured.

The staff also was pleased with the development of **Alan Strong** (5-9, 175, R-Fr.) during spring drills, and expects the newcomer to contend for playing time during preseason camp. Another cornerback prospect to watch in camp is incoming freshman **Jamie Graham** (6-0, 180).

COMMODORE SPECIAL TEAMS

SPECIAL TEAMS The Commodores return two-year starter **Bryant Hahnfeldt** (5-11, 190, Jr.) as their placekicking specialist. The junior helped the Commodores defeat Georgia with a last-second field goal, but struggled at other times last year, making just eight of 17 field goals. At the same time, Hahnfeldt captured the admiration of both coaches and teammates by showing tremendous desire, coming back to compete just nine months after undergoing knee surgery.

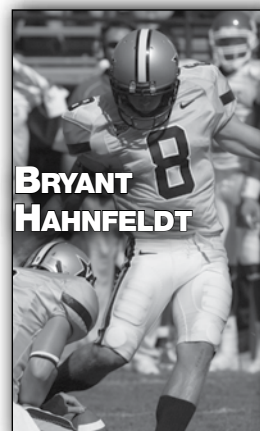
Hahnfeldt, an All-SEC freshman pick in 2005, should be full of confidence and much stronger with a full year of conditioning under his belt.

Hahnfeldt is the only kicking prospect with college experience. Other prospects are **Thomas Carroll** (5-9, 165, R-So.) and **John Laughrey** (6-0, 180, R-Fr.).

Sophomore **Brett Upson** (5-11, 180) is back after serving as the team's No. 1 punter as a true freshman. The first-year experience should help Upson, who started strongly, but slumped by year's end. One of Upson's top assets was hang time, with teams averaging less than six yards a return.

Upson and Hahnfeldt will compete with each other for the kickoff specialist duties. Hahnfeldt also has experience as a starting punter dating to the 2005 season.

The Commodores also return both snappers: punt specialist **Matt Quinn** (6-5, 220, So.) and placement specialist **Nick Miller** (6-3, 270, R-So.).



**BRYANT
HAHNFELDT**



BRETT UPSON

KICKING SPECIALISTS

PLACEKICKERS

NO.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
50	Thomas Carroll	5-9	160	R-So.	
8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	5-11	190	Jr.	2VL
97	John Laughrey	5-11	170	R-Fr.	
39	Brett Upson	5-11	180	So.	1VL

PUNTERS

NO.	NAME	Ht.	Wt.	CL.	Exp.
8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	5-11	190	Jr.	2VL
39	Brett Upson	5-11	180	So.	1VL

PRESEASON DEPTH CHART

COMMODORE OFFENSE

WR	10	Earl Bennett	(6-1, 202, Jr.)
	81	Bryant Anderson	(6-3, 210, R-Jr.)
WR	88	George Smith	(6-3, 200, R-Jr.)
	4	Alex Washington	(5-9, 185, R-So.)
WR	7	Sean Walker	(6-0, 180, R-Jr.)
	80	Justin Wheeler	(6-1, 180, R-So.)
QB	3	Chris Nickson	(6-1, 210, R-Jr.)
	9	Mackenzi Adams	(6-2, 215, R-So.)
	15	Richard Kovalcheck	(6-2, 220, R-Sr.)
TB	22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison	(6-1, 215, Sr.)
-or-	21	Jeff Jennings	(6-1, 215, R-Jr.)
	31	Jared Hawkins	(5-10, 195, R-So.)
TE	83	Brad Allen	(6-3, 240, R-Jr.)
	85	Jake Bradford	(6-6, 263, R-So.)
LT	74	Chris Williams	(6-6, 320, R-Sr.)
	66	Eric Hensley	(6-6, 320, R-So.)
LG	78	Josh Eames	(6-5, 300, R-Sr.)
	73	Ryan Custer	(6-3, 295, R-So.)
C	53	Hamilton Holliday	(6-3, 290, Sr.)
	60	Bradley Vierling	(6-3, 290, R-So.)
RG	64	Merritt Kirchoffer	(6-5, 320, R-Sr.)
	60	Bradley Vierling	(6-3, 290, R-So.)
RT	72	Brian Stamper	(6-5, 300, R-Sr.)
	76	Thomas Welch	(6-7, 295, R-So.)

KICK TEAM SPECIALISTS

PK	8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	(5-11, 190, Jr.)
	39	Brett Upson	(5-11, 180, So.)
SN	75	Nick Miller	(6-3, 270, R-So.)
H	9	Mackenzi Adams	(6-2, 215, R-So.)
	36	Chris Reinert	(5-9, 175, R-Jr.)
KR	7	Sean Walker	(6-0, 180, R-Jr.)
	31	Jared Hawkins	(5-10, 195, R-So.)
PR	10	Earl Bennett	(6-1, 202, Jr.)
	4	Alex Washington	(5-9, 185, R-So.)

COMMODORE DEFENSE

DE	48	Curtis Gatewood	(6-3, 245, R-Sr.)
	89	Terrell Brannon	(6-3, 235, R-Fr.)
DT	56	Gabe Hall	(6-1, 290, Sr.)
-or-	98	Greg Billinger	(6-3, 280, So.)
DT	54	Theo Horrocks	(6-3, 290, Sr.)
	59	Adam Smotherman	(6-3, 275, R-Fr.)
	92	Brandon Holmes	(6-3, 295, R-Jr.)
DE	96	Steven Stone	(6-5, 255, R-So.)
-or-	90	Broderick Stewart	(6-5, 230, R-So.)
SLB	24	Marcus Buggs	(5-11, 225, R-Sr.)
	52	Nate Campbell	(6-3, 228, R-Fr.)
MLB	47	Jonathan Goff	(6-4, 235, R-Sr.)
	45	Chris Johnson	(6-1, 225, R-So.)
WLB	35	Brandon Bryant	(6-1, 228, R-So.)
-or-	30	Patrick Benoist	(6-0, 215, So.)
CB	5	Myron Lewis	(6-2, 190, So.)
	14	Josh Allen	(5-9, 182, R-Jr.)
SS	33	Reshard Langford	(6-2, 207, R-Jr.)
	11	Brent Trice	(6-3, 210, So.)
FS	2	Ryan Hamilton	(6-2, 208, R-So.)
	29	Joel Caldwell	(6-1, 195, R-So.)
CB	17	D.J. Moore	(5-10, 175, So.)
	20	Jared Fagan	(5-10, 178, R-Jr.)
NB	6	Darlon Spead	(5-10, 185, R-So.)

PUNT, KICKOFF SPECIALISTS

P	39	Brett Upson	(5-11, 180, So.)
-or-	8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	(5-11, 190, Jr.)
SN-P	84	Matt Quinn	(6-5, 220, So.)
	75	Nick Miller	(6-3, 270, R-So.)
KO	8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	(5-11, 190, Jr.)
-or-	39	Brett Upson	(5-11, 180, So.)

Note: Players identified in **bold** started at least five games in 2006 for the Commodores.

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Year	CL	Hometown/High School (Other)
9	Mackenzi Adams	QB	6-3	215	R-So.	1L	Tulsa, Okla./Union
83	Brad Allen	TE	6-3	240	R-Jr.	2L	Venice, Fla./Venice
14	Josh Allen	CB	5-9	182	R-Jr.	2L	Roswell, Ga./Roswell
81	Bryant Anderson	WR	6-3	210	R-Jr.	2L	Roswell, Ga./Centennial
62	Rob Ashabranner	DT	6-2	270	Fr.	HS	Beaumont, Texas/Cathedral Christian
40	Bo Baggerley	LB	6-1	210	R-So.	SQ	Forsyth, Ga./Stratford Academy
71	Joey Bailey	C/OG	6-4	275	R-Fr.	RS	Trussville, Ala./Hewitt-Trussville
87	Brandon Barden	TE	6-5	225	Fr.	HS	Lincolnton, Ga./Lincoln Co.
10	Earl Bennett	WR	6-1	202	Jr.	2L	Birmingham, Ala./West End
30	Patrick Benoist	LB	6-0	215	So.	1L	Southlake, Texas/Carroll Senior
98	Greg Billinger	DT	6-3	280	So.	1L	Lilburn, Ga./Parkview
85	Jake Bradford	TE	6-6	263	R-So.	1L	St. Simons Island, Ga./Glynn Academy
89	Teriall Brannon	DE	6-3	235	R-Fr.	RS	Spartanburg, S.C./Broome
35	Brandon Bryant	LB	6-0	228	R-So.	1L	Cincinnati, Ohio/St.Xavier
32	Matt Bubis	TE	6-1	228	R-So.	1L	Nashville, Tenn./Montgomery Bell
24	Marcus Buggs	LB	5-11	225	R-Sr.	3L	Madison, Tenn./Goodpasture
29	Joel Caldwell	S/DB	6-1	195	R-So.	1L	Hoover, Ala./Hoover
52	Nate Campbell	LB	6-3	228	R-Fr.	RS	Hazen, Ark./Hazen
50	Thomas Carroll	PK	5-9	165	R-So.	SQ	Columbus, Ga./Brookstone
73	Ryan Custer	OG	6-3	295	R-So.	1L	Troy, Ohio/Troy
41	Jermaine Doster	TB	5-10	205	Fr.	HS	Tampa, Fla./Robinson
99	Derrius Dowell	DT	6-3	275	R-So.	SQ	Atlanta, Ga./Douglass
78	Josh Eames	OG	6-5	305	R-Fr.	3L	North Cape May, N.J./Lower Cape
20	Jared Fagan	CB	5-10	180	R-Jr.	2L	Waldorf, Md./Westlake
61	Nick Forte	OL	6-2	295	R-So.	SQ	Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood Academy
65	Kyle Fischer	OL	6-6	300	Fr.	HS	Columbia, S.C./Spring Valley
12	Jared Funk	QB	6-2	195	R-Fr.	RS	Long Grove, Ill./Saint Viator
42	Tim Fugger	TE	6-4	225	Fr.	HS	Oak Brook, Ill./Montini Catholic
46	Michael Garcia	LB	6-0	240	R-Fr.	HS	Jacksonville, Fla./The Bolles School
70	Drew Gardner	OG	6-6	300	R-So.	1L	Hoxie, Ark./Hoxie
48	Curtis Gatewood	DE	6-3	245	R-Sr.	3L	Memphis, Tenn./White Station
47	Jonathan Goff	LB	6-4	235	R-Sr.	3L	Lynn, Mass./St. John's Prep
25	Jamie Graham	WR/CB	5-11	180	Fr.	HS	Nashville, Tenn./Whites Creek
82	Justin Green	TE	6-6	230	R-Fr.	RS	Troy, Ala./Henderson
58	T.J. Greenstone	DT	6-3	270	Fr.	HS	Lawrenceville, Ga./Collins Hill
49	Chris Griffin	WR	6-1	185	R-Fr.	RS	Memphis, Tenn./Central
8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	P/PK	5-11	190	Jr.	2L	Nashville, Tenn./Montgomery Bell
56	Gabe Hall	DT	6-1	290	Sr.	3L	Virginia Beach, Va./Fork Union Military
2	Ryan Hamilton	S	6-2	208	R-So.	1L	Wycombe, Pa./Council Rock North
31	Jared Hawkins	TB	5-10	190	R-So.	1L	Spring, Texas/Klein
66	Eric Hensley	OT	6-6	315	R-So.	1L	Clinton, Tenn./Clinton
4*	Roger Herndon	S	6-0	200	R-So.	SQ	Greenbrier, Tenn./Greenbrier
53	Hamilton Holliday	C	6-4	290	Sr.	3L	Marietta, Ga./Walton
92	Brandon Holmes	DT	6-3	295	R-Jr.	2L	Garland, Texas/Garland
54	Theo Horrocks	DT	6-3	290	Sr.	3L	Fayetteville, Tenn./Lincoln Co.
22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison	TB	6-1	215	Sr.	3L	Knoxville, Tenn./Central
21	Jeff Jennings	TB	6-1	215	R-Jr.	2L	Dandridge, Tenn./Jefferson Co.

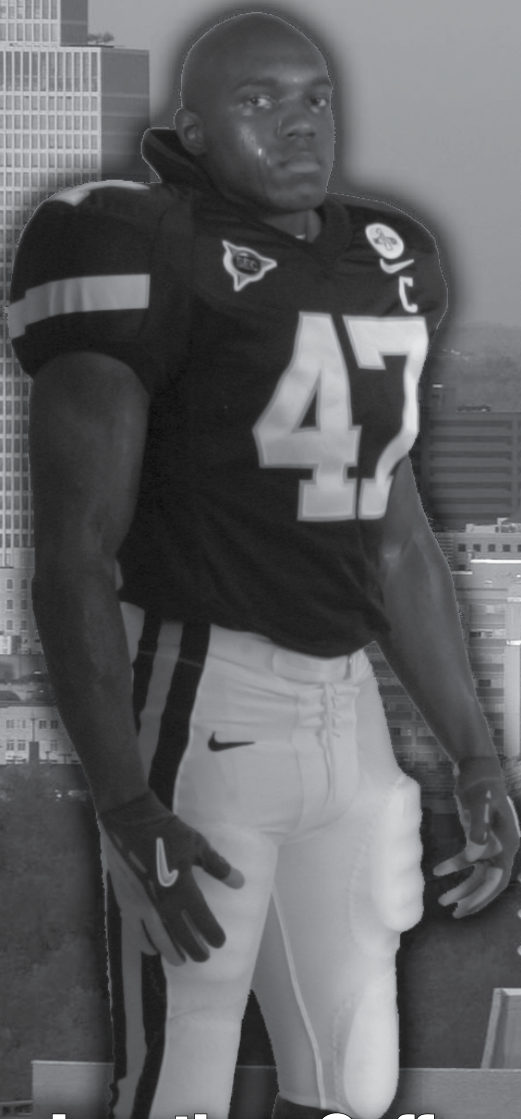
ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Year	CL	Hometown/High School (Other)
45	Chris Johnson	LB	6-1	225	R-So.	1L	Birmingham, Ala./Oak Mountain
93	Theron Kadri	DE	6-3	235	Fr.	HS	Brighton, Tenn./Brighton
64	Merritt Kirchoffer	OG	6-5	320	R-Sr.	3L	Roswell, Ga./Roswell
15	Richard Kovalcheck	QB	6-2	220	R-Sr.	1L	San Diego, Calif./Arizona/St. Augustine
33	Reshard Langford	S	6-2	207	R-Jr.	2L	Tanner, Ala./Tanner
68	Reilly Lauer	OL	6-6	245	R-Fr.	RS	Gates Mill, Ohio/St. Ignatius
97	John Laughrey	PK	5-11	175	R-Fr.	RS	McKenzie, Tenn./McKenzie
93	David Leinweber	DE	6-5	250	R-So.	SQ	Bloomfield Hills, Mich./Cranbrook
5	Myron Lewis	CB	6-2	195	So.	1L	Pompano Beach, Fla./Pompano Beach
94	Kikko Logan	DE	6-2	235	R-Fr.	RS	Elba, Ala./Elba
43	Chris Marve	LB	6-0	230	Fr.	HS	Memphis, Tenn./White Station
27	Gaston Miller	TB	5-7	165	So.	1L	Murfreesboro, Tenn./Riverdale
75	Nick Miller	SN	6-3	270	R-So.	1L	Matthews, N.C./East Mecklenburg
86	Austin Monahan	TE	6-6	235	Fr.	HS	Charlotte, N.C./Phillips Academy (Mass.)
17	D.J. Moore	CB	5-10	175	So.	1L	Spartanburg, S.C./Broome
37	Dom Morais	LB	6-0	220	R-Jr.	SQ	Dayton, Texas/Dayton
91	Austin Newton	LB	6-2	215	R-Fr.	RS	McDonough, Ga./Union Grove
3	Chris Nickson	QB	6-1	210	R-Jr.	2L	Brundidge, Ala./Pike Co.
95	Sam Panke	DE	6-2	230	R-Fr.	RS	St. Louis, Mo./Ladue
84	Matt Quinn	SN	6-5	220	So.	1L	Wellford, S.C./Byrnes
28	Kennard Reeves	TB	6-0	195	R-Fr.	RS	Duluth, Ga./Duluth
36	Chris Reinert	WR	5-9	185	R-So.	SQ	Santa Ana, Calif./Servite
18	Larry Simmons	WR	5-9	162	R-So.	SQ	Austin, Texas/Anderson
88	George Smith	WR	6-3	200	R-Jr.	2L	Hollywood, Fla./Hollywood Hills
19	Larry Smith	QB	6-2	200	Fr.	HS	Prattville, Ala./Prattville
59	Adam Smotherman	DT	6-4	275	R-Fr.	RS	Smyrna, Tenn./Smyrna
6	Darlon Spead	CB	5-10	185	R-So.	1L	Kingsland, Ga./Camden Co.
72	Brian Stamper	OT	6-5	300	R-Sr.	3L	Windermere, Fla./Lake Highland
90	Broderick Stewart	DE	6-5	230	R-So.	1L	Newnan, Ga./Riverside Military
49	John Stokes	LB/DE	6-5	230	Fr.	HS	Memphis, Tenn./University School
96	Steven Stone	DE	6-5	255	R-So.	1L	Conway, Ark./Conway
16	Alan Strong	CB	5-10	175	R-Fr.	RS	Atlanta, Ga./Douglass
11	Brent Trice	S	6-3	210	So.	1L	Orange, Va./Fork Union Military
23	Udom Umoh	WR	6-0	175	Fr.	HS	Fort Valley, Ga./Peach Co.
39	Brett Upson	P	5-11	180	So.	1L	Griffin, Ga./Spalding
34	Ryan van Rensburg	TB	6-1	215	Fr.	HS	Jacksonville, Fla./The Bolles School
79	Ryan Vance	OG	6-3	285	R-So.	SQ	Bellaire, Texas/Episcopal
60	Bradley Vierling	C/OG	6-3	290	R-So.	1L	Warminster, Pa./Central Bucks East
7	Sean Walker	WR	6-0	180	R-Jr.	2L	Wrens, Ga./Jefferson Co.
4	Alex Washington	WR/RS	5-9	185	R-So.	1L	Stone Mountain, Ga./Stephenson
76	Thomas Welch	OT	6-7	295	R-So.	1L	Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood
80	Justin Wheeler	WR	6-1	180	R-So.	SQ	North Augusta, Ga./North Augusta
44	David Whittington	DT	6-2	275	R-Jr.	1L	Lafayette, La./St. Thomas More
74	Chris Williams	OT	6-6	320	R-Sr.	2L	Glynn, La./Catholic
77	James Williams	OL	6-6	300	Fr.	HS	Smyrna, Tenn./Smyrna
13	Turner Wimberly	WR	6-0	195	R-Fr.	RS	Austin, Texas/Westlake

* Duplicate Jersey Number



ALL-STAR CANDIDATES



Jonathan Goff

R-Sr., Linebacker, Lynn, Mass.

PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA

Athlon's, Phil Steele

PRESEASON AWARD WATCHLISTS:

Bronko Naguski, Bednarik, Butkus awards

ENTERING 2007:

A co-captain and starter in 27 consecutive games, Vanderbilt's latest standout at linebacker is known for punishing tackles. He ranked 17th in tackles nationally last year, and is the SEC's third leading active career tackler entering 2007.



Earl Bennett

Jr., Wide Receiver, Birmingham, Ala.

PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA

Athlon's, Blue Ribbon, Lindy's, Street & Smith, The Sporting News

PRESEASON AWARD WATCHLISTS:

Maxwell, Biletnikoff trophies

ENTERING 2007:

As a rising junior, sure-handed unanimous All-SEC pick needs 48 catches to become SEC's career leader. Known for incredible single-game feats, Bennett has achieved at least 10 receptions in seven of 19 career starts.

ALL-STAR CANDIDATES



Marcus Buggs

R-Sr., LINEBACKER

One of the Commodores' top defensive leaders, Buggs topped the team with 10.5 tackles for loss in '06; 40 solo tackles ranked third among 'Dores.

Curtis Gatewood

R-Sr., DEF. END

Named All-SEC by several publications, Gatewood's seven sacks in '06 have been bettered only once in last decade. Among team leaders in most defensive categories.

Theo Horrocks

Sr., DEF. TACKLE

An All-SEC selection by Phil Steele, Horrocks' '06 campaign (five sacks, four forced fumbles) was the most productive season by a 'Dore lineman in years.

Reshard Langford

R-Jr., SAFETY

An All-SEC pick by The Sporting News and Phil Steele, Langford is a physical presence and top tackler in the secondary. Langford also has six career interceptions.

Chris Nickson

R-Jr., QUARTERBACK

Nickson was the SEC's top dual-threat QB in 2006 – throwing for 2,085 yards and finishing ninth in league with team-record 684 rushing yards.

Brian Stamper

R-Sr., OFF. TACKLE

An All-SEC offensive lineman in '05, Stamper looks to rebound from a disappointing campaign last year that included a season-ending injury.

Chris Williams

R-Sr., Off. Tackle, Glynn, La.

PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA
Athlon's

PRESEASON AWARD WATCHLISTS:
Outland Trophy, Lombardi/Rotary Award

ENTERING 2007:
Since arriving at Vanderbilt five years ago as a lean, 240-pound prospect, Williams has developed into one of the nation's most athletic and highly regarded offensive tackles.

