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## **ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Director of External Relations.	Rod Williamson
Women's Tennis Contact	Travis Young
Office	(615) 322-4121
Cell	(641) 425-4767
E-mail	. travis.young@vanderbilt.edu
Athletic Communications Fax	(615) 343-7064
Web site	www.vucommodores.com
Mailing Address	2601 Jess Neely Drive

## **MEDIA GUIDE CREDITS**

The 2008-09 Vanderbilt women's tennis media guide was written and edited by Travis Young. Front and back cover designed by Jeremy Teaford of Vanderbilt Creative Services. Media guide layout and design by Vanderbilt Athletic Communications staff. Special thanks to Vanderbilt women's tennis staff and Ryan Schulz.

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## **QUICK FACTS**

Location	Nashville, Tenn.
Founded	1873
Enrollment	
Nickname	Commodores
Colors	Black & Gold
Home Facility Brownlee	
Conference	Southeastern (SEC)
Chancellor	Nicholas S. Zeppos
Vice-Chancellor	David Williams II
Faculty Representative	
Senior Woman Administrator	Candice Storey
Director of Sports Operation	Lori Alexander
Game Management	Meggie Butzow
Phone	(615) 322-4193
Student Athletics Phone	(615) 322-4727
Ticket Office Phone	(615) 322-GOLD

### 2009 TENNIS STAFF

Geoff Macdonald, 15th year
Virginia, 1981
415-132 (.759), 20 years
301-96 (.758), 14 years
(615) 343-8940
Aleke Tsoubanos, second year
(615) 343-2780
(615) 322-6068

## **VANDERBILT TENNIS HISTORY**

First Season	1978
All-Time Record	467-290 (.617)
NCAA Tournament Appearances	14

## **TEAM INFORMATION**

2008 Overall Record	20-6
2008 SEC Record	7-4
2008 SEC Finish	T3rd
Returning Letterwinners/Lost	3/3
Newcomers	4



## Season Outlook

Coming off their 11th straight Sweet 16 finish at the NCAA Championships, the Vanderbilt women's tennis team is looking for even bigger things in 2008-09. The Commodores will face the challenge of replacing three seniors from last year's team that posted a 20-6 record. Vanderbilt finished the year ranked No. 10 by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association. It was the fifth time in head coach Geoff MacDonald's tenure that his team closed out the season ranked inside the top-10.

The Commodores know they have big shoes to fill after losing two-time All-American Amanda Taylor and the school's all-time singles wins leader in Taka Bertrand to graduation. The 2008-09 team will turn to its four returning players for leadership. Senior Courtney Ulery, juniors Catherine Newman and Hannah Blatt and sophomore Keilly Ulery look to be team leaders as they welcome four new faces to the team. Macdonald expects his upperclassman to become leaders on the court.

"I believe Courtney, Catherine, Hannah and Keilly will step up and lead this team," said Macdonald. "I think they will play an instrumental role in helping teach the freshman the ropes of playing in the Southeastern Conference.

"My goal for this years team is to have all eight players improve on all phases of the game so they can have personal best seasons."

The Commodores lone senior Courtney Ulery hopes to close out her career on a high note. The Wellington, Fla., native is coming off a solid junior season where she was ranked as high as No. 13 nationally after recording a school-record 20 consecutive singles wins.

"Courtney has proved to me that she can play with anyone in the country, and as the lone senior I see her leading this young team far into the post-season," Macdonald said.

"With Courtney's strong work ethic, I see her having a great opportunity to qualify for the NCAA singles tournament."

Newman enters the spring season as the early favorite to play the No. 1 singles slot for the Commodores. Newman is coming off a strong sophomore campaign where she posted a 16-8 dual record, garnering second-team All-SEC honors. Newman enters her junior campaign as the only member of 2009 squad to play in two NCAA singles championships.

"I think Catherine could emerge as one of the best players in the country this year," Macdonald said. "She has worked very hard on all phases of her game, and I am looking forward to her junior year."

Blatt rejoined the Commodore squad at the beginning of the 2008 spring season after sitting out the fall. After gaining experience last spring, Blatt will be a major contributor in 2009.

"Hannah improved tremendously last spring and is one of the hardest workers on the team," Macdonald said. "She will have a lot of opportunities this season and we look for her to make a big contribution."

Sophomore Keilly Ulery is coming off a sensational inaugural season where she was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team after posting a team-best 9-2 record in conference play. Ulery was named SEC Freshman of the Week after her comeback win over Kentucky's Whitney Spencer. The sophomore took her game to new heights this summer, recording wins over some of the nation's best amateur players.

"Keilly had one of the most impressive summer's of tennis that I have seen," Macdonald said. "She really made a statement when she defeated a former NCAA champion.

"Last year was her year to get her feet wet, and now that she has a year of experience I think she could have an outstanding season."

After losing a lot of experience to graduation, Macdonald and assistant coach Aleke Tsoubanos brought in one of the most decorated recruiting classes in the country. Tennisrecruiting.net ranked the class as the fifthbest in the nation.

"I think this is one of the most talented recruiting classes that we have had since I have been here," Macdonald said. "The four of them are an exciting group and they really want to get better in practice. All of the newcomers have achieved at a high level in both doubles and singles as juniors."

Four freshmen join the Commodores in 2008-09, as Chelsea Preeg, Heather Steinbauer, Erica Robertson and Jackie Wu make their collegiate debuts.

Preeg established herself as one of the nation's best junior players during her prep years, holding No. 6 national ranking in the Girls 18 division. The Naples, Fla., native won the Florida State Girls 18-and-under Championship at the age of 14.



"Coach Tsoubanos and I identified Chelsea as one of the top junior players in the country the last few years, and we feel very fortunate to have her at Vanderbilt," Macdonald said.

Steinbauer, a Texas State Champion, joins the Commodores after being ranked as the top player in the Lone Star State. The Woodlands, Texas native finished her junior career ranked among the nation's top 30. In May 2007, Steinbauer reached the finals of the Junior National Open.

"One thing that stands out about Heather is her athletic ability and competitiveness," Macdonald said. "We identified her as a diamond in the rough player and are looking forward to having her on our team."

Robertson enters her freshman year as the top-ranked player out of the New England region in the Girls 18s division. The Watertown, Mass., native has seen early success on the International Tennis Federation circuit, advancing to the doubles quarterfinals in the South Carolina region.

"Erica is a tremendously gifted doubles player who will add immediate depth to our team," Macdonald said. "I believe she will be one of the most improved players in the country this year."

Holmdel, N.J., native Jackie Wu joins the other three highly touted recruits to round out the class. Wu displayed a lot of success playing as an amateur in professional tournaments.

"Jackie has played a lot of professional tennis as an amateur," Macdonald said. "She is a superb technical player who has done very well on the futures circuit. I think she will have an immediate impact to our team."

Over the past 14 years, Macdonald has set the bar high for his teams and this year's team is no different. Even though the Commodores display a lot of youth on paper, he expects his team to compete at a high level.

"We have been so close to an SEC Championship, and one of our goals this season is to win an SEC Conference Championship. By the end of the year, we hope to put ourselves in a position to be a final four team."

# 2009 COMMODORES



**Hannah Blatt** 5-6 • Junior Nashville, Tenn.



Catherine Newman 5-5 • Junior Greensboro, N.C.



Chelsea Preeg 5-5 • Freshman Naples, Fla.



Erica Robertson 5-8 • Freshman Watertown, Mass.



**Heather Steinbauer** 5-8 • Freshman The Woodlands, Texas



Courtney Ulery 5-5 • Senior Wellington, Fla.



**Keilly Ulery** 5-6 • Sophomore Wellington, Fla.



Jackie Wu 5-5 • Freshman Holmdel, N.J.



Geoff Macdonald 15th Season Virginia (1981)



Aleke Tsoubanos 2nd Season Vanderbilt (2004)

## **Pronounciations**

Preeg	PrEEg
Courtney Ulery	Ull-ery
Keilly Ulery	Ky-lee Ull-ery
Aleke TsoubanosU	h-lee-key Sue-bah-nos
Wu	Woo

## HEAD COACH



Virginia (1981) Record at Vanderbilt: 301-96 (.758), 14 years Career Record: 415-132 (.759), 20 years

## Quick Hits on Macdonald:

- Entering his 15th season as the head coach of the Commodores.
- Record of 301-96 (.758) in 14 seasons as Vanderbilt head coach.
- Team has advanced to at least the round of 16 the last 11 years.
- Macdonald's 2008 recruiting class was ranked fifth in the nation (second in the SEC) by tennisrecruiting.
- Led Vanderbilt to the NCAA Finals in 2001.
- Earned three Coach of the Year honors in his career, including being named 2000 SEC Coach of the Year.
- Has coached nine ITA All-Americans while at Vanderbilt.
- Named ACC's Most Valuable Player and won the league's Sportsmanship Award while playing at Virginia.
- Played professionally between 1981-84, earning a World Top 200 ranking.
- He and his wife, Kate, have three children: Sam (22), Gus (17) and Janey (15).

Geoff Macdonald, Vanderbilt's longesttenured coach, enters his 15th season as the head coach of the women's tennis team. During the previous 14 seasons, the two-time SEC Coach of the Year has placed the Commodores among the nation's elite programs on a consistent basis.

Since Macdonald joined the Vanderbilt staff in 1994, the Commodore tennis program has developed a reputation for rapid player improvement, strong commitments to coaching, and unmatched excellence on the court and in the classroom.

Before Macdonald's arrival, the Vanderbilt women's tennis program had never been ranked higher than No. 28 in the nation. Under his leadership, the Commodores have finished no lower than No. 16 in each of the past 14 years, including a school record No. 2 ranking at the end of the 2004 season. Vanderbilt has ranked in the top three of the Southeastern Conference nine of the past 11 years. In the past eight seasons, Macdonald has coached five teams that have finished the season ranked inside the nation's top-10.

Last season Macdonald and his team started out hot as they won eight of their first 10 matches, including wins over No. 2 Georgia Tech and No. 9 Notre Dame. The 2008 squad

won eight straight matches in March, including six straight SEC matches.

Last year's squad defeated eight top-25 teams in route to its 11th straight sweet 16 appearance.

The win over Indiana State gave Macdonald his 300th career win, putting himself among the nation's best. The Commodores finished the year with a 20-6 (.769) record and were ranked 10th nationally by the ITA.

While Macdonald's leadership continues to improve the Commodore program every season, Macdonald's impact was felt immediately in his very first year at Vanderbilt in 1995. The team finished the year 16-8, including an 8-3 mark in the SEC and advanced to the NCAA Championships for the first time in school history.

Once Vanderbilt began its rise to the top, the achievements kept coming. In 1996, the Commodores posted a 24-7 record, finished second in the SEC, advanced to the SEC Tournament Championship match for the first time and, once again, earned a berth in the NCAA Championships, advancing to the Round of 16. The team's 24 wins were the third most in the nation that year.

## MACDONALD'S RECORD AT VANDY

Year	Overall	Pct.	Rank	SEC Finish	NCAA Finish
1995	16-8	0.667	16	5th	First Round
1996	24-7	0.774	10	2nd	Round of 16
1997	15-10	0.600	15	6th	Second Round
1998	20-8	0.714	12	3rd	Round of 16
1999	20-9	0.690	13	5th	Round of 16
2000	22-6	0.786	11	3rd	Round of 16
2001	26-5	0.839	4	3rd	Runner Up
2002	27-5	0.844	7	3rd	Round of 16
2003	21-6	0.778	13	5th	Quarterfinals
2004	26-4	0.867	2	1st	Final Four
2005	22-6	0.786	8	2nd	Round of 16
2006	23-5	0.821	12	3rd	Round of 16
2007	19-9	0.678	16	3rd	Round of 16
2008	20-6	0.769	10	T3rd	Round of 16
Totals	301-96	0.758	(14 Se	asons)	

## GEOFF MACDONALD

The team continued to improve with each successful season and in 2001 the 'Dores finally found themselves in the national spotlight as they competed in the NCAA finals. The event marked the first time that any Vanderbilt sports team had played for a national championship. Despite falling to the Stanford Cardinals, Macdonald's squad ended the season with a 26-5 record and a No. 4 national ranking, while three singles players and two doubles teams earned individual bids to the NCAA championships.

The following season, Macdonald not only matched the success of the previous year, but led the 'Dores to a record-setting 27 wins. The

team also advanced to the finals of the National Team Indoors tournament, which features sixteen of the top ranked teams in the country. Following the season, Sarah Riske and Aleke Tsoubanos were both named ITA All-Americans.

In 2003, Macdonald oversaw the final year of Sarah Riske's career, who became the school's only four-time All-American (two in singles, two in doubles). Riske left VU as the winningest doubles player, but Tsoubanos has since grabbed that title.

In 2004, the Commodores returned to the Final Four in the NCAA Tournament where they lost to undefeated Stanford, the eventual national champions. The 2004 Commodore team included All American, All Academic and ITA Scholar Aleke Tsoubanos, who is entering her second year as Macdonald's assistant. Other honors achieved by Commodores included Annie Menees' All Academic and ITA Scholar awards, while Audra Falk and Kelly Schmandt landed All-American honors.

Head Coach Geoff Macdonald has guided the Commodores to a 301-96 record in 14 seasons.

In 2006, the Commodores posted a 23-5 record en route to the team's ninth consecutive NCAA Sweet 16 appearance, despite the young team's lack of senior representatives. Following the season, junior Amanda Fish became the seventh Commodore under Macdonald to receive ITA All-American honors.

Macdonald has earned three Coach of the Year honors, including SEC recognition for his 2000 team, which included four ITA ranked singles players. He previously earned the title at Duke and Louisiana State University, where he began his coaching career in 1988.

Before coming to Nashville, Macdonald was the head coach at Duke University. Macdonald was honored with ACC Coach of the Year honors in 1992. While in Durham, he guided the Blue Devils to three conference championships and three appearances in the NCAA tournament, where Duke made two appearances in the quarterfinals and one semifinal appearance.

During his three years with the Tigers, Macdonald took LSU from last in the SEC to the NCAA Championship as the No. 13 seed in just three years. Following the Tigers' 1991 season, Macdonald was named the SEC Coach of the Year. Macdonald amassed a 50-24 record

while at the helm of the LSU women's tennis program.

As a player at the University of Virginia, Macdonald capped off a successful collegiate career by winning the ACC singles title in 1981. He advanced to the NCAA Championship, where he defeated David Pate in the first round.

Macdonald was named the ACC's Most Valuable Player and also won the league's Sportsmanship Award. He finished second to basketball great Ralph Sampson in the Athlete of the Year voting at Virginia in 1981.

After his collegiate career, Macdonald played professionally for three years. Macdonald scored wins over David Pate, Wally Masur, Jacob Hlasek and Juan Aguilera. He also gained Grand Slam experience, playing in the U.S. Open. Among his victories was the Florida State Closed Men's Singles Championship.

Following his pro playing career, Macdonald became a private instructor until being named head coach at LSU. And now, as a Commodore, Mac-

donald believes the climate at Vanderbilt is right to produce national championship caliber teams. And, toward that end, he adheres to a simple coaching philosophy: Hard work and hours of individual attention for each player every week.

Macdonald is married to Kate Daniels, a highly acclaimed English professor at Vanderbilt, who also has taught at Wake Forest, LSU, Virginia, UMass and Bennington College. They have three children – Sam, 22; Gus, 17; and Janey, 15.



# ALEKE TSOUBANOS



Vanderbilt (2004)
Three-time ITA All-American
Second Year

## Quick Hits on Tsoubanos:

- Entering her second season as assistant coach for the Commodores.
- Was instrumental in bringing in the nation's fifth-ranked recruiting class in 2008 with Head Coach Geoff Macdonald.
- One of the most successful doubles players to ever play at Vanderbilt, holding several school records, including most doubles victories in a season and career.
- Earned NCAA All-American honors from 2002-04, was a three-time ITA All-American and was named a first-team All-SEC selection.
- Was a first-team All-NCAA Selection at the 2004 NCAA Championships for No. 3 singles.
- Played professionally for three years, capturing four ITF doubles titles and reaching a career-high WTA doubles ranking of No. 126.
- Played two seasons for the St. Louis Aces of World Team Tennis.

Former Vanderbilt standout Aleke Tsoubanos enters her second season as an assistant coach for the women's tennis team. Tsoubanos played a key part in bringing in the nation's fifth-rated recruiting class in 2008.

"Aleke has had a real impact on our program in the last year," Vanderbilt head coach Geoff Macdonald said. "She has a great tennis eye and strong work ethic and relationship with our players. She is great working with people and knows all phases to the game which makes her an exceptional, bright young coach."

The addition of Tsoubanos led to instant success for the Commodores in 2008. Tsoubanos' coaching style led the Dores to its 11th straight sweet-16 finish and top-10 national ranking.

The St. Louis, Mo., native enjoyed a very successful college career. She was named an ITA All-American from 2002-04, a firstteam all-NCAA selection, a first-team All-SEC selection in both singles and doubles and is the only player to win the ITA All-American Riviera doubles championship two consecutive years

with two different partners. Tsoubanos also excelled off the court, being named to the All-SEC academic team.

"By excelling in tennis at the highest level and at Vanderbilt, she brings a lot of tennis experience and enthusiasm to our program and campus," Macdonald said.

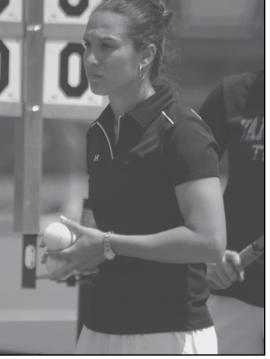
Tsoubanos still holds five school records. She partnered with Kelly Schmandt in 2004 to win 15 consecutive doubles matches. She holds the record for best doubles winning

percentage in a career, winning 82% of her doubles matches between 2000 and 2004. She has the most career doubles victories with 119 and registered 32 doubles victories in a season with both Sarak Riske ('03) and Kelly Schmandt ('04).

The Commodores enjoyed some of their most successful years while Tsoubanos was a member of the team. Vanderbilt made the NCAA title match in Tsoubanos' freshman season, falling to Stanford, and also made the NCAA final four in her senior season.

"I feel privileged to be working with Coach Macdonald and a group of highly talented student-athletes," Tsoubanos said.

Tsoubanos enjoyed success in the professional ranks during her career. Her doubles ranking rose as high as 126, winning four doubles titles while on tour. She made the doubles semifinals or better 23 times while on the International Tennis Federation circuit.



Aleke Tsoubanos, one of the most decorated doubles players in Vanderbilt history, is entering her second season as an assistant coach.

The Vanderbilt assistant most recently played two seasons of World

Team Tennis for her hometown team, the St. Louis Aces. While playing for the Aces, she scored doubles wins over such players as Anna Kournikova and Meghann Shaughnessy.



## SUPPORT STAFF



## Meggie Butzow

Operations and Facilities

Second Season

Meggie Butzow enters her second season as Assistant Director of Operations and Facilities at Vanderbilt.

Butzow graduated from Vanderbilt in 2006 with a degree in English and American Studies. While a student, Butzow spent time working in the athletic department, volunteering in both the media relations and the facilities departments. After graduation, Butzow worked as a facilities intern from August 2006 to May 2007.

Along with her responsibilities for men's and women's tennis, Butzow is in charge of daily operations at the Brownlee O. Currey Jr. Tennis Center. Butzow also is responsible for gameday operations at baseball.



## **Allen Cameron**

Team Videographer
Fifth Season

Allen Cameron enters his fifth season as the team videographer for the women's tennis program. Cameron volunteers his time by taping each home match for the team.

Before coming to the Commodores, Cameron owned Sunshine Grocery for 25 years before selling the business to Wild Oats.

Cameron is retired and resides in Nashville.

## **Additional Support Staff**



Travis Young
Tennis Media
Contact



**Shawn Fagan** Academic Counselor



"Magic" Noori Food Coach



## Justin Wenzel

Athletic Trainer
Fourth Season

Justin Wenzel is in his fourth season with the Vanderbilt Athletic Training Staff, where he serves as the primary trainer for the women's tennis program.

Wenzel, 28, joined the Commodore department as a full-time athletic trainer in August 2005. A native of Mendon, Mich., Wenzel also assists as an athletic trainer for the Commodore football team.

Wenzel earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Grand Valley (Mich.) State in 2001, and a master's in health and exercise science from Furman in 2003.

Prior to joining the Vanderbilt staff, Wenzel served a two-year stint as assistant athletic trainer at Furman, working with the Paladin men's soccer and baseball teams. He also served as a Furman graduate assistant for two years and a student assistant for football, women's basketball, baseball and men's basketball squads at Grand Valley State.



## **Curtis Turner**

Strength and Conditioning Coach

Sixth Season

Curtis Turner joined the Vanderbilt staff in the 2003-04 school year as an assistant strength and conditioning coach. In his new position with the Commodores, Turner serves as the strength and conditioning coach for men's and women's tennis and men's and women's golf, while also assisting with the football team.

Turner came to Vanderbilt from Clemson, where he gained three years experience working under Coach Joey Batson, Clemson's director of strength training. There, Turner was charged with overseeing strength and conditioning efforts for the rowing, golf and cheerleading teams.

Turner is a specialist in sports conditioning through the International Sport Science Association. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in secondary education from Clemson's Eugene T. Moore School of Education.

The son of Teresa and Robert, Turner is a native of Blairsville,

## COURTNEY ULERY



# COURTNEY ULERY

Senior • 5-5 Wellington, Fla. Pinnacle HS



## Coach Macdonald on Courtney Ulery

"Last year Courtney was ranked as high as No. 13 in the country and proved that she can play with anybody. As a senior, I look for her to qualify for NCAA singles and to lead this young team very far."

2007-08 (Junior): Closed out year ranked 77th in singles and 24th in doubles by the ITA ... finished the fall season with a perfect 13-0 record, boosting her ITA national ranking to No. 13 ... won flight at the Fall SEC Coaches' Classic, defeating No. 22 Monika Dancevic in the semi-finals and teammate Taka Bertrand in the championship ... named SEC Player of the Week on January 28 following her performance against Michigan and Notre Dame ... opened spring season with seven consecutive victories, with six of the seven coming in straight sets ... owns Vanderbilt school record for consecutive singles victories with 20 ... received a bid to first NCAA Doubles Championships with partner Amanda Taylor, before falling to Miam's 20th-ranked pair of Romy Farah and Laura Vallverdu.

**2006-07 (Sophomore):** Posted a 15-9 singles record in the spring, mainly at the No. 5 position ... recorded upset victory over No. 54 Amanda Craddock in the Commodores win over eventual national champion Georgia Tech ... finished season with a 18-6 record and 9-2 conference record partnering with Liberty Sveke at No. 3 doubles.

**2005-06 (Freshman):** Went 17-7 in singles overall including 16-7 at No. 4 ... named to the All-SEC Second Team after posting an 8-3 conference record ... went 10-1 in SEC doubles, including 9-1 with fellow freshman Liberty Sveke.

**Prep/Juniors:** Ranked as high as No. 3 in Florida 18s and was ranked No. 24 nationally in 18s ... ranked No. 779 in WTA rankings when she committed to Vanderbilt ... chose Vanderbilt over Miami, Northwestern, Florida and North Carolina.

**Personal:** Courtney Allison Ulery ... born May 1, 1988 ... daughter of Bev and Lou Ulery ... she has one sister, Keilly, who is a sophomore on the team ... member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes ... majoring in Human and Orgnizational Development.



## Off the Court:

### Favorite:

Tennis Player: Marat Safin Other Sport: Baseball & Football TV Show: Anything on Bravo Movie: 300, Blood Diamond Music/Group: Josh Kelley, Breaking Benjamin

### Why Vanderbilt:

Best combination of athletics, education and location.

## **COURTNEY ULERY'S CAREER RECORD**

SINGLES							
Year	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	Dual SEC Overall
2007-08			8-2	8-7			16-9 5-7 29-9
2006-07			2-0	4-1	8-8	1-0	15-9 7-7 22-15
2005-06				16-8	1-0		17-8 8-5 23-13
Total			10-2	28-16	9-8	1-0	48-26 20-19 74-37
DOUBLES							
Year	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	Dual	SEC	Total	Partners
2007-08	9-8	6-1	0-0	15-8	8-3	24-16	Taylor
2006-07	0-1	1-0	17-5	18-6	11-3	25-10	Sveke
2005-06		1-2	17-4	18-6	11-2	27-7	Farrell, Sveke, Yahner
Total	9-9	8-3	34-9	51-20	30-8	76-33	



## CATHERINE NEWMAN



# CATHERINE **NEWMAN**

Junior • 5-5 Greensboro, N.C. Page HS



## Coach Macdonald on Newman

"I look for Catherine to emerge as one of the best players in the country. She has worked really hard on her game and I think this junior year for her could be special."

**2007-08** (Sophomore): Finished the season ranked 51st in singles by the ITA ... second team All-SEC ... closed out fall campaign with a 10-3 record ... defeated TCU's Nina Munch-Soegaard in the first round of the Rivera/ITA Women's All-American Championships ... clinched Vanderbilt's win over then-No. 9 Notre Dame with a victory over No. 64 Brook Buck 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 ... advanced to the NCAA Singles Championships for the second straight year ... clinched the Commodores come-from-behind victory over No. 23 Kentucky in the second round of the NCAA Tournament with a 0-6, 7-6 (0), 6-2 win over Carolina Escamilla ... named to ESPN The Magazine District IV Academic All-American Second Team.

**2006-07 (Freshman):** Earned first team All-SEC honors after finishing season with a 9-2 conference record and 20-7 overall record ... finished the season ranked 40th in the ITA poll ... won first eight matches of fall season and finished with a 13-2 record ... teamed with Taka Bertrand in doubles and finished with a 19-6 overall record and 9-2 record in conference matches.

**Prep/Juniors:** 16s National Champion in 2004 ... finished high school career ranked 15th in USTA 18s, but ranked as high as No. 1 ... finished prep career undefeated ... all-state selection in tennis and soccer ... four-year letterwinner in tennis and soccer ... high school valedictorian ... chose Vanderbilt over Georgia, Georgia Tech and Virginia.

**Personal:** Catherine Newman ... born April 30, 1988 ... daughter of Sally and Chris Newman ... has three sisters, Caroline (18), Christin (17), and Claire (14)... majoring in civil engineering.



## Off the Court:

### Favorite:

Tennis Player: Pete Sampras

Book: Fountainhead
Movie: Finding Forrester
Music/Group: Goo Goo Dolls

City: Barcelona, Spain

Food: Pasta

Restaurant: Maggianos

## Why Vanderbilt:

Fit everything - tennis, location, academics

## **NEWMAN'S CAREER RECORD**

SINGLES								
Year	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	Dual SEC	Overall
2007-08		15-8					15-8 6-6	25-11
2006-07		2-1	15-5	2-0			19-6 10-3	33-9
Total		17-9	15-5	2-0			34-14 16-9	58-20
DOUBLES	5							
Year	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	Dual	SEC	Total	]	Partners
2007-08	4-3	12-5	0-0	16-8	6-6	23-12	Bertranc	l/Ferrell
2006-07	0-2	19-4		19-6	11-2	27-11	E	<u>Bertrand</u>
Total	4-5	31-9	0-0	35-14	17-8	50-23		

## HARRAH BLATT



## HANNAH **BLATT**

Junior • 5-6 Nashville, Tenn. Father Ryan HS



## Coach Macdonald on Blatt

"Hannah improved tremendously last spring. She is an incredibly hard worker and will have a lot of opportunities to make a big contribution this year."

**2007-08 (Sophomore):** Rejoined Commodore squad before the beginning of the spring season ... did not see action during spring.

**2006-07 (Freshman):** Played in four singles matches at the No. 6 position, compiling a 1-3 record ... finished with a 2-1 doubles record after teaming up with Taka Bertrand and Caroline Ferrell.

**Prep/Juniors**: Two-time Tennessean All Midstate Player of the Year (2005, 2006) ... ranked fifth in the USTA 18's southern region ... No. 45 national ranking in USTA's 18's ... ranked in the top-20 nationally in doubles ... four-year letterwinner in tennis and three-year letterwinner in softball ... chose Vanderbilt over Alabama, LSU and Georgia Tech.

**Personal**: Hannah Blatt ... born January 5, 1988 ... daughter of Maggie Corbin and Gregg Blatt, step-father is Vanderbilt Head Baseball Coach Tim Corbin ... has one sister, Molly (23) ... dad played basketball at South Carolina while mom played tennis at College of Charleston ... involved in habitat for humanity and Fellowship of Christian Athletes ... majoring in Human and Organizational Development.



## Off the Court:

### Favorite:

Tennis Player: Roger Federer

Food: Chicken Book: The Bible Other Sport: Baseball Movie: The Notebook Music/Group: Ben Harper

### Why Vanderbilt:

Great tennis program and excellent academics.

## **BLATT'S CAREER RECORD**

No. 4 No. 5 No. 6 Dual SEC Overall
1-3 1-3 9-3
1-3 1-3 9-3
Dual SEC Overall Partners
2-1 5-7 Bertrand/Ferrell
2-1 5-7

# KEILLY ULERY



## KEILLY **ULERY**

Sophomore • 5-6 Wellington, Fla. Pinnacle Academy



## Coach Macdonald on Keilly Ulery

"Keilly had one of the most impressive summer tournaments I have seen when she defeated a former NCAA Champion. Now that she has experience playing in the SEC she has the potential to be one of the best players in the country."

**2007-08 (Freshman):** Named to the SEC All-Freshman team after posting an impressive 9-2 conference record ... won six consecutive matches during the fall, including a win over No. 108 Jacqueline Lee of Iowa at the Hoosier Classic ... won flight at the June Stewart Invitational, defeating three opponents ... won eight straight SEC matches from March 7 - April 12 ... Ulery's 9-2 conference mark tied for the best SEC record on the team ... earned SEC Freshman of the Week honors after her 5-7, 6-1, 7-5 comeback victory over Kentucky's Whitney Spencer ... defeated Indiana State Fadzai Masiyazi in the first round of the NCAA Tournament ... earned first collegiate dual match victory over Colorado's Abbie Probert in straight sets.

**Prep/Juniors**: Finished her junior career ranked in the top 20 nationally ... finished in the top 12 of the Girls' 18 division at the 2007 USTA National Clay Court Championships ... chose Vanderbilt over Florida State, Miami, North Carolina and Washington.

**Personal**: Keilly Austin Ulery...born May 5, 1990...daughter of Lou and Bev Ulery...older sister Courtney, is a senior on the women's tennis team ... majoring in Human and Organizational Development.



## Off the Court:

### Favorite:

**Tennis Player:** Andy Murray **TV Show:** Anything on Bravo

City: San Diego

**Food:** everything, especially sweets **Music/Group:** Third Eye Blind

## Why Vanderbilt:

Combination of good academics, great tennis team and location of the school.

## **KEILLY ULERY'S CAREER RECORD**

 SINGLES

 Year
 No. 1
 No. 2
 No. 3
 No. 4
 No. 5
 No. 6
 Dual SEC
 Overall SEC

 2007-08
 15-7
 15-7
 9-2
 23-10

 Total
 15-7
 9-2
 23-10

DOUBLES

 Year
 No. 1
 No. 2
 No. 3
 Dual
 SEC
 Overall
 Partners

 2007-08
 12-10
 12-10
 6-6
 21-17
 Bertrand/Ferrell

 Total
 12-10
 12-10
 6-6
 21-17

## LEWCOMERS



## **CHELSEA PREEG**

Freshman • 5-5 Naples, Fla. Seacrest Country Day HS

Prep/Juniors: Established herself as one of the top-ranked junior players in the United States for the past eight years ... ranked No. 6 nationally in Girls 18s and as high as No. 1 ... won the Florida State Girls 18-and-under Championship at the age of 14 ... ranked as a fivestar, blue-chip recruit by tennisrecruiting.net ... chose Vanderbilt over Clemson, Duke, North Carolina and Northwestern ...

Personal: Chelsea Marie Preeg ... born December 11, 1989 ... daughter of John and Lisa Preeg ... has one sister, Jessica (20) ... majoring in Human and Organizational Development.

## Coach Macdonald on Preeg

"Chelsea is a very solid tennis player and we identified her as one of the best players in the country and feel very fortunate to have her at Vanderbilt."



## **ERICA ROBERTSON**

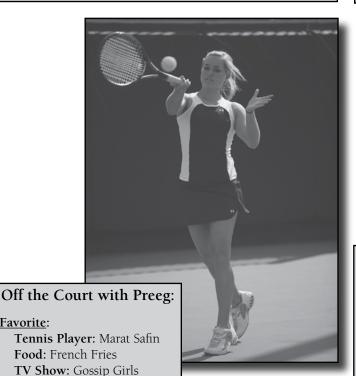
Freshman • 5-8 Watertown, Mass. Buckingham Browne & Nichols HS

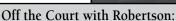
Prep/Juniors: Ranked No. 1 in the New England region in Girls 18s ... advanced to doubles quarterfinals in Girls 18 Easter Bowl ... ranked No. 58 in the nation and No. 1 in the state of Massachusetts by tennisrecruiting.net ... ITF South Carolina doubles quarterfinalist ... threetime ISL all-league performer ... four-year letterwinner in tennis ... chose Vanderbilt over Iowa and Missouri ...

Personal: Erica Robertson ... born November 27, 1990 ... daughter of Elbert and Dawn Robertson ... enjoys reading and culinary arts ... majoring in history.

## Coach Macdonald on Robertson

"Erica is a tremendously talented and gifted doubles player. I look for her to be one of the most improved players in the country this year."





### Favorite:

Tennis Player: Roger Federer Other Sport: Football Food: Southern Food TV Show: 30 Rock Movie: The Departed City: Boston

### Why Vanderbilt:

The combination of excellent academics, location and topnotch tennis program.



Favorite:

City: Houston, Texas

The excellent tennis program

Why Vanderbilt:

and good coaches.

## **Newcomers**



STEINBAUER Freshman • 5-8

The Woodlands, Texas The Woodlands College Park HS

Prep/Juniors: Won Texas State Championship in Class 5A ... ranked No. 1 in the state of Texas by tennisrecruiting.net ... top-30 national recruit according to tennisrecruiting.net ... ranked as high as No. 1 in the nation in doubles play as a junior ... reached the finals of the Junior National Open in May 2007 ... chose Vanderbilt over Florida State, Georgia Tech, North Carolina and TCU.

Personal: Heather Maree Steinbauer ... born September 25, 1989 ... daughter of Mark and Lisa Steinbauer ... has two sisters, Sarah (16), Rachel (13) ... enjoys playing ping-pong ... majoring in Human and Organizational Development.

## Coach Macdonald on Steinbauer

"Heather is extremely athletic and an excellent competitor who excels in both singles and doubles. We identifed her as a diamond-in-the-rough recruit and are excited to have her."



## Off the Court with Steinbauer:

### Favorite:

Tennis Player: Marat Safin Other Sport: Baseball Food: Poppy seed chicken TV Show: Gossip Girl, Friends

City: Naples, Fla.

## Why Vanderbilt:

Great tennis program and coaches.



Freshman • 5-5 Holmdel, NJ Holmdel HS

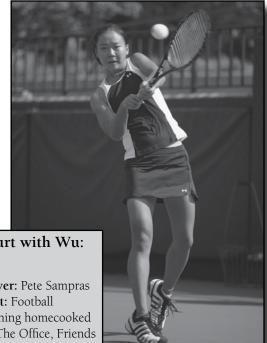


Prep/Juniors: Finished high school career ranked in the top-50 nationally in Girls' 18's ... top-ranked player in the state of New Jersey, according to tennisrecruiting.net ... advanced to semi-finals of 2007 International Grass Court Championships ... member of the victorious east region team that won the 2006 USTA National Girls' 18 Team Championship ... five-star recruit according to tennisrecruiting.net ... top-ranked player in the eastern region of Girls 18's ... coached in high school by Chuck Chelednik.

Personal: Jackie Wu ... born September 13, 1990 ... daughter of David and Jane Wu ... has one sister, Katherine (21) ... undecided on major.

## Coach Macdonald on Wu

"Jackie has played a lot of professional tennis as an amateur and has been very successful at it. She is a superb technical player and I think she will be an impact player for us."



## Off the Court with Wu:

### Favorite:

Tennis Player: Pete Sampras Other Sport: Football Food: Anything homecooked TV Show: The Office, Friends City: New York City

### Why Vanderbilt:

The beautiful campus and great college environment.



# 2007-08 Review

## 2007-08 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- The Commodores advanced to the NCAA Round of 16 for the 11th straight year as they defeated No. 70 Indiana State and No. 23 Kentucky before falling to sixth-ranked Florida
- Senior Amanda Taylor was named to the ITA All-American singles team, becoming the fifth All-American singles player in school history.
- Taka Bertrand and Amanda Taylor were named to the All-SEC first team. It was Bertrand's second-time being named to the first team, while Taylor earned the honor for the third straight year.

- Sophomore Catherine Newman was named to the All-SEC Second Team while freshman Keilly Ulery was named to the SEC All-Freshman team.
- Vanderbilt posted dual wins over 11 teams ranked inside the top-50, including victories over then-No. 2 Georgia Tech and then-No. 9 Notre Dame.
- The Commodores won six straight SEC matches from March 9 April 4 and finished with a 7-4 record in conference play, tying for third place overall.
- Vanderbilt finished the season with a 20-6 record, ranking 10th nationally in the final ITA rankings.



Date	Opponent	Result	Record
1-16-08	UT-Martin	W, 7-0	1-0
1-18-08	at No. 67 New Mexico	W, 5-2	2-0
1-20-08	No. 38 Colorado	W, 7-0	3-0
1-25-08	No. 23 Michigan	W, 7-0	4-0
1-26-08	No. 9 Notre Dame	W, 4-3	5-0
2-15-08	ETSU	W, 6-1	6-0
2-20-08	MTSU	W, 7-0	7-0
2-29-08	at No. 7 Florida	L, 2-5	7-1, 0-1
3-2-08	at No. 30 South Carolina	L, 3-4	7-2, 0-2
3-5-08	at No. 2 Georgia Tech	W, 4-3	8-2, 0-2
3-7-08	No. 30 Arkansas	L, 2-5	8-3, 0-3
3-9-08	No. 21 LSU	W, 7-0	9-3, 1-3
3-13-08	No. 65 Furman	W, 7-0	10-3 1-3
3-14-08	No. 41 Florida Intl.	W, 5-4	11-3, 1-3
3-21-08	No. 30 Auburn	W, 5-2	12-3, 2-3
3-23-08	at Alabama	W, 4-3	13-3, 3-3
3-28-08	at Ole Miss	W, 7-0	14-3, 4-3
3-30-08	at No. 63 Mississippi State	W, 4-2	15-3, 5-3
4-4-08	No. 17 Tennessee	W, 7-0	16-3, 6-3
4-6-08	No. 10 Georgia	L, 3-4	16-4, 6-4
4-12-08	No. 23 Kentucky	W, 5-2	17-4, 7-4
4-18-08	!vs. No. 24 Tennessee	W, 4-0	18-4, 7-4
4-19-08	!vs. No. 5 Florida	L, 2-4	18-5, 7-4
5-9-08	#vs. No. 70 Indiana State	W, 4-0	19-5, 7-4
5-10-08	#vs. No. 23 Kentucky	W, 4-3	20-5, 7-4
5-15-08	\$vs. No. 6 Florida	L, 1-4	20-6, 7-4

- ! SEC Tournament (Auburn, Ala.)
- # NCAA Regionals (Nashville, Tenn.)
- \$ NCAA Championships (Tulsa, Okla.)

## 2007-08 Singles Records

Player	No.1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	Dual	SEC	All
Bertrand	0-0	0-0	14-1	8-2	0-0	0-0	22-3	9-2	30-7
Blatt	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Ferrell	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	2-0	16-8	18-8	6-5	25-12
Kilborn	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-1	0-0	10-5
Newman	0-0	15-8	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	15-8	6-5	25-12
Taylor	20-4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	20-4	8-3	27-9
C. Ulery	0-0	0-0	8-2	8-7	0-0	0-0	16-9	5-6	29-9
K. Ulery	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	15-7	0-0	15-7	9-2	23-10

## 2007-08 Doubles Records

Players	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	Dual	SEC	All
Bertrand/Newman	4-3	4-0	0-0	8-3	0-2	15-7
Bertrand/K. Ulery	0-0	0-0	9-4	9-4	6-4	9-4
Taylor/C. Ulery	9-7	6-1	0-0	15-8	7-3	21-14
Ferrell/Kilborn	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-1	0-0	7-3
Ferrell/K. Ulery	0-0	0-0	4-6	4-6	0-2	5-8
Ferrell/Newman	0-0	8-5	0-0	8-5	6-4	8-5



Senior Courtney Ulery set a school record by winning 20 consecutive singles matches last season.

# SERIES HISTORY

Alabama (18-15)	3/10/1983 L 0-9	2006 W 5-2	2000 W 6-3	4/28/1995 L 1-5
1976 L 0-9	4/29/1983 L 0-6	2006 W 4-2	2001 W 6-1	3/24/1996 L 4-5
1978 L 1-8				
1979 L 1-8				
1980 L 2-7	4/8/1985 L 1-8	4/6/2008 L 3-4	2003 W 7-0	3/4/1998 W 5-4
1982 L 4-5	3/15/1986 L 1-8		2004 W 7-0	5/16/1998 W 5-0
1982 W 8-1	2/26/1987 L 0-9	Georgia Tech (10-2)	2005 W 4-3	3/26/1999 L 3-6
1983 L 3-6	3/27/1988 L 0-9	3/18/1984 W 5-4	2006 W 4-0	4/23/1999 L 3-5
1983 W 5-4	3/11/1989 L 0-9	3/3/1986 W 5-4	3/11/2007 W 5-2	4/14/2000 W 6-3
1984 L 3-6	4/8/1990 L 0-6	3/3/1989 L 3-6	3/9/2008 W 7-0	4/21/2000 W 5-3
1985 W 5-4	3/6/1991 L 1-8	2/20/1994 W 6-0	3/3/2000 11 / 0	4/6/2001 W 6-0
4/12/1986 W 6-3	4/12/1992 L 0-9	1/28/2001 W 6-1	Miss. State (21-7)	3/15/2002 W 6-1
2/20/1987 L 1-8			• •	
3/26/1988 L 4-5	3/3/1993 L 0-9	1/25/2002 W 6-1	4/27/1983 W 5-3	3/14/2003 W 7-0
3/26/1989 L 3-6	4/10/1994 L 1-5	2/15/2003 W 6-1	11/12/1983 W 7-2	3/7/2004 W 4-3
4/26/1990 L 1-5 4/20/1991 L 2-5	4/29/1994 L 1-5	3/19/2004 W 6-1	3/23/1984 L 3-6	3/13/2005 L 2-5
3/29/1991 L 2-3 3/29/1992 L 3-5	2/19/1995 L 0-6	2/26/2005 W 7-0	3/4/1985 W 8-1	4/9/2006 W 5-2
4/18/1993 L 0-7	4/14/1996 L 0-9	3/7/2006 L 0-7	3/22/1986 L 2-7	4/8/2007 W 5-2
3/2/1994 L 4-5	4/28/1996 L 0-6	2/22/2007 W 5-2	3/27/1987 L 2-7	3/2/2008 L 3-4
4/23/1995 W 5-1	2/1/1997 L 1-8	3/5/2008 W 4-3	4/23/1988 L 2-7	3/2/2000 E 3 1
3/16/1996 W 6-1		3/3/2000 W 1-3		Tennessee (19-28)
3/21/1997 W 6-3		Vantual (10.10)		, ,
3/15/1998 W 8-1	2/28/1999 L 2-7	Kentucky (19-19)	4/1/1990 L 3-5	2/26/1977 L 2-6
3/20/1999 W 7-2	4/1/2000 L 2-7	Results before 1990 unavailable	3/2/1991 L 0-6	3/27/1977 L 0-9
2/27/2000 W 8-1	4/22/2000 L 2-5	4/13/1990 L 0-9	4/10/1992 W 5-4	3/23/1979 L 3-6
3/31/2001 W 6-1	4/18/2001 L 0-4	1/31/1991 L 1-8	4/16/1993 W 6-0	3/4/1980 L 1-8
4/7/2002 W 6-1	3/17/2002 L 3-4	2/1/1992 L 3-6	4/15/1994 W 6-0	2/13/1981 L 3-6
4/6/2003 W 5-2	4/20/2002 L 3-4	2/15/1993 L 0-6	4/26/1995 W 5-1	4/25/1981 L 0-9
3/26/2004 W 7-0	3/16/2003 W 4-3	2/13/1994 L 4-5	4/12/1996 W 9-0	10/30/1981 L 4-5
4/1/2005 W 6-1	5/16/2003 L 0-4	2/10/1995 W 7-2	3/22/1997 W 6-1	4/10/1982 L 1-8
3/3/2006 W 4-3				
3/2/2007 W 7-0	3/5/2004 L 1-6			4/9/1983 L 2-7
3/23/2008 W 4-3	4/18/2004 L 0-4	2/12/1997 W 6-3	3/14/1998 W 8-1	4/7/1984 W 5-4
	3/11/2005 W 4-3	4/11/1998 L 2-7	3/21/1999 W 5-1	11/2/1984 W 6-3
Arkansas (17-4)	4/23/2005 L 1-4	4/16/1999 W 5-4	3/4/2000 W 6-3	11/12/1984 W 6-3
Match results unavailable	4/7/2006 L 2-5	3/7/2000 W 7-2	4/1/2001 W 8-1	4/20/1985 W 5-4
	4/6/2007 L 3-4	2/6/2001 W 7-0	3/8/2002 W 7-0	2/21/1986 L 4-5
Auburn (19-13)	4/21/2007 L 1-4	4/20/2001 W 4-3	3/7/2003 W 7-0	2/1/1987 W 6-3
1981 L 3-6	2/29/2008 L 2-5	4/14/2002 W 7-0	2/29/2004 W 7-0	3/30/1988 L 3-6
1982 W 7-2	4/19/2008 L 2-4			4/7/1989 L 0-9
1982 L 2-7	5/15/2008 L 1-4	4/10/2004 W 5-2	3/26/2006 W 7-0	4/4/1990 L 2-7
1983 L 2-7		4/17/2004 L 0-4	3/25/2007 W 6-1	4/11/1991 L 1-5
1983 L 2-7	Furman (6-2)	4/16/2005 W 4-3	3/30/2008 W 4-2	4/25/1991 L 0-5
1983 L 1-5	Match results unavailable	4/15/2006 W 4-2		3/31/1992 L 0-6
1984 L 3-6		4/14/2007 W 6-1	MTSU (26-3)	2/20/1993 L 1-5
1985 L 3-6	Georgia (7-25)	4/20/2007 W 4-2	Match results unavailable	2/9/1994 W 7-2
1986 L 2-7	1983 L 4-5	4/12/2008 W 5-2	materi resures unavariable	3/26/1995 L 2-5
	1984 L 1-8		New Mexico (2-0)	4/10/1996 W 6-3
		5/10/2008 W 4-3	* /	
1988 L 2-7	1985 L 4-5	1011 (10.14)	1/18/2008 W 5-2	4/6/1997 L 4-5
1989 L 3-6	1986 L 0-9	LSU (18-14)	/>	4/1/1998 W 6-3
1991 L 3-6	1987 L 1-8	1979 L 1-8	Notre Dame (7-2)	4/17/1998 L 4-5
1992 W 5-1	1988 L 1-8	1979 L 1-8	1/20/1996 L 4-5	5/17/1998 L 4-5
1993 L 4-5	1989 L 0-9	1982 W 6-3	2/22/1997 W 5-0	3/11/1999 L 4-5
1994 W 5-3	1990 L 0-9	1982 L 4-5	2/18/1998 W 5-4	2/18/2000 W 6-1
1995 W 5-4	1991 L 0-6	1983 L 0-9	2/8/2002 W 5-2	3/29/2000 W 7-2
1996 W 5-1	1992 L 0-6	1984 L 3-6	5/10/2003 W 4-0	
1997 W 7-2	1993 L 2-5	1985 L 3-6	1/23/2005 W 6-1	4/21/2001 L 3-4
1998 W 9-0	1994 L 0-8	1986 L 1-8	3/29/2006 W 4-3	3/3/2002 W 4-3
1999 W 5-1	1995 L 0-5	1987 L 1-8	1/28/2007 L 3-4	5/16/2002 L 2-4
2000 W 6-3	1996 W 5-4	1988 W 7-2	1/26/2008 W 4-3	3/2/2003 L 3-4
2001 W 6-1	1996 L 3-5	1989 L 4-5		4/18/2003 L 1-4
2002 W 7-0	1997 L 0-6	1990 L 1-7	Ole Miss	5/15/2003 W 4-3
2002 W 4-0	1998 L 1-6	1991 L 1-6	No records available	4/2/2004 W 5-2
2002 W 5-0	1999 L 1-5	1992 W 5-4	110 records available	5/20/2004 W 4-1
			S Carolina (14 11)	
2003 W 7-0	2000 L 1-6	1992 L 0-5	S. Carolina (14-11)	4/8/2005 L 2-5
2004 W 7-0	2001 W 4-3	1993 L 0-9	1980 L 1-8	3/31/2006 W 7-0
2005 W 7-0	2002 L 1-4	1994 W 5-1	3/5/1986 L 2-7	3/30/2007 W 4-3
2006 W 7-0	2002 L 3-4	1995 W 5-4	2/18/1989 L 3-6	5/12/2007 W 4-0
3/4/2007 W 5-2	2003 L 3-4	1996 W 6-1	2/14/1992 L 2-6	4/4/2008 W 7-0
3/21/2008 W 5-2	2004 W 4-3	1996 W 5-2	3/11/1993 W 5-3	4/18/2008 W 4-0
5,21,2000 VV J-2				., 10, 2000 11 10
	$2004$ W $4_{-}1$	1997 I 4 <sub>-</sub> 5	4/29/1993 W 5-1	
Florida (2-36)	2004 W 4-1 2005 L 1-4	1997 L 4-5 1998 W 7-2	4/29/1993 W 5-1 2/26/1994 L 4-5	

1999

2005

3/6/1980 L 0-9

6-3

3/9/1995

6-2

# NGAA HISTORY/HORORS

## ITA ALL-AMERICANS







Kate Burson 1999-2002



Sarah Riske 2000-2003



Aleke Tsoubanos 2001-2004



Kelly Schmandt 2001-2004



Audra Falk 2002-2005



Amanda Fish 2004-2007



Amanda Taylor 2005-2008

## **NCAA Appearances**

NCAA A	<u>ppearances</u>
Year	Finish
1995	First Round
1996	Round of 16
1997	Second Round
1998	Round of 16
1999	Round of 16
2000	Round of 16
2001	Runner Up
2002	Round of 16
2003	Quarterfinals
	Final Four
2005	Round of 16
2006	Round of 16
2007	Round of 16
2008	Round of 16

## All-Time NCAA Results

1995

Pepperdine 5, Vanderbilt 1

1996

Vanderbilt 5, TCU 1 Vanderbilt 5, LSU 2 Vanderbilt 5, Texas A&M 3 UCLA 5, Vanderbilt 3

1997

Vanderbilt 5, Florida State 0 South Alabama 5, Vanderbilt 4

1998

Vanderbilt 6, Florida State 0 Vanderbilt 5, South Carolina 0 Tennessee 5, Vanderbilt 3

1999

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 6, Loyola (Md.) 0 Vanderbilt 5, Kentucky 0 NCAA Championships Site: Gainesville, Fla. Florida 5, Vanderbilt 0

2000

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 5, Alcorn State 0 Vanderbilt 6, VCU 0 NCAA Championships Site: Malibu, Calif. California 5, Vanderbilt 1

2001

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 4, Murray State 0

Vanderbilt 4, Florida International 0

NCAA Championships Site: Stone Mountain, Ga. Vanderbilt 4, UCLA 1 Vanderbilt 4, Duke 1 Vanderbilt 4, Georgia 2

Stanford 4, Vanderbilt 0

1st and 2nd Round

2002

**Site: Nashville, Tenn.**Vanderbilt 5, Murray State 0
Vanderbilt 4, Auburn 0

Vanderbilt 4, Auburn 0 NCAA Championships Site: Palo Alto, Calif. Tennessee 4, Vanderbilt 2

2003

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 4, Boston Univ. 0 Vanderbilt 4, Notre Dame 0 NCAA Championships Site: Gainesville, Fla. Vanderbilt 4, Tennessee 3 Florida 4, Vanderbilt 0

2004 1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn.
Vanderbilt 4, IUPUI 0
Vanderbilt 4, Florida State 1
NCAA Championships
Site: Athens, Ga.
Vanderbil 4, Tennessee 1
Vanderbilt 4, Georgia 1
Stanford 4, Vanderbilt 0

2005

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 5, Tennessee-Martin 0 Vanderbilt 4, South Alabama 0

NCAA Championships Site: Stanford, Calif.

North Carolina 4, Vanderbilt 0

2006

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 4, ETSU 0 Vanderbilt 4, Georgia 2 NCAA Championships Site: Palo Alto, Calif. Baylor 4, Vanderbilt 2

200

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 4, Murray State 0 Vanderbilt 4, Tennessee 0 NCAA Championships Site: Athens, Ga. Stanford 4, Vanderbilt 0

2008

1st and 2nd Round Site: Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt 4, Indiana State 0 Vanderbilt 4, Kentucky 3 NCAA Championships Site: Tulsa, Okla. Florida 4, Vanderbilt 1

## SCHOOL RECORDS

## All-Americans

## **Singles**

Player	Year
Amanda Taylor	2008
Amanda Fish	2006
Audra Falk (2)	2004, 05
Sarah Riske (2)	2002, 03
Julie Ditty (2)	1999, 2001

## **Doubles**

Players	Year
Fish/Taylor	. 2007
Schmandt/Tsoubanos	. 2004
Riske/Tsoubanos (2)200	02, 03
Ditty/Burson	. 2001

## **Commodore Records**

## Consecutive win streak – singles: 20 - Courtney Ulery ('07-08)

Consecutive win streak – doubles team: 15 - Kelly Schmandt/Aleke Tsoubanos ('04)

## Most Singles Wins (Career):

124 - Taka Bertrand (2004-08)

## Best Singles Win Percentage (Career):

.822 - Kelly Schmandt (2000-04)

## Most Doubles Wins (One Player):

119 – Aleke Tsoubanos (2000-04)

## Best Doubles Win Percentage (Career):

.820 - Aleke Tsoubanos (2000-04)

### Singles Wins (Season):

31 - Julie Ditty ('98, '99) Kristen Radford ('98)

## Best Singles Win Percentage (Season):

.852 - Kelly Schmandt ('03)

### Most Doubles Wins (One Player):

37 - Audra Falk ('04)

## Best Doubles Win Percentage (One Player):

.880 - Audra Falk ('04)



Aleke Tsoubanos and Sarah Riske were named ITA Doubles All-Americans in 2002 and 2003.

## Most Doubles Wins in a Season (Team):

32 - Sarah Riske/Aleke Tsoubanos ('03) Kelly Schmandt/Aleke Tsoubanos ('04)

## Best Doubles Win Percentage (Team):

86% - Audra Falk/Annie Menees ('04)

### Wins in a season:

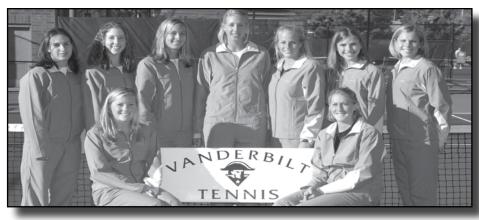
27 (2001-02)

### Consecutive win streak:

12 (2001-02, 2006-07)

## Consecutive SEC matches won:

9 (2003-04)



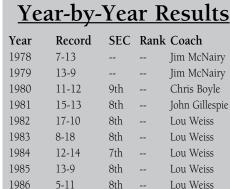
2004

2005

26-4

22-6

The 2001 Commodore Women's Tennis Team holds the record for most wins in a season (27) and most consecutive wins (12).



8th

Lou Weiss

Geoff Macdonald

Geoff Macdonald

1987 5-9 9th Bill Tym 1988 7-8 Bill Tym 7th 1989 3-18 10th --Bill Tym 1990 6-12 10th Bill Tym 1991 10-11 10th --Peggy Omohundro 1992 11-9 Peggy Omohundro 7th 1993 9-12 7th Peggy Omohundro 1994 14-6 6th Peggy Omohundro

1995 Geoff Macdonald 16-8 16 5th 1996 24-7 10 Geoff Macdonald 2nd 1997 15-10 15 Geoff Macdonald 6th 1998 20-8 3rd 12 Geoff Macdonald 1999 20-9 13 Geoff Macdonald

5th 2000 22-6 3rd 11 Geoff Macdonald 2001 4 Geoff Macdonald 26-5 3rd 2002 27-5 7 Geoff Macdonald 3rd 2003 21-6 5th 13 Geoff Macdonald

2006 Geoff Macdonald 23-5 3rd 12 2007 19-9 Geoff Macdonald 3rd 2008 20-6 T3rd 10 Geoff Macdonald

1st 2

2nd 8

**Total** 467-290 (.617) (31 Seasons)

## LETTERWINERS

ADAMS, Monnie	A19861985-88
	В
BARROW, Jeanne BEATTIE, Winnie BENSONHAVER, Jill. BERTRAND, Taka BLUMBERG, Kristy BREGIN, Susan BROWN, Sarah BROWN, Wendy	
	C
CARMICHAEL, Wend CHERRY, Diana CHILES, Meredith	1984 ly 1991 1986 1994-96 1996-99
	D
DITTY, Julie DODDS, Michelle DONATH, Valerie	
	Е
ELLIS, Brittian	E1988-91
FARRINGTON, Robyt FEDLER, Shannon FENTON, Jill FERRELL, Caroline FISH, Amanda	F
	G
GLOVER, Charlotte	
HALL, Cindy	H
HARPER, Eloise HARVEY, Jennifer HILTON, Susan	H
HARPER, Eloise HARVEY, Jennifer HILTON, Susan	
HARPER, Eloise HARVEY, Jennifer HILTON, Susan HOLDER, Tricia JAMISON, Liz JOHNSON, Libby JOHNSTONE, Erica	
HARPER, Eloise HARVEY, Jennifer HILTON, Susan HOLDER, Tricia JAMISON, Liz JOHNSON, Libby JOHNSTONE, Erica	1981 1999-00 1986-89 1981 1987 J 1981-82 1990 1992 1988-91
HARPER, Eloise HARVEY, Jennifer HILTON, Susan HOLDER, Tricia  JAMISON, Liz JOHNSON, Libby JOHNSTONE, Erica JONES, Courtney	

LYNCH, Kristin.....1988-91



Current WTA professional and former Commodore, Julie Ditty, recorded 114 singles wins for Vanderbilt, ranking second in school history.



Amanda Fish was named an ITA All-American in singles and earned first team All-SEC in 2006.

M
MAXEY, Jan1981-82
MAXEY, Jan
McANDLESS, Megan
McMEANS, Blaire2000
MELHEROVA, Zuzana1998, 00
MENEES, Annie2001-05
MILLER, Jenny1998-02
MOORMAN, Elizabeth1982-85
MORELOS, Leah
MOSS, Laura
11000, Eddid
N
NEWMAN, Catherine2007-
11L WMM11, Catherine2007-
P
PALMISANO, Michelle1997
PARRISH, Holly
PETERS, Laurel
PLESSINGER, Anne1997-00
Q QUKU, Kelly1986
QUKU, Kelly1986
R
RADFORD, Kristen1998-99
RAJA, Deena
RISKE, Sarah2000-03
ROBINS, Bekki
ROSE, Lauren
RYAN, Staci
RUPERT, Beth
KUFEKI, Delli1902-03
S
SCOTT, Kori         2000-03           SCHELLHAS, Ashley         2002-04
SCHELLHAS, Ashley2002-04
SCHIFF, Kim
SCHMANDT, Kelly
SHANDS, Elizabeth
SHELFER, Spencer
STAUFFER, Denise
SVEKE, Liberty
SWEETEN, Katie2000-03
T
TAMBORELLO, Liz1982-85
TAYLOR, Amanda2004-08
TSOUBANOS, Aleke2001-04
U
URBAN, Jennifer1992-94
ULERY, Courtney
ULERY, Keilly
- ,,
$\mathbf{W}$
WEPFER, Janet1981
WYLY, Susan
WILI, Jusaii1990
Y
YAHNER, Maggie
YOUNG, Valerie1989-92
* C Dl . 1 . 1 . 1 . 1
* Current Players listed in bold
RECORDS FROM 1981-PRESENT

Records from 1981-Present

## **SEC Honors**

SEC Player of the Year Taka Bertrand2006
SEC Coach of the Year Geoff Macdonald
First Team All-SEC
Catherine Newman
Amanda Taylor (3)2006, 07, 08
Taka Bertrand (2)2006, 08
Second Team All-SEC
Catherine Newman2008
Taka Bertrand2007
Caroline Ferrell

First Team - Singles*	
Amanda Fish	2005
Audra Falk (2)	.2002, 05
Aleke Tsoubanos	2002
Kate Burson	2001
Kelly Schmandt	2001
Jenny Miller (2)	.2000, 02
Kathryn Bumstead (2)	
Bekki Robbins	1984
Elizabeth Moorman (2)	.1983, 85

Courtney Ulery......2006



Audra Falk earned All-SEC First Team honors in singles twice (2002, 05) and All-SEC First team honors in doubles once (2003).

Second Team - Singles	
Taka Bertrand	2005
Amanda Taylor	2005
Audra Falk	



Vanderbilt senior Taka Bertrand was named SEC Player of the Year in 2006, becoming the first Vanderbilt women's tennis player to earn the honor.

Aleke Tsoubanos	2004
Sarah Riske (2)	
Julie Ditty	2001
Jenny Miller	2000
Julie Ditty (2)	
Callie Creighton	1997
Meredith Chiles	1996

## First Team - Doubles

Kelly Schmandt/Aleke Tsoubanos... 2004 Audra Falk/Kelly Schmandt...... 2003 Sarah Riske/Aleke Tsoubanos ... 2003 Jenny Miller/Kelly Schmandt .... 2002 Spencer Shelfer/Kimberly Draud .... 1994

## Second Team - Doubles

Taka Bertrand/Amanda Fish	. 2005
Sarah Riske/Aleke Tsoubanos	. 2003
Kate Burson/Annie Menees	2002
Julie Ditty/Kate Burson	2001
,	

**SEC Player of the Week** 

Amanda Taylor (2)	
	2/8/2007
Amanda Fish (3)	4/4/2006
	4/18/2006
	1/24/2005
Taka Bertrand (3)	3/12/2008
	2/21/2006
	2/7/2006
Audra Falk (2)	2/28/2005
Sarah Riske	3/10/2003

Aleke Tsoubanos	3/13/2001
Courtney Ulery	1/28/2008

\*2006 was the first year the doubles and singles categories were eliminated for All-SEC honorees.



Vanderbilt's Amanda Taylor earned First-Team All-SEC honors for the third consecutive season in 2008.

## **All-Time SEC Finishes**

2008	T3rd
2007	3rd
2006	2nd
2005	T2nd
2004	2nd
2003	5th
2002	3rd
2001	3rd
2000	3rd
1999	5th
1998	3rd
1997	6th
1996	2nd
1995	5th
1994	7th
1993	9th
1992	9th
1991	10th
1990	10th
1989	10th
1988	7th
1987	9th
1986	8th
1985	8th
1984	7th
1983	8th
1982	8th
1981	
1980	

# ommodores In The Pros

### JULIE DITTY FILE

Degree

Bachelor of Arts

Early Childhood Education, 2002

Hometown

Ashland, Ky.

Hiah School

Russell

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

2007-present . . . . .

Sony Ericsson WTA Tour

**2002-06** . . . . . . . . . . . USTA / ITF

Won eight singles titles and 23 doubles titles on ITF Circuit



## Former Commodore Enjoying Life On WIA Tour

Julie Ditty is enjoying her time playing on the world's biggest tennis stage. The former Commodore standout is striving to reach her personal goals on the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour.

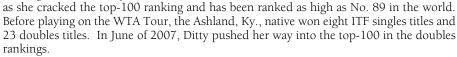
Ditty started playing professionally on the International Tennis Federation circuit during the summers while she was an undergraduate student.

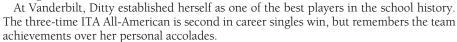
With Ditty's WTA Tour ranking rapidly improving over the last 12 months, it allowed

her to play in some of the biggest stages on the professional circuit. Ditty has played in all four of the tour's grand slam tournaments: French Open, Australian Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open.

In September 2007, Ditty had the opportunity to face off against one of the best American tennis players in Lindsay Davenport during the quarterfinals of the Bali Open in Nusa Dua, Indonesia.

Ditty reached one of her career goals earlier this year





Ditty's most memorable moment of her college career was playing tennis in the NCAA finals her senior year.

"Playing against Stanford for the National Championship is something I will never for-

get; it was an amazing experience. We had a great team that year and we were all really good friends."

"Vanderbilt was a great experience for me and I loved the team we had there. Macdonald Coach was a great coach and fun to play for."



Other Commodores that have played in the pro ranks



Sarah Riske



**Kelly Schmandt** 



Amanda Taylor Aleke Tsoubanos





## THE UNIVERSITY

## First-Year Students Enjoy Rare Collegiate Living Experience

This year, Vanderbilt officially opened The Commons, providing first-year students with one of the nation's truly unique and modern on-campus residential communities.

Built on six acres in the southeast quadrant of the Vanderbilt campus, The Commons includes ten residence halls or Houses, spacious study and social areas, and the showpiece Commons Center, a modern dining and activity hub, all located on the Peabody campus.

Vanderbilt officials believe The Commons will provide first-year students a truly special living/learning experience. Bringing



## Macdonald on the Commons:

"The Commons is an extraordinary vision that puts Vanderbilt into its own class as a University. It's an outstanding living and learning community for freshmen and I think it makes Vanderbilt an exciting and unique university."



scholars, leaders, teachers and learners together to create a vibrant intellectual community is at the heart of The Commons. It will be home to both new students and an extraordinary connection of people, ideas and opportunities that distinguish the Vanderbilt experience.

The Commons Center also features the Eatery, the place to dine with friends and study with classmates. At the Commons Cafe, students, faculty and staff can develop friendships while listening to Vanderbilt and Nashville musicians.

While all new students to Vanderbilt will reside in The Commons, plans are underway to eventually replace or renovate existing facilities to complete College Halls at Vanderbilt, the university's future residential college system.



## OUTSTANDING FACILITIES

he Brownlee O. Currey Jr. Tennis Center was completed in November 1993. With the opening of its doors, the Vanderbilt tennis program provides one of the finest tennis facilities in the nation for varsity collegiate tennis.

"The Currey Tennis Center really gives Vanderbilt an edge on other schools," Head Coach Geoff Macdonald said. "The facility is equipped with everything, from home and visiting locker rooms, to a team conference room to cameras on every court. With amenities like these, Currey is one of the finest indoor facilities in the country."

2008 marked the ninth consecutive year the site was chosen for the NCAA Tournament Regionals, but the facility also hosts various local events such as the Music City Classic.

In fall of 2008, the Currey Tennis Center underwent major renovations with the resurfacing of the indoor and outside courts. Individual scoreboards were installed on all five of the indoor courts. The outside courts feature a new 27-foot wide scoreboard, allowing spectators to see the score of all six matches.

Plans for the new tennis center were unveiled in April 1993 when former Director of Athletics Paul Hoolahan announced that a \$2.2 million project was being made possible by the generous benefactors of Vanderbilt tennis. Nashville businessman Brownlee O. Currey Jr. spearheaded the fundraising for the project. Additional gifts were made by the Joe. C. Davis Foundation, Kermit Stengel, the Fleming Foundation and Joanne Fleming Hayes.

The previous tennis center, which had provided three indoor courts, underwent several changes throughout the renovation. A two-story, 16,000-square-foot addition was made to the existing indoor structure, providing enough space for five indoor courts.

The lower level of the facility houses spacious locker rooms for both varsity teams as well as a training room and locker room space for visitors.

A special feature of the center is a state-of-the-art audio/visual room, also located on the second floor. Small video cameras are mounted at the north end of each indoor playing court, allowing the coaches to monitor and record matches in progress on all five courts. The A/V room also serves as a classroom for the coaches and their teams.

In addition to the changes of the interior of the tennis center, the building was given an exterior face lift as well. Its red-brick exterior now matches the architecture of many buildings on the Vanderbilt campus.





## CURREY TENNIS CENTER

undraising for the renovations of the outdoor tennis courts began in 2001, and five years later Vanderbilt tennis fans are throughly enjoying their world-class facility.

The \$5 million project was completed just in time for the beginning of the 2005 tennis season, where the team advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 for the seventh consecutive year.

The new outdoor complex at the Brownlee O. Currey Jr. Tennis Center includes 10 lighted courts and seating for more than 1,000 spectators. The new facility also features concession areas and restrooms.

One of the more important factors in designing the new courts was that of comfort, both to coaches and

players as well as fans. As a result the six varsity courts are side by side, so coaches can freely move to any court during a match. In addition, the court layout allows fans to enjoy a great view from any seat, including the various picnic tables around the courts.

The fan-friendly design of the courts makes weekday afternoon matches a popular destination for students as well as Vanderbilt Athletic staff members located in the McGugin Center just a few yards away.

One of the most dazzling features of the new facility is its state-of-the-art lighting system. The courts house some of the most powerful lights on the market so matches can be easily televised at night.



Members of the Commodore baseball team take a break to watch SEC Tennis action at the newly renovated outdoor facilities.



## ADMINISTRATION



## Nicholas S. Zeppos Chancellor

Nicholas S. Zeppos was named Vanderbilt University's eighth chancellor on March 1, 2008. An avid fan of Vanderbilt athletics, Zeppos served as the role of faculty representative for the Commodore athletics program before his ascension to the chancellorship.

A distinguished legal scholar, teacher and executive, Zeppos served from 2002 to 2008 as Vanderbilt's chief ac-

ademic officer, overseeing the university's undergraduate, graduate, and professional education programs and research in liberal arts and sciences, engineering, music, education, business, law, and divinity. As provost and vice chancellor, he chairs Vanderbilt's budgeting and capital planning council and leads all fundraising and alumni relations efforts across the institution, as well as overseeing the dean of students and dean of admissions.

Zeppos has led a number of important initiatives at Vanderbilt, including the planning process for The Commons, a landmark transformation of the first-year experience; the Strategic Academic Planning Group; innovative efforts in undergraduate admissions and financial aid; and the development of new programs in Jewish studies, law and economics, and genetics, among others. He also has led the university's Shape the Future fund-raising campaign, which exceeded its \$1.25 billion goal two years ahead of schedule and set a new target of \$1.75 billion by 2010.

Zeppos joined Vanderbilt in 1987 as an assistant professor in the Law School, where he has been recognized with five teaching awards. He subsequently served as an associate dean and then as associate provost before being named provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs in 2002, and served as interim chancellor from August 1, 2007 until March 1, 2008, when he was appointed chancellor.

From 1982-1987, Zeppos practiced law in Washington, D.C., at the United States Department of Justice and Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, where he specialized in appellate litigation involving complex regulatory, statutory, and constitutional matters. He has written widely on legislation, administrative law, and professional responsibility, and is a nationally recognized scholar in these fields. He served as chair for the Scholars Committee, advising the Senate and the ABA on the confirmation of Justice Stephen Breyer, and as chair of the Rules Advisory Committee of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He has also served as a consultant to government agencies, major corporations, and trade associations on complex litigation, policy design, and strategy.

Zeppos is a 1979 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School where he served as editor in chief of the Wisconsin Law Review and was selected as the outstanding graduate of his class, and a 1976 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Wisconsin where he studied history.

He is married to Lydia Ann Howarth, a graduate of the University of Chicago and Lawrence University, who is a writer and editor. They have two sons, Benjamin and Nicholas.





## David Williams Vice Chancellor for University Affairs

For the last five years, Williams has directed an initiative to more fully integrate Commodore athletics into the total Vanderbilt student life experience. With the support of former Chancellor Gee, newly appointed chancellor Nicholas Zeppos, the university's senior management team and Vanderbilt Board of Trust, Williams' efforts as Vice Chancellor for University Affairs and Athletics have

been successful in creating opportunity for student-athletes to participate in programs across the Vanderbilt landscape.

Today, Williams' efforts has placed the Vanderbilt program among the nation's most innovative, offering a streamlined organization. Since sweeping changes were initiated in September 2003, Williams has firmly placed his stamp on the program. He has overseen the recruitment and hiring of seven outstanding head coaches. Williams has addressed facility concerns with a five-phase enhancement program expected to approach \$60 million and will affect virtually every Vanderbilt student-athlete by its completion date.

Vanderbilt athletics have blossomed under Williams. Nine sports participated in postseason action last year, just one shy of the school record set in 2006-07. An unprecedented seven Commodore athletes have been selected in the first round of their respective sports in the last three years. Off the field, the student-athletes' collective GPA has reached impressive levels.

Athletics is but a small part of Williams' influential Vanderbilt role. Williams also serves as General Counsel directing a staff of 14 attorneys, Secretary of Vanderbilt and its nationally recognized Medical Center, the Office of Risk Management, the University's Compliance and Conflict of Interest functions, and the operations of the University's Board of Trust.

Williams' campus participation also includes a tenured full professorship at the School of Law, lecturing on Tax Law, Sports Law and Education Law. He has taught a course on Law and Higher Education at Peabody College, and from time to time, courses in the undergraduate curriculum.

Williams came to Vanderbilt after serving in numerous administrative roles at Ohio State University over a 14-year period. When he accepted the Vanderbilt role, Williams was Vice President of Student and Urban/Community Affairs and Professor of Law at Ohio State.

A native of Detroit, Mich., Williams received a Bachelor of Science in Social Science and Master of Arts in Education from Northern Michigan University where he was a member of the track team. He also earned a Master of Business Administration and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Detroit, and an L.L.M. in taxation from New York University.

Williams and his wife, Gail, have two school-aged children: Samantha, who is a varsity swimmer and rising freshman at Brown University, and Nicholas, who is an eighth grader at University School of Nashville and competes in swimming, basketball, track and soccer. His wife serves as the Associate Director of Community Relations at Vanderbilt, and is chair of the Metro Transit Authority (MTA) board of directors.



## Lori Alexander Associate Director of Student Athletics

Lori Alexander is in her fourth year overseeing sport operations, though she is no stranger to the Vanderbilt family. She joined the Commodore team 11 years ago as a strength and conditioning coach working with women's basketball, lacrosse, tennis, golf, and soccer teams. Prior to her work with Vanderbilt, Alexander worked with athletes at

the University of California-Berkeley for eight years. During her time there, Alexander became chair of the Performance Enhancement and Advisory Committee which addressed concerns of student-athletes relating to performance and well being. Alexander received her undergraduate degree in biology, health and physical education from Bethel College in 1984 before working as a graduate assistant at Notre Dame.