



2018-19 QUICK FACTS

Quick Facts

Location.....Nashville, Tenn.
 Founded.....1873
 Conference.....Southeastern (East)
 Enrollment.....6,883
 Nickname.....Commodores
 Colors.....Black and Gold
 Home Arena.....Memorial Gymnasium (14,316)
 Chancellor.....Nicholas Zeppos
 Vice Chancellor.....David Williams II
 Faculty Rep.....Susan Wente

Basketball Staff

Head Coach.....Bryce Drew
 Record Overall.....155-85 (7)
 Record at Vanderbilt.....31-36 (2)
 Associate Head Coach.....Roger Powell, Jr.
 Assistant Coaches.....Jake Diebler, Casey Shaw
 Director of Operations.....Matt Olinger
 Director of Scouting.....Luke Simons
 Athletic Trainer.....Brandon Wells
 Academic Counselor.....Max Maurice Martin
 Administrative Assistant.....Debbie Green
 Strength and Conditioning Coach.....Jeremy Anderson
 Office Number.....(615) 322-6530

Athletic Communications

Men's Basketball SID.....Andy Boggs
 Media Relations Address.....2601 Jess Neely Dr.
Nashville, TN 37212
 Office Phone.....(615) 343-1847
 Office Fax.....(615) 343-7064
 E-Mail.....Andy.Boggs@Vanderbilt.edu
 Internet Site.....www.VUCommodores.com
 Twitter Feed.....@VandyMBB

History

Overall record.....1,602-1,142
 NCAA Tournament Appearances.....15
 Tournament Record.....10-16 (.385)
 Total Tournament Games.....26
 Last Appearance.....2017; Lost to Northwestern in 1st Round
 Best Finishes at NCAA's.....Elite 8 (1965: field of 23)
Sweet 16 (1988, 1993: field of 64; 2004, 2007: field of 65)
 NIT Appearances.....12 (1983, 1987, 1990, 1992, 1994
1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2015)
 NIT Record.....20-12 (.625)
 Total NIT Games.....32
 Last Appearance.....2015; Lost at Stanford in Quarterfinals
 Best Finishes at NIT.....Champion (1990); Runner-Up (1994)

Team Information

2017-18 Record.....12-20
 SEC Record/Finish.....6-12/13th
 Home Record.....11-7
 Away Record.....1-10
 Neutral Record.....0-3
 Postseason.....NA
 Final AP Ranking.....NA
 Starters Returning/Lost.....2/3
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost.....8/6
 Newcomers.....4

Returning Players (2017-18 averages)

Name	P	Ht	Wt	CL	Pts	Rebs	A/B/S
Saben Lee	G	6'2	183	So.	10.6	3.0	3.1a
Joe Toye	G/F	6'7	210	Sr.	5.7	2.0	0.8a
Maxwell Evans	G	6'2	192	Fr.	3.9	1.9	0.5a
Clevon Brown	F	6'8	240	Jr.	3.9	3.1	1.3b
Ejike Obinna	C	6'10	240	So.	2.7	2.1	0.1b
Isaiah Rice	G	5'11	195	So.	0.5	0.0	-
Matt Ryan	F	6'8	215	Jr.	Redshirted		
Yanni Wetzell	C	6'10	240	Jr.	Redshirted		

Letterwinners Lost

Name	P	Ht	Wt	CL	Pts	Rebs	A/B/S
Larry Austin, Jr.	G	6'2	182	Jr.	2.5	1.4	1.1a
Djery Baptiste	C	6'10	235	So.	3.1	3.6	1.1b
Matthew Fisher-Davis	G	6'5	186	Sr.	11.2	4.8	1.2a
Riley LaChance	G	6'2	185	Sr.	14.1	3.2	3.2a
Jeff Roberson	F	6'6	220	Sr.	16.9	7.1	1.5a
Payton Willis	G	6'4	182	So.	5.1	1.9	1.4a

Newcomers

Names	Ht	Wt	Hometown	Previous School
Darius Garland	6'2	175	Nashville, Tenn.	Brentwood Academy
Mac Hunt	6'6	182	Chattanooga, Tenn.	McCallie HS
Aaron Nesmith	6'6	213	Charleston, S.C.	Porter Gaud HS
Simisola Shittu	6'10	240	Burlington, Ont.	Vermont Academy



2018-19 ROSTER

2018-19 Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.-Yr	Hometown (Previous School)
0	Saben Lee	G	6-2	183	So. - 2nd	Phoenix, Ariz. (Corona Del Sol)
1	Yanni Wetzell	F/C	6-10	240	R-Jr. - 4th	Auckland, N.Z. (St. Mary's (Texas)/Westlake Boys)
2	Joe Toye	G/F	6-7	210	Sr. - 4th	Chicago, Ill. (Whitney Young)
3	Maxwell Evans	G	6-2	192	So. - 2nd	Houston, Texas (Bellaire)
10	Darius Garland	G	6-2	175	Fr. - 1st	Nashville, Tenn. (Brentwood Academy)
11	Simisola Shittu	F/C	6-10	240	Fr. - 1st	Burlington, Ont. (Vermont Academy)
13	Matthew Moyer	F	6-8	217	R-So. - 3rd	Gahanna, Ohio (Syrcause/South Kent Prep/Lincoln)
14	Isaiah Rice	G	5-11	195	So. - 2nd	Indianapolis, Ind. (Park Tudor)
15	Clevon Brown	F	6-8	240	Jr. -3rd	San Antonio, Texas (Churchill)
24	Aaron Nesmith	F	6-6	213	Fr. - 1st	Charleston, S.C. (Porter Gaud)
32	Matt Ryan	F	6-8	215	R-Jr. - 4th	Cortlandt Manor, N.Y. (Notre Dame/Iona Prep)
42	Mac Hunt	G	6-6	182	Fr. - 1st	Chattanooga, Tenn. (McCallie)
50	Ejike Obinna	F/C	6-10	240	So. - 2nd	Enugu, Nigeria (Virginia Academy (Va.))

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach **Bryce Drew** (Valparaiso, 1998) - 3rd
 Associate Head Coach **Roger Powell** (Illinois, 2005) - 3rd
 Assistant Coach **Jake Diebler** (Valparaiso, 2009) - 3rd
 Assistant Coach **Casey Shaw** (Toledo, 1998) - 3rd
 Director of Scouting **Luke Simons** (Purdue, 2005) - 3rd
 Director of Operations **Matt Olinger** (Liberty, 2007) - 3rd

SUPPORT STAFF

Athletic Communications Dir. **Andy Boggs** (Florida State, 1998)
 Academic Support... **Max Maurice Martin** (South Carolina St., 1991)
 Athletic Trainer..... **Brandon Wells** (UW-Stevens Point, 2007)
 Strength and Conditioning **Jeremy Anderson** (Liberty, 2011)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Clevon Brown **CLEE-von**
 Jake Diebler **DEEB-ler**
 Aaron Nesmith **NEE-smith**
 Ejike Obinna **EH-Je-KAY Oh-Bean-a**
 Simisola Shittu **SIMI-sola SHITT-u**
 Joe Toye **TOY**

ROSTER BY CLASS

Seniors (1)
Joe Toye Chicago, Ill.

Juniors (3)
Clevon Brown San Antonio, Texas
Matt Ryan Cortlandt Manor, N.Y.
Yanni Wetzell Auckland, N.Z.

Sophomores (5)
Maxwell Evans Houston, Texas
Saben Lee Phoenix, Ariz.
Matthew Moyer Gahanna, Ohio
Ejike Obinna Enugu, Nigeria
Isaiah Rice Indianapolis, Ind.

Freshman (4)
Darius Garland Nashville, Tenn.
Mac Hunt Chattanooga, Tenn.
Aaron Nesmith Charleston, S.C.
Simisola Shittu Burlington, Ont.



2018-19 PRESEASON NOTES

Vanderbilt welcomes best recruiting class

Vanderbilt head coach Bryce Drew and his staff will welcome the highest decorated recruiting class in the program's history this fall in point guard Darius Garland, forward Aaron Nesmith, and forward/center Simisola Shittu. Garland and Shittu were consensus five-star prospects, and Nesmith was a four-star recruit who won the Gatorade South Carolina Player of the Year award, beating out highly touted center Zion Williamson, who eventually signed with Duke.

Commodores lose three 1,000 point scorers

Seniors Matthew Fisher-Davis, Riley LaChance and Jeff Roberson each depart Vanderbilt as 1,000-point scorers. Each were four-year players for the Commodores who advanced to the postseason on three different occasions (2015 NIT, 2016 and 2017 NCAA Tournaments). LaChance finished 15th on Vanderbilt's all-time scoring list with 1,476 points, Roberson 20th with 1,373 points, and Fisher-Davis 31st with 1,219 points. There has been only one other class of Vanderbilt players to have three 1,000-point scorers - the vaunted "F Troop" - Butch Feher, Joe Ford and Jeff Fosnes in 1976.

Other departures from 2017-18

Besides Fisher-Davis, LaChance and Roberson's departures, junior guard Larry Austin, Jr. graduated with a Vanderbilt degree in May and transferred to Central Michigan as a graduate transfer and will be eligible immediately for the Chippewas. Sophomore guard Payton Willis transferred to Minnesota and will sit a year for the Golden Gophers, while redshirt sophomore big man Djery Baptiste left the team to concentrate on his studies at Vanderbilt, where he will graduate with an undergraduate degree in December.

In all, eight letterwinners return from 2017-18 with six lettermen lost.

Commodores faced tough slate in 2017-18

Like in 2016-17 when Vanderbilt faced the number one strength of schedule in the nation, 2017-18 was no different, as the Commodores finished the season with third toughest strength of schedule. In all, Vanderbilt faced an astounding 19 teams who advanced to either the NIT or NCAA Tournaments a year ago.

Returning for the Commodores

Vanderbilt returns eight letterwinners and two starters from a year ago, with rising sophomore guard Saben Lee leading the way after averaging 10.6 points per game in 2017-18. Senior Joe Toye, who has played significant minutes in his first three years with the Commodores, averaged 5.7 points per game. Other returnees include sophomore Maxwell Evans, junior Clevon Brown, sophomore Ejike Obinna, and sophomore walk-on Isaiah Rice.

Junior transfers Matt Ryan and Yanni Wetzell will also suit up for the black and gold after sitting out last season. Ryan is a 6'8 forward who transferred from Notre Dame and Wetzell is a 6'10 center who last played at St. Mary's College in Texas.

Vanderbilt and ranked opponents

The Commodores played nine games in 2017-18 against a ranked opponent - USC (#10/#10), Virginia (RV/#25), Seton Hall (#20/#20), Arizona State (#5/#6), Tennessee (#24/#23; #22/#21), Kentucky (#21/#20; #21/#22) and Auburn (#11/#13). The four ranked non-conference opponents were the most by a Commodore team since 1988, when Vanderbilt also played four (11/22 - #2 Michigan, L, 66-91; 11/27 - #16 Ohio State, L, 82-97; 11/30 - #13 Louisville, W, 65-62; 12/7 - #8 North Carolina, L, 77-89).

Roberson had stellar 2017-18

Roberson was named to the All-SEC Second Team by the league's coaches. He finished the regular season fifth in the league in scoring (17.0), fifth in rebounding (7.2), second in free throw percentage (.852), fourth in field goal percentage (.484), fourth in defensive rebounds (5.3), and second in the SEC in 20-point games in SEC games only with nine. Roberson's scoring average is the highest by a Commodore player since John Jenkins averaged 19.9 points per game in 2012. Roberson also finished seventh on Vanderbilt's all-time total rebounding list with 755.

1,031

Vanderbilt has made a 3-pointer in 1,031 consecutive games, a streak which began at the inception of the 3-point line in 1986-87. The Commodores rank second only to UNLV for the longest streak in Division I basketball. Vanderbilt, UNLV and Princeton are the only three schools in college basketball to have made at least one 3-pointer in every game played since the 3-point line was implemented.