

# 1982 In Review

## Taylor-Matthews Combo, Goolsby Doom MSU

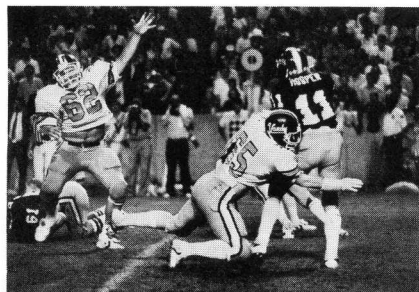
### VANDERBILT 24, MEMPHIS STATE 14

Overcoming a sluggish start, Vanderbilt exploded for 17 points in the second quarter and went on to vanquish Memphis State, 24-14, before 25,704 fans in the Liberty Bowl in the 1982 season opener.

The patented Whit Taylor to Allama Matthews combination got off to a great start, clicking for three touchdowns—including two in the decisive second quarter action.

Fullback Ernie Goolsby rambled for 134 yards on 21 carries, marking the only time a Commodore runner would break the century mark during the season. Vandy's total of 178 yards on the ground was the team's single game high as well.

Defensively, cornerback Leonard Coleman got his record-setting season going with a pair of interceptions, including a crucial touchdown-saving theft in the end zone in the third quarter.



VANDERBILT	0	17	7	0-24
MEMPHIS STATE	7	0	0	7-14

MS—Hooper 1 run (Ingles kick). VU—Matthews 9 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Matthews 15 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Anderson 37 field goal. VU—Matthews 5 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). MS—Becton 3 run (Ingles kick).

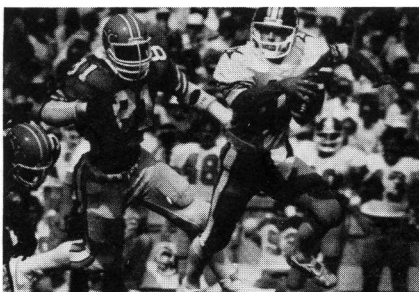
## Heat, Tar Heel Defense Too Much

### NORTH CAROLINA 34, VANDERBILT 10

The powerful North Carolina Tar Heels, ranked 11th nationally at the time, broke open a halftime deadlock to defeat the Commodores in front of 51,696 fans at Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill.

Vanderbilt played a solid first half, earning a 10-10 tie at intermission after a 37-yard Ricky Anderson field goal and an 11-yard touchdown pass from Whit Taylor to Norman Jordan.

The combination of the day's oppressive heat and the pressure of the Carolina defense, however, proved to be too much for the Commodores. The 90-plus degree temperatures and the deep Tar Heel squad simply wore Vandy down.



VANDERBILT	10	0	0	0-10
NORTH CAROLINA	3	7	17	7-34

NC—Barwick 25 field goal. VU—Anderson 37 field goal. VU—Jordan 11 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). NC—Horton 1 run (Barwick kick). NC—Harrison 48 pass from Elkins (Barwick kick). NC—Barwick 32 field goal. NC—Anthony 3 run (Barwick kick). NC—Horton 5 pass from Elkins (Barwick kick).

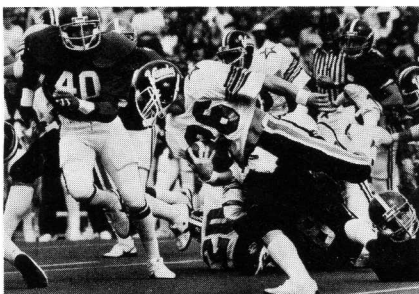
## Second Half Comeback Falls Just Short

### ALABAMA 24, VANDERBILT 21

A gallant second half comeback engineered by second team quarterback Kurt Page fell just short as Alabama outlasted Vanderbilt, 24-21, before a packed house of 60,210 fans at Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa.

Ranked fourth in the nation at the time, the Crimson Tide looked awesome in rolling to a 24-7 halftime lead. Commodore hopes were dimmed late in the second quarter when Whit Taylor was knocked out of the game with a concussion.

Vandy pulled itself together at halftime, however, and nearly won the game. The Commodore defense showed its mettle by blanking the Alabama wishbone for the game's final 30 minutes. Page, meanwhile, tossed a pair of third quarter touchdown passes to Allama Matthews. Vandy's last drive of the game was thwarted by a costly intentional grounding penalty that put the Commodores out of near-touchdown range.



VANDERBILT	7	0	14	0-21
ALABAMA	14	10	0	0-24

VU—Taylor 2 run (Anderson kick). UA—Turner 1 run (Kim kick). UA—Lewis 4 run (Kim kick). UA—Kim 37 field goal. UA—Turner 3 run (Kim kick). VU—Matthews 16 pass from Page (Anderson kick). VU—Matthews 11 pass from Page (Anderson kick).

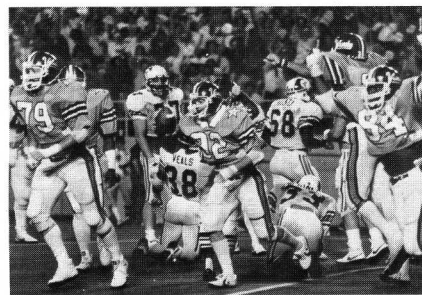
# Vandy Wins Cliffhanger Over Tulane

## VANDERBILT 24, TULANE 21

Capitalizing on three Tulane turnovers, Vandy scored 17 points in the first half and held off a late Green Wave charge to win the home opener, 24-21, in front of almost 40,000 fans.

Still feeling the effects of a physical game with Alabama the week before, Vanderbilt was outgained by more than 100 yards. But as would happen often during the season, Vandy's "bend but don't break" defense caused several turnovers which the opportunistic offense turned into points.

Outstanding defensive play by free safety Manuel Young choked off a Green Wave threat in the middle of the fourth quarter and the Commodore secondary contained another last ditch Tulane effort in the final seconds to seal the win.



TULANE	7	3	3	8-21
VANDERBILT	7	10	0	7-24

TUL—Robinson 2 run (Wood kick). VU—Matthews 9 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Scott 2 run (Anderson kick). VU—Anderson 47 field goal. TUL—Wood 53 field goal. TUL—Wood 39 field goal. VU—Matthews 9 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). TUL—Veals 2 run (Smith pass from McKay).

## VU Upsets 14th-Ranked Florida

### VANDERBILT 31, FLORIDA 29

Facing 14th-ranked Florida with its more-than-potent offense, and without do-everything fullback Ernie Goolsby, it appeared that Vanderbilt might be overmatched in the season's fifth game.

Vandy offensive coordinator Watson Brown, however, pulled the proverbial rabbit out of the hat. He created a one-back offense and installed freshman Jim Popp as a second tight end to offset Florida All-America linebacker Wilber Marshall.

The strategy worked like a charm. Marshall was never a factor and Whit Taylor completed 30 of 47 passes for 287 yards and three touchdowns and scampered for 64 more yards.



FLORIDA	0	14	7	8-29
VANDERBILT	7	14	3	7-31

VU—Edwards 1 run (Anderson kick). UF—Young 1 run (Gainey kick). UF—Williams 44 run (Gainey kick). VU—Matthews 14 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Jordan 8 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). UF—Jones 4 run (Gainey kick). VU—Anderson 30 field goal. VU—Monaco recovers fumble in end zone (Anderson kick). UF—Dixon 11 pass from Peace (Mularkey pass from Peace).

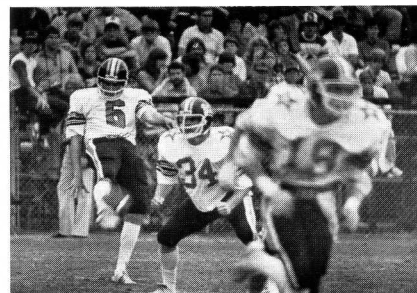
## Hoage, Dogs Win "Between The Hedges"

### GEORGIA 27, VANDERBILT 13

This game, played before 82,122 fans "between the hedges" of Sanford Stadium in Athens, would be the third and final loss of the regular season for Vanderbilt. And had the Commodores held on to their 13-10 lead at the end of the third quarter, they would have earned a berth in the Sugar Bowl.

But such castles in the air came to nothing thanks to the heroics of the Georgia defense in general, and Terry Hoage in particular. Hoage, Georgia's magnificent rover back, intercepted three Whit Taylor passes.

Both defensive units played brilliantly. Three times in the first half Commodore defenders forced turnovers deep in Georgia territory, but all Vanderbilt could salvage was two field goals by Ricky Anderson.



VANDERBILT	6	0	7	0-13
GEORGIA	0	10	7	0-27

VU—Anderson 29 field goal. VU—Anderson 28 field goal. UG—Lastinger 1 run (Butler kick). UG—Butler 28 field goal. VU—Edwards 1 run (Anderson kick). UG—Butler 35 field goal. UG—Young 7 run (Butler kick). UG—Walker 26 run (Butler kick).

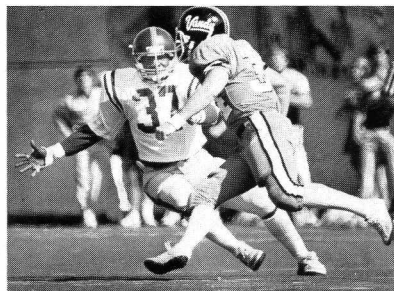
# Staley's Interception Starts VU Streak

## VANDERBILT 19, OLE MISS 10

With both Vanderbilt and Ole Miss sporting 3-3 records, scouts from four bowls arrived at Vanderbilt Stadium to begin courting the winner of the regionally televised contest. Coach George MacIntyre's Commodores came from behind with 13 points in the fourth quarter to capture the victory and set in motion a five-game winning streak.

The game's biggest play came in the middle of the final stanza, with Vanderbilt leading 12-10 and the Rebels poised at the Commodore 48-yard line. Vandy senior linebacker Joe Staley picked off a pass and lumbered down the west sideline to the Rebel eight. A Whit Taylor to Arnaz Perry pass scored the clinching touchdown, but Staley's interception has been hailed by many as "the biggest play in Vanderbilt history".

The Commodore defensive unit flexed its muscles for the second straight week. Vandy's "bend, but don't break" style of defense proved effective as the Commodores often gave ground, but showed a tendency to stiffen near the goal line.



OLE MISS	0	7	3	0-10
VANDERBILT	6	0	0	13-19

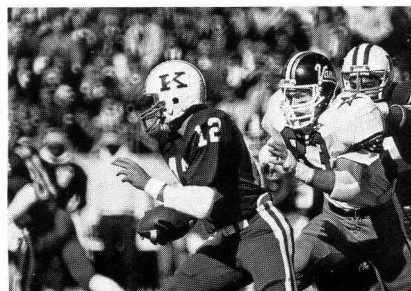
VU—Anderson 31 field goal. VU—Anderson 49 field goal. UM—Humphrey 2 run (Gatlin kick). UM—Gatlin 43 field goal. VU—Jordan 11 pass from Taylor (bad snap, conversion failed). VU—Perry 8 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick).

# Commodores Gain Revenge In Lexington

## VANDERBILT 23, KENTUCKY 10

All the incentive Vanderbilt needed for the Kentucky game was to remember the previous year's loss when Wildcat safety Andy Molls scooped up a punt that had crazily bounced back over the Commodore coverage and returned it 87 yards for the winning touchdown late in the fourth quarter.

The Commodores gained revenge in front of 56,123 Wildcat homecoming fans at Commonwealth Stadium in Lexington. The win did not come easily, however. A fourth quarter interception by Vanderbilt free safety Manuel Young snuffed out a deep threat that could have given the Wildcats the lead. Commodore fullback Keith Edwards then made a spectacular one-handed grab of a Whit Taylor pass and sprinted 31 yards for the touchdown that iced the game.



VANDERBILT	10	3	0	10-23
KENTUCKY	0	3	7	0-10

VU—Anderson 37 field goal. VU—Matthews 10 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). UK—Caudell 41 field goal. VU—Anderson 43 field goal. UK—Phillips 11 pass from Jenkins (Caudell kick). VU—Edwards 31 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Anderson 44 field goal.

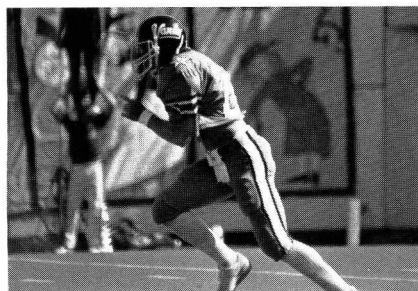
# Second Quarter Explosion Wrecks Tech

## VANDERBILT 45, VIRGINIA TECH 0

Both Vanderbilt and Virginia Tech entered the game with 5-3 records and bowl aspirations. The contest was billed as a showdown between the Commodores' high-powered "smorgasbord offense" and Tech's excellent defense, which ranked among the national leaders.

The first quarter was scoreless. But the Commodores opened the floodgates in the second quarter, racking up 24 points and never looking back en route to the team's biggest margin of victory in more than a decade.

Of all the stars of this day—and there were many—none shone more brightly than Vanderbilt All-American Allama Matthews. The 6-3, 225-pound tight end set a school record by catching four touchdown passes.



VIRGINIA TECH	0	0	0	0-0
VANDERBILT	0	24	14	7-45

VU—Matthews 12 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Anderson 49 field goal. VU—Matthews 3 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Scott 7 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Matthews 7 pass from Patton (Anderson kick). VU—Matthews 30 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Perry 65 pass from Page (Anderson kick).



# Vandy Struggles But Gains Bowl Bid

## VANDERBILT 27, UT-CHATTANOOGA 16

With Vanderbilt's first bowl bid since 1974 hanging in the balance, the Commodores struggled for three quarters in front of a home crowd of 38,126 before finally igniting in the third and fourth quarters.

Trailing 10-3 at halftime to an inspired Moccasin squad, Vanderbilt used two fumble recoveries by defensive end Glenn Watson and a successful onside kick to turn the tables on UTC. The Commodores scored 17 points in a two-minute, 34-second span to subdue a UTC squad that had stifled the Vandy offense by rushing only two players, leaving nine for pass defense.

Ricky Anderson's 14th field goal of the year broke the tie for good early in the fourth quarter. Anderson's 13th three-pointer of the season, which came in the second quarter, broke the Vandy single season record of 12 held by Mark Adams since 1975.



UT-CHATTANOOGA	0	10	0	6—16
VANDERBILT	0	3	7	17—27

UTC—Teichmann 28 field goal. UTC—Gillespie 76 pass from Potter (Teichmann kick). VU—Anderson 44 field goal. VU—Matthews 12 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Anderson 26 field goal. VU—Edwards 11 run (Anderson kick). VU—Roach 24 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). UTC—Abbott 1 run (run failed).

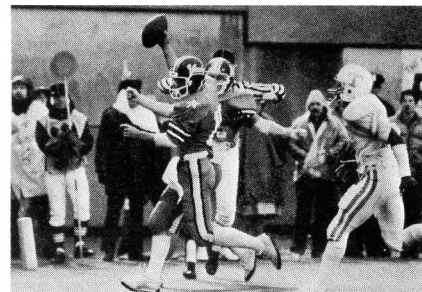
## VU Captures "Super Bowl of Tennessee"

### VANDERBILT 28, TENNESSEE 21

Rarely do so-called big games live up to their advance billing but such was not the case in the "Super Bowl of Tennessee" between Vanderbilt and Tennessee. With both teams headed for bowl games, tickets were reportedly being scalped for as much as \$150 as 41,683 fans and a closed circuit TV audience of 3,800 looked on.

The lead seesawed back and forth the entire game, with neither team able to establish more than a seven point advantage on the rain-drenched field. Although normally a team that relies on the short pass, it was Vanderbilt's ability to throw the bomb that won the game.

Having already thrown a pair of 42-yard touchdown passes to account for two of Vandy's three scores, Whit Taylor set up his game-winning run with a 65-yard heave to Phil Roach. Taylor tallied on a one-yard keeper around right end following a great fake to Keith Edwards.



TENNESSEE	7	7	0	7—21
VANDERBILT	7	7	7	7—28

UT—Coleman 3 run (Revez kick). VU—Perry 42 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). UT—Jones 1 run (Revez kick). VU—Scott 6 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Scott 42 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). UT—Jones 42 run (Revez kick). VU—Taylor 1 run (Anderson kick).

## Commodores Win Battle But Lose War

### HALL OF FAME BOWL

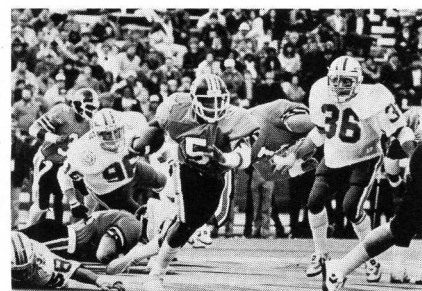
#### AIR FORCE 36, VANDERBILT 28

Vanderbilt won the battle but lost the war as it fell to Air Force, 36-28, in a see-saw Hall of Fame Bowl battle that saw 33 records broken and eight more tied.

Commodore quarterback Whit Taylor, who personally broke seven Hall of Fame Bowl marks, was named the Most Valuable Player in the game as well as the Outstanding Offensive Player.

Vanderbilt mounted a 28-17 lead on Taylor's fourth touchdown pass of the day, a four-yarder to Norman Jordan with 12 seconds left in the third quarter. Jordan, who added five records of his own, caught 20 passes for 173 yards and three TD's during the afternoon.

The Air Force, however, refused to wilt and piled up 19 points in the fourth quarter to gain the come-from-behind victory in a wild offensive shootout.



VANDERBILT	7	14	7	0—28
AIR FORCE	7	7	3	19—36

VU—Jordan 28 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). AF—Louthan 1 run (Pavlich kick). AF—Brown 19 run (Pavlich kick). VU—Roach 15 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). VU—Jordan 4 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). AF—Pavlich 21 field goal. VU—Jordan 4 pass from Taylor (Anderson kick). AF—Sundquist 3 run (pass failed). AF—Kershner 3 run (pass failed). AF—Louthan 46 run (Pavlich kick).