

# 1994 IN REVIEW

## Game 1 • Sept. 3, 1994 • Vanderbilt Stadium Vanderbilt 35, Wake Forest 13

The Commodores opened their 105th year of football with a 35-14 win over Wake Forest at Vanderbilt Stadium. Missed field goals, penalties and turnovers hampered the Vanderbilt attack in the first half, and Wake Forest took advantage of the Commodore miscues to pull out to a 14-3 halftime lead.

The second half was a totally different story. Vanderbilt's rushing attack took control of the game, as the Commodores had possession of the ball for nearly 23 minutes in the half. On Vanderbilt's second possession of the half, Jermaine Johnson followed a Ronnie Gordon-to-Kenny Simon 29-yard completion with a 26-yard touchdown run up the middle. After the Vanderbilt defense held Wake, Cliff Deese and Gordon combined to rush nine times for 80 yards on a drive which culminated with Gordon's eight-yard option scamper into the end zone.

Vanderbilt continued to dominate in the fourth quarter. Two minutes into the quarter, Deese took a screen pass 36 yards for the Commodores' first touchdown pass of the season. After a Steve Yenner field goal, Gordon went 69 yards on an option for his second score of the evening.

Vanderbilt finished with 407 rushing yards, as Gordon (114 yards), Deese (113 yards) and Johnson (100 yards) all eclipsed the 100-yard mark. Gordon added 148 through the air.

The Commodore defense held the Demon Deacons to 10 first downs and just 27 net yards rushing on 23 carries. Brian Boykin had five tackles, including two for loss and one sack.

**WF 0 14 0 0 - 14**  
**VU 0 3 15 17 - 35**

First Quarter  
No scoring

Second Quarter  
VU—Yenner 42 FG (13:05)  
WF—Gresham 2 run (Hollows kick) (10:25)  
WF—Ballou 27 pass from LaRue (Hollows kick) (1:49)

Third Quarter  
VU—Johnson 31 run (Morgan run) (8:55)  
VU—Gordon 8 run (Yenner kick) (4:13)

Fourth Quarter  
VU—Deese 36 pass from Gordon (Yenner kick) (13:17)  
VU—Yenner 21 FG  
VU—Gordon 69 run (Yenner kick) (7:12)

## Game 2 • Sept. 10, 1994 • Bryant-Denny Field Alabama 17, Vanderbilt 7

Vanderbilt gave the defending national champions all they could handle before finally falling 17-7 on two fourth quarter Alabama scores. The Commodores outrushed and outpassed the Crimson Tide and used relentless pressure to sack Bama quarterback Jay Barker eight times.

Alabama got an early break when a Ronnie Gordon pass bounced off of Gabe Banks and into the hands of Crimson Tide defensive lineman Dameian Jeffries, who returned it 24 yards to the Vanderbilt 24. Six plays later, Barker hit Curtis Brown on an eight-yard scoring strike. Vanderbilt answered late in the second quarter when Cliff Deese scored on a 25-yard run, tying the game at seven.

The Commodores dominated the first half statistically, holding Alabama to 27 yards rushing on 20 carries and just 50 yards through the air while gaining 188 total yards.

The teams fought through a scoreless third quarter and remained tied until Michael Proctor connected on a 31-yard field goal to put Alabama up 10-7. On Vanderbilt's third play after the field goal, Cedric Samuel knocked the ball from Ronnie Gordon and Ralph Staten recovered, giving Alabama the ball at the Vanderbilt 17. Curtis Alexander scored four plays later to seal the victory for Bama.

Deese led the Vanderbilt attack with 74 yards on 13 carries, while Gordon added 43 yards on the ground and 131 on nine-of-17 passing. Linebackers Jamie Duncan (16 tackles, two sacks), Gerald Collins (12 tackles, one for loss) and Mark Jefcoat (seven tackles, three sacks) anchored the solid defensive performance.

Sherman Williams rushed for 125 yards on 26 carries to lead Alabama, while Barker connected on nine-of-15 passes for 88 yards.

**VU 0 7 0 0 - 7**  
**UA 7 0 0 10 - 17**

First Quarter  
UA—Brown 8 pass from Barker (Proctor kick) (6:26)

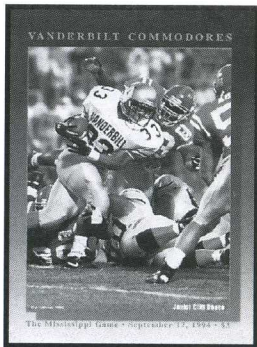
Second Quarter  
VU—Deese 25 run (Yenner kick) (3:47)

Third Quarter  
No scoring

Fourth Quarter  
UA—Proctor 31 FG (6:04)  
UA—Alexander 2 run (Proctor kick) (2:59)



# 1994 IN REVIEW



## Game 3 • Sept. 17, 1994 • Vanderbilt Stadium Mississippi 20, Vanderbilt 14

Josh Nelson's second touchdown pass of the game, to Roell Preston late in the third quarter, put the Rebels ahead to stay in a 20-14 win over the Commodores.

Ole Miss took the opening kickoff and travelled 77 yards in eight plays to take a 7-0 lead. Nelson threw for 51 yards on the drive, including 17 on a scoring play to Ta'Boris Fisher. The Rebs threatened in the second quarter, but the Commodore defense held on first-and-goal at the the four, and Ole Miss settled for a Tim Montz 19-yard field goal, which gave them a 10-0 halftime lead.

The Commodores bounced back in the second half, taking the opening kick and marching 80 yards in nine plays, a drive capped off by Ronnie Gordon's three-yard touchdown run. Tailback Jermaine Johnson, on his way to his second 100-yard effort of the season, ran four times for 44 yards on the drive.

After forcing Ole Miss to punt, the Commodores went on another 80-yard scoring drive, with Johnson finding the endzone, to take a 14-10 lead. The Rebs answered and retook the lead for good when Preston took a screen pass 26 yards for the game-winning score.

Johnson led the way for the Commodores, picking up 104 yards on 20 carries. Gerald Collins anchored the defense with 13 tackles.

Mark Smith led Mississippi with 97 yards rushing on 16 attempts, while Dou Innocent picked up 80 on 16 carries. Nelson finished with 230 yards on 18-of-33 passing.

**UM 7 3 7 3 - 20**  
**VU 0 0 14 0 - 14**

### First Quarter

UM—Fisher 17 pass from Nelson (Montz kick) (11:31)

### Second Quarter

UM—Montz 19 FG (5:28)

### Third Quarter

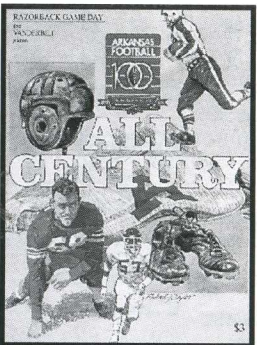
VU—Gordon 3 run (Lancot kick) (11:28)

VU—Johnson 1 run (Lancot kick) (3:50)

UM—Preston 26 pass from Nelson (Montz kick) (0:24)

### Fourth Quarter

UM—Montz 33 FG (11:26)



## Game 4 • Oct. 1, 1994 • War Memorial Stadium Arkansas 42, Vanderbilt 7

Arkansas scored early and often on the Commodores, coasting to a 42-6 victory in Little Rock. The Razorbacks dominated the game early, jumping out to a 14-0 first quarter lead after outgaining the Commodores 175-32 in the first quarter and picking up 11 first downs to Vanderbilt's one.

Barry Lunney, the first of three Arkansas quarterbacks to throw a first-half touchdown pass, hit James Perry on a 33-yard scoring strike to cap a two-play, 49-yard drive and give the Hogs a 7-0 lead. Lunney then hit Anthony Eubanks on a 16-yarder and Mike Higgins on a 14-yarder early in the second to extend the Razorbacks' lead. Arkansas scored two more second quarter TD's to take a 35-0 lead into the locker room.

Forced to play catch-up, the Commodores turned to an aerial attack, and Ronnie Gordon responded with a 21-for-40 outing for a career-high 223 yards. Sanford Ware caught eight balls for 68 yards and freshman Bobby Jackson had four catches for 61 yards. The Commodore defense tightened in the second half, allowing only 73 total yards. Mark Jefcoat led the way with nine tackles and a sack.

Lunney finished with 128 yards through the air, and Mike Cherry and Robert Reed each had better than 50 yards passing and a touchdown.

**VU 0 0 0 6 - 6**  
**UA 14 21 7 0 - 42**

### First Quarter

UA—Perry 33 pass from Lunney (Ellison kick) (10:35)

UA—Eubanks 16 pass from Lunney (Ellison kick) (3:55)

### Second Quarter

UA—Higgins 14 pass from Lunney (Ellison kick) (14:36)

UA—Meadors 9 pass from Cherry (Ellison kick) (3:06)

UA—Meadors 8 pass from Reed (Ellison kick) (0:47)

### Third Quarter

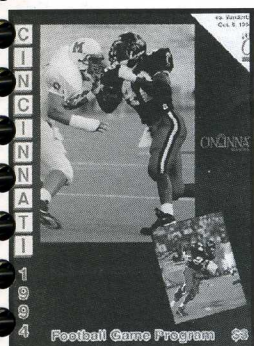
UA—Reed 12 run (Ellison kick) (0:42)

### Fourth Quarter

VU—Gordon 2 run (pass failed) (7:03)



# 1994 IN REVIEW



## Game 5 • Oct. 8, 1994 • Nippert Stadium Vanderbilt 34, Cincinnati 24

Ronnie Gordon scored two touchdowns in the last 3:09 of the game as the Commodores pulled out a 34-24 win at Nippert Stadium.

The Bearcats drew first blood when Eric Vibberts hit James Scott on a 13-yard pass play with 25 seconds left in the first quarter, giving the hosts a 7-0 lead. Vanderbilt answered late in the second when Ronnie Gordon capped a 12-play drive with a two-yard touchdown plunge.

Darrell Harding took the ensuing kickoff 43 yards to the Vanderbilt 49 and the Commodores were flagged for a facemask penalty, giving the Bearcats a

first down at the 34 yard line. UC settled for a 38-yard Tom Dallen field goal to take a 10-7 lead 1:41 to play in the half.

The Commodores found the endzone again late in the first half with a four play, 68-yard drive which lasted just 51 seconds and put VU on top 14-10. Eric Lewis accounted for 62 yards on the drive on just three carries, including a 19-yard touchdown jaunt.

After the teams exchanged scores, the Bearcats took a 24-20 lead with 5:54 to play as Paul Blackwood scored on a 23-yard run. Vanderbilt responded with a six-play, 65-yard drive highlighted by a Ronnie Gordon 41-yard run. Gordon capped the drive off with a two-yard run.

The Commodore defense iced the game when Jay Stallworth sacked Vibberts, forcing a fumble which Matt Schuckman recovered at the Cincinnati 15. Gordon put the game away three plays later with a six-yard TD run.

The Commodores amassed 330 yards rushing, led by Eric Lewis, the Vanderbilt fullback who rushed for 134 yards after starting at tailback. Gordon was solid passing the ball, going seven-of-11 for 79 yards.

**VU 0 14 3 17 - 34**  
**UC 7 3 7 7 - 24**

### First Quarter

UC—Scott 13 pass from Vibberts (Dallen kick) (0:25)

### Second Quarter

VU—Gordon 2 run (Lancotot kick) (3:47)

UC—Dallen 38 FG (1:41)

VU—Lewis 19 run (Lancotot) (0:50)

### Third Quarter

VU—Lancotot 30 FG (7:30)

UC—Blackwood 9 run (Dallen kick) (0:29)

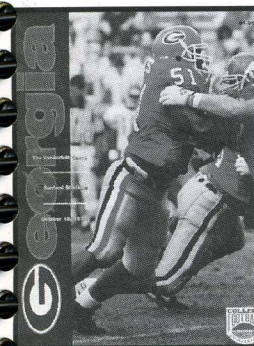
### Fourth Quarter

VU—Lancotot 42 FG (9:22)

UC—Blackwood 23 run (Dallen kick) (5:54)

VU—Gordon 2 run (Lancotot kick) (3:09)

VU—Gordon 6 run (Lancotot kick) (1:41)



## Game 6 • Oct. 15 • Sanford Stadium Vanderbilt 43, Georgia 30

The Commodores spoiled Georgia's homecoming, upsetting the Bulldogs 43-30 and pulling out their first win in Athens since 1961.

Vanderbilt jumped out to an early 7-0 lead after Brice Hunter misplayed the opening kickoff and was downed at the Georgia one yard line. Two plays later, Hines Ward fumbled and Robert Sheffield returned it two yards for a touchdown.

After Hunter nearly muffed the ensuing kickoff, Eric Zeier led the Dawgs on a five-play, eighty-yard drive to tie the score at 7-7. Zeier put Georgia ahead four minutes later, connecting with Hason Graham on a 54-yard scoring play.

The Commodores stormed back, outscoring the Bulldogs 21-7 in the second quarter on touchdown runs by Jermaine Johnson (45 yards) and Ronnie Gordon (12 yards) and a Gordon-to-Kenny Simon two-yard TD pass with 11 seconds left in the half, giving VU a 31-21 lead at the break.

The Commodore defense took over from there, limiting Georgia to just a 22-yard field goal and a late touchdown in preserving the win.

The final numbers showed the contrast in the styles of the teams—Vanderbilt had 415 yards rushing and 65 passing, while Georgia had 441 through the air and 60 on the ground. Georgia natives Johnson (177 yards, one TD) and Gordon (124 yards, three TD's) led the Commodore attack, while the Commodore secondary picked Zeier off three times and held him to 23 completions on 54 attempts.

The 43 points Vanderbilt scored were the most Georgia had allowed in a home game since 1951.

**VU 10 21 6 6 - 43**  
**GA 14 7 3 6 - 30**

### First Quarter

VU—Sheffield 2 fumble return (Lancotot kick) (14:21)

GA—Graham 21 pass from Zeier (Parkman kick) (12:40)

GA—Graham 54 pass from Zeier (Parkman kick) (8:34)

VU—Lancotot 28 FG

### Second Quarter

VU—Johnson 45 run (Lancotot kick) (14:24)

VU—Gordon 12 run (Lancotot kick) (9:36)

GA—Davis 1 run (Parkman kick) (7:35)

VU—Simon 1 pass from Gordon (Lancotot kick) (0:11)

### Third Quarter

VU—Gordon 18 run (kick failed) (11:25)

GA—Parkman 22 FG

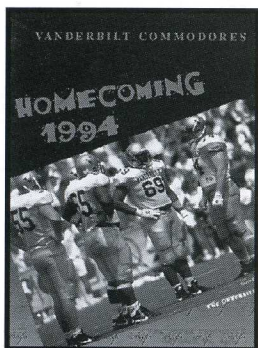
### Fourth Quarter

VU—Gordon 2 run (run failed) (13:13)

GA—Ward 11 pass from Zeier (kick failed) (11:26)



# 1994 IN REVIEW



## Game 7 • Oct. 22, 1994 • Vanderbilt Stadium South Carolina 19, Vanderbilt 16

One week after ruining Georgia's homecoming, the Commodores had their's spoiled by South Carolina on a dreary, rainy afternoon.

South Carolina jumped out to a 16-0 first half lead on three Reed Morton field goals and a seven-yard touchdown pass from Steve Taneyhill to Monty Means. The Gamecocks dominated every aspect of the first half, outgaining the Commodores 204-12 and holding the VU rushing attack to two net yards.

The Commodores got the ball to start the second half, but a holding penalty on the return left them at their own four. Jermaine Johnson then took it upon himself to make a game of it, going 17 yards on second down and 78 on the next play to put the Commodores on the scoreboard.

After the teams exchanged field goals, the Commodores went on a 17-play, 80-yard drive highlighted by a controversial play which was blown dead just before Kenny Simon picked up a loose ball and raced for an apparent touchdown. Vanderbilt eventually scored, but the drive ate up too much time and the Gamecocks were able to hold on for the win.

Johnson finished with 121 yards rushing for Vanderbilt, while Taneyhill threw for 205 yards on 22-of-32 passing.

**SC 6 10 3 0 - 19**  
**VU 0 0 7 9 - 16**

### First Quarter

SC—Morton 36 FG (8:54)  
SC—Morton 23 FG (5:33)

### Second Quarter

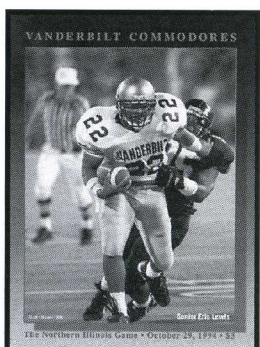
SC—Means 7 pass from Taneyhill (Morton kick) (4:52)  
SC—Morton 23 FG (0:15)

### Third Quarter

VU—Johnson 78 run (Lancot kick) (13:41)  
SC—Morton 41 FG (2:15)

### Fourth Quarter

VU—Yenner 43 FG (14:01)  
VU—Gordon 3 run (kick failed) (3:28)



## Game 8 • Oct. 29, 1994 • Vanderbilt Stadium Vanderbilt 17, Northern Illinois 16

Anthony Azama stopped Sean Allgood's two point conversion attempt with 1:06 left in the game, preserving Vanderbilt's 17-16 win over the Huskies.

The Commodores jumped out to an early 7-0 lead on Eric Lewis' 37 yard touchdown scamper early in the first quarter. Steve Yenner's 26-yard field goal early in the second quarter extended the Vanderbilt lead to 10-0.

Northern Illinois came back, as Lance Lasseigne drilled a 23-yard field goal and Charles Talley scored on a three-yard run to knot the game at 10-10 at the half.

Jermaine Johnson, who was held to 59 yards, scored on a nine-yard run in the third to put Vanderbilt back on to 17-10, where the score would remain until late in the fourth quarter. After forcing Vanderbilt to punt, the Huskies took over at their own 42 with 4:20 left to play. Allgood led the Huskies on an 11-play touchdown drive culminated by George Anthony's two-yard run. After a timeout, coach Charlie Sadler elected to go for the win, but Azama stopped Allgood in the backfield to seal VU's win.

**NIU 0 10 0 6 - 16**  
**VU 7 3 7 0 - 17**

### First Quarter

VU—Lewis 37 run (Yenner kick) (9:53)

### Second Quarter

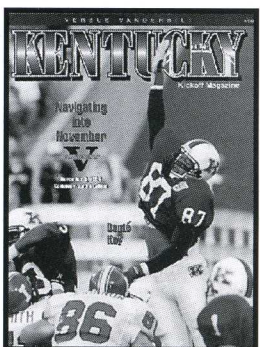
VU—Yenner 26 FG (13:37)  
NIU—Lasseigne 23 FG (7:26)  
NIU—Talley 3 run (Lasseigne kick) (3:53)

### Third Quarter

VU—Johnson 9 run (Yenner kick) (3:59)

### Fourth Quarter

NIU—Anthony 2 run (run failed) (1:06)



## Game 9 • Nov. 5, 1994 • Commonwealth Stadium Vanderbilt 24, Kentucky 6

Vanderbilt pushed above the .500 mark with a 24-6 win at Kentucky. The Commodores forced five turnovers and sacked Jeff Speedy three times as Vanderbilt came within 47 seconds of shutting out the Wildcats.

Jermaine Johnson broke the 100-yard barrier for the fifth time with 109 yards, and Ronnie Gordon just missed going over the century mark, finishing with 96 yards.

Johnson scored the only points of the first half on a 10 yard run. After Steve Yenner's 23-yard field goal, Johnson scored again, this time on an eight-yard run to put the Commodores ahead comfortably, 17-0. Gordon closed out Vanderbilt's scoring with a fourth quarter touchdown run. The Wildcats averted the shutout when Speedy and Isaac Curtis hooked up on a 21-yard scoring play in the last minute.

Corey Chavous had two interceptions and Matt Anderson had one, which he returned 50 yards.

**VU 0 7 9 8 - 24**  
**UK 0 0 0 6 - 6**

### First Quarter

No scoring

### Second Quarter

VU—Johnson 10 run (Yenner kick) (11:26)

### Third Quarter

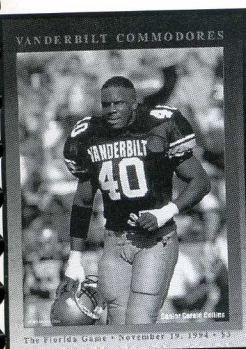
VU—Yenner 23 FG (10:49)  
VU—Johnson 8 run (kick failed) (4:56)

### Fourth Quarter

VU—Gordon 2 run (Lewis run) (7:14)  
UK—Curtis 21 pass from Speedy (pass failed) (0:47)



# 1994 IN REVIEW



## Game 10 • Nov. 19, 1994 • Vanderbilt Stadium Florida 24, Vanderbilt 7

Vanderbilt held the high-powered Gator offense to its lowest point total of the year, but the Florida defense proved to be too tough as the Gators picked up a 24-7 win in Nashville.

Florida moved the ball well all day, but the Commodore defense came up with big plays when it needed them, holding the Gators to 2-for-11 on third down conversions and sacking Danny Wuerffel four times.

Florida scored midway through the first on a 25-yard Wuerffel-to-Jack Jackson passing play. Vanderbilt came back with a 34-yard Ronnie Gordon touchdown to tie the game up, but Fred Taylor took over from there. The Florida back ran for 140 yards on 16 carries and scored two touchdowns to put the game out of reach.

Wuerffel was 18-for-23 for 221 yards through the air and Taylor had 140 yards rushing to lead the Gator attack. Ronnie Gordon had 71 yards rushing and another 54 passing to pace the Commodore offense. James Manley was superb on defense, sacking Wuerffel three times for 28 yards in losses, as was Gerald Collins, who had 21 tackles. Corey Chavous continued to play well in the secondary, intercepting one pass, breaking up another and posting 11 tackles (10 solo).

**UF 10 7 7 0 - 24**  
**VU 7 0 0 0 - 7**

### First Quarter

UF—Jackson 25 pass from Wuerffel (Davis kick) (7:59)

VU—Gordon 34 run (Yenner kick) (4:13)

UF—Davis 19 FG

### Second Quarter

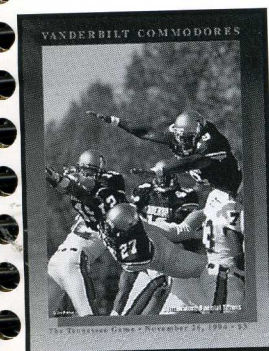
UF—Taylor 5 run (Davis kick) (10:14)

### Third Quarter

UF—Taylor 12 run (Davis kick) (3:03)

### Fourth Quarter

No scoring



## Game 11 • Nov. 26, 1994 • Vanderbilt Stadium Tennessee 65, Vanderbilt 0

Tennessee ruined Vanderbilt's chances for a winning season as they dominated the Commodores in a 65-0 rout.

The Vols scored on James Stewart's 40-yard run early in the first quarter, giving them an early 7-0 lead. Tennessee put the game away with a 30-point second quarter, as freshman quarterbacks Branndon Stewart and Peyton Manning each threw touchdown passes. The Vols added a safety when Anthony Azama intercepted a pass at the Vanderbilt goal line and was tackled in the endzone on the return by Joey Kent.

The Volunteers put the finishing touches on the win with four second half touchdowns. Tennessee's 420-yard rushing performance gave them the SEC rushing title, and John Becksvoort broke the NCAA record for most consecutive career extra points during the game.

Jay Graham and Stewart each rushed for 121 yards. The Commodores, who were held to 129 yards on the ground, were led by a 32-yard performance from Eric Lewis, who was playing his final game as a Commodore. Senior Gerald Collins also played well, posting 13 tackles and the Commodores' lone sack.

**UT 7 30 21 7 - 65**  
**VU 0 0 0 0 - 0**

### First Quarter

UT—J. Stewart 40 run (Becksvoort kick) (11:34)

### Second Quarter

UT—Williams 21 pass from B. Stewart (Becksvoort kick) (10:09)

UT—Hayden 4 run (Becksvoort kick) (6:48)

UT—Safety, Kent tackle of Azama in endzone (4:21)

UT—Silvan 20 pass from Manning (Becksvoort kick) (2:17)

### Third Quarter

UT—Horn 3 pass from Manning (Becksvoort kick) (11:18)

UT—Ford 1 run (Becksvoort kick) (4:06)

UT—Pillow 15 run (Becksvoort kick) (3:01)

### Fourth Quarter

UT—Graham 8 run (Becksvoort kick) (8:33)