

# 2007 Spring Prospectus

# Commodore Quick Facts

## VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Location	Nashville, Tennessee
Enrollment	6,378 (undergraduate)
Founded	1873
Nickname	Commodores
Mascot	Mr. Commodore
Colors	Black & Gold
Stadium	Vanderbilt (39,773)
Chancellor	Dr. E. Gordon Gee
Vice Chancellor of Student Life	David Williams II
Vanderbilt All-Time Record	541-535-50 (.503)
2006 Record	4-8 (1-7 in SEC East)
1st Year of Football	1890
Conference Affiliation	Southeastern
Bowl Appearance/Record	1-1-1

### 2007 FOOTBALL COACHING STAFF

Head Football Coach	Bobby Johnson
Offensive Coordinator/TEs	Ted Cain
Defensive Coordinator	Bruce Fowler
Assistant Head Coach/OL	Robbie Caldwell
Special Teams Coordinator/LBs	Warren Belin
Defensive Secondary	Jamie Bryant
Recruiting Coordinator/RBs	Kenny Carter
Passing Game Co-Coordinator/WRs	Charlie Fisher
Passing Game Co-Coordinator/QBs	Jimmy Kiser
Defensive Line	Rick Logo
Strength & Conditioning Director	John Sisk
Strength Assistants	Gabe Teeple, Curtis Turner
Graduate Assistants	Matt Cain (off.); Andy Frank (def.)

### FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF

Director of Sport Operations	Brian Reese
Assistant Director of Operations	Michael Hazel
Head Athletic Trainer	Tom Bossung
Equipment Manager	Luke Wyatt
Video Coordinators	Wes Whaley, Steven Parks
Administrative Staff	Angela Bess, Beverly Brothers, Andrea Poole Cain, Edwyna Griscom
Assistant Trainers	Patrick Violette, Justin Wenzel
Assistant Equipment Manager	Chris Singleton

### MEDIA RELATIONS STAFF

Football Sports Information Contact	Larry Leathers
office telephone	(615) 322-4121
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email address	<a href="mailto:larry.leathers@vanderbilt.edu">larry.leathers@vanderbilt.edu</a>
Director of Sports Information Office	Rod Williamson

### 2007 VANDERBILT SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	KICKOFF
September 1	Richmond	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
September 8	ALABAMA	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
September 15	OLE MISS	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
September 29	Eastern Michigan	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
October 6	AUBURN	Auburn, Ala.	TBA
October 13	GEORGIA	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
October 20	SOUTH CAROLINA	Columbia, S.C.	TBA
October 27	Miami (Ohio)	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
November 3	FLORIDA	Gainesville, Fla.	TBA
November 10	KENTUCKY	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA
November 17	TENNESSEE	Knoxville, Tenn.	TBA
November 24	Wake Forest	Vanderbilt Stadium	TBA

### 2006 VANDERBILT SCHEDULE/RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTENDANCE
September 2	@ Michigan	L	7-27	109,668
September 9	@ Alabama	L	10-13	92,138
September 16	Arkansas	L	19-21	32,202
September 23	Tennessee State	W	38-19	27,460
September 30	Temple	W	43-14	34,319
October 7	@ Ole Miss	L	10-17	51,211
October 14	@ Georgia	W	24-22	92,746
October 21	South Carolina	L	13-31	37,280
October 28	@ Duke	W	45-28	14,198
November 4	Florida	L	19-25	38,134
November 11	@ Kentucky	L	26-38	52,235
November 18	Tennessee	L	10-39	39,773

### NOTE TO MEDIA COVERING THE COMMODORES

Vanderbilt Head Coach Bobby Johnson, his coaching staff and the media relations department would like to invite you to "Commodore Spring 2007."

The first of 15 spring sessions is expected Tuesday, March 13, with the players on the John Rich Complex practice field at 4:00 p.m. Inclement weather will affect the team's practice schedule. Starting times may vary for any weekend practices.

The spring session is expected to continue into the first week of April. The featured Black & Gold Scrimmage is scheduled midway through Spring Practice on March 31. The schedule allows Vanderbilt to continue after the Black & Gold Scrimmage.

The Black & Gold Scrimmage is the lone practice session open to the general public. All other Spring Practice sessions are open on an invitation-only basis, approved by the football office.

Beat reporters can attend the practices. Media photographers and videographers are allowed access to the first 30 minutes of practice. Interviews are available immediately after practice. Practice reports will be limited to [www.vucommodes.com](http://www.vucommodes.com).

**WWW.VUCOMMODORES.COM**





# Spring Notes

## Receiver Bennett Approaching SEC All-Time Records

Wide receiver Earl Bennett, Vanderbilt's first football All-America recipient in eight years, enters his junior season in a Commodore uniform within reach of Southeastern Conference career receiving records.

Bennett, who currently holds 10 school records and a pair of SEC marks, needs 48 receptions to overtake former Kentucky standout WR Craig Yeast as the SEC's career leader. The all-time receptions mark is one of several records seemingly within Bennett's grasp.

Bennett, a product of West End H.S. in Birmingham, Ala., has posted remarkable achievements in his first two years wearing Black & Gold. He followed a 79-reception campaign as a freshman in 2005 with an 82-catch performance (8th in the NCAA) last year, becoming the first player in SEC history to post at least 75 receptions in two different seasons.

Bennett's single-game accomplishments are amazing. In 23 career starts, he has caught at least 10 passes in seven games, surpassed the 100-yard receiving plateau on seven occasions, and has six games of more than 150 receiving yards, topped by a 220-yard effort at Kentucky last year that is the most by SEC receiver in five years. In 2005, Bennett caught 16 passes against South Carolina, fourth most ever by a SEC player. That same year, he tied a 28-year-old SEC mark with five touchdown catches against Kentucky.

Bennett also is within reach of prominent Vanderbilt career receiving marks. Currently, Bennett ranks fourth in receptions (needing 40 catches), fifth in receiving yardage (942 yards shy of the record) and is tied for sixth in TD receptions (just six TD catches away from breaking the current mark).

### BENNETT & VANDY CAREER LEADERS

#### SINGLE-SEASON RECEPTIONS — VANDERBILT

REC.	NAME (SEASON RECEIVING YARDS)	YEARS
1.	97 Keith Edwards (909 yards)	1983
2.	82 Earl Bennett (1,146 yards)	2006
3.	79 Bob Goodridge (1,114 yards)	1967
	79 Earl Bennett (876 yards)	2005
5.	78 Boo Mitchell (1,213 yards)	1988

#### CAREER RECEPTIONS — VANDERBILT

REC.	NAME (CAREER RECEIVING YARDS)	YEARS
1.	200 Keith Edwards (1,757 yards)	1980, 82-83
2.	188 Boo Mitchell (2,964 yards)	1985-88
3.	182 Dan Stricker (2,880 yards)	1999-2002
4.	161 Earl Bennett (2,022 yards)	2005-06

#### CAREER RECEIVING YARDS — VANDERBILT

REC.	YARDS	NAME (CAREER RECEPTIONS)	YEARS
1.	2,964	Boo Mitchell (188 rec., 9 TDs)	1985-88
2.	2,880	Dan Stricker (182 rec., 21 TDs)	1999-2002
3.	2,275	Martin Cox (132 rec., 9 TDs)	1975-78
4.	2,219	Chuck Scott (145 rec., 20 TDs)	1981-84
5.	2,022	Earl Bennett (161 rec., 15 TDs)	2005-06

## BENNETT & SEC CAREER RECEIVING LEADERS

### SINGLE-SEASON RECEPTIONS — SEC

REC.	NAME, SCHOOL (SEASON RECEIVING YARDS)	YEAR
1.	97 Keith Edwards, Vandy (909 yards)	1983
2.	94 Josh Reed, LSU (1,740 yards)	2001
3.	90 James Whalen, UK (1,019 yards)	1999
4.	88 Carlos Alvarez, UF (1,329 yards)	1969
	88 Chad Jackson, UF (900 yards)	2005
6.	85 Craig Yeast, UK (1,311 yards)	1998
7.	82 Earl Bennett, Vandy (1,146 yards)	2006
8.	80 Wendell Davis, LSU (1,244 yards)	1986
9.	79 Bob Goodridge, Vandy (1,114 yards)	1967
	79 Earl Bennett, Vandy (876 yards)	2005

### CAREER RECEPTIONS — SEC

REC.	NAME, SCHOOL (CAREER RECEIVING YARDS)	YEARS
1.	208 Craig Yeast, UK (2,899 yards)	1995-98
2.	204 Terrence Edwards, UGA (3,093 yards)	1999-2002
3.	200 Keith Edwards, Vandy (1,757 yards)	1980, 82-84
4.	198 Chris Collins, Ole Miss (2,621 yards)	2000-03
5.	197 Derek Abney, UK (2,339 yards)	2000-03
6.	194 Anthony White, UK (1,519 yards)	1996-99
7.	188 Boo Mitchell, Vandy (2,964 yards)	1985-88
8.	183 Wendell Davis, LSU (2,708 yards)	1984-87
	183 Joey Kent, UT (2,814 yards)	1993-96
10.	182 Brice Hunter, UGA (2,373 yards)	1992-95
	182 Dan Stricker, Vandy (2,880 yards)	1999-2002
	182 Michael Clayton, LSU (2,582 yards)	2001-03
13.	177 Marcus Nash, UT (2,447 yards)	1994-97
14.	172 Carlos Alvarez, UF (2,563 yards)	1969-71
15.	167 Josh Reed, LSU (3,001 yards)	1999-2001
16.	162 David Smith, MSU (2,168 yards)	1968-70
	162 Willie Jackson, UF (2,172 yards)	1990-93
18.	161 Fred Gibson, UGA (2,884 yards)	2001-04
	161 Earl Bennett, Vandy (2,022 yards)	2005-06
20.	160 Zola Davis, USC (2,291 yards)	1995-98

## 2006 COMMODORE POSTSEASON ACCOLADES

### EARL BENNETT, So., WIDE RECEIVER

- Third-team All-America, Rivals.com
- First-team All-Southeastern Conference, Associated Press
- Second-team All-Southeastern Conference, coaches' poll

### JONATHAN GOFF, LINEBACKER

- Second-team All-Southeastern Conference, coaches' poll

### CHRIS WILLIAMS, OFFENSIVE TACKLE

- Second-team All-Southeastern Conference, coaches' poll

### D.J. MOORE, DEFENSIVE BACK

- Southeastern Conference All-Freshman Team, coaches' poll

### DARLON SPREAD, DEFENSIVE BACK

- All-Southeastern Conference Freshman Team, *The Sporting News*

## SEC ACTIVE CAREER LEADERS — TOTAL TACKLES

TOTAL TACKLES	PLAYER, POSITION, SCHOOL
256	Wesley Woodyard, LB, Kentucky
226	Jonathan Hefney, DB, Tennessee
194	Jonathan Goff, LB, Vanderbilt
159	Ali Highsmith, LB, LSU
147	Roger Williams, safety, Kentucky
130	Weston Dacus, LB, Arkansas
124	Titus Brown, DL, Miss. State
122	Jamarca Sanford, DB, Ole Miss

## SEC ACTIVE CAREER LEADERS — SOLO TACKLES

SOLO TACKLES	PLAYER, POSITION, SCHOOL
181	Wesley Woodyard, LB, Kentucky
166	Jonathan Hefney, DB, Tennessee
141	Jonathan Goff, LB, Vanderbilt
113	Roger Williams, safety, Kentucky
85	Jasper Brinkley, LB, So. Carolina
80	Weston Dacus, LB, Arkansas
74	Paul Oliver, DB, Georgia
73	Jamarca Sanford, DB, Ole Miss

## Goff Among SEC's Top Returning Tacklers

Middle linebacker Jonathan Goff (Lynn, Mass.) ranks among the Southeastern Conference leaders in two key tackle statistical categories entering his fifth and final Commodore season.

Goff, a 2006 co-captain, ranks third among active SEC defensive players with 194 career tackles, trailing Kentucky's Wesley Woodyard (256) and Tennessee's Jonathan Hefney (226).

Goff also ranks third in career solo tackles with 141. Woodyard and Hefney also are ahead of Goff in this category.

Goff, named second-team All-SEC linebacker by the coaches last year, has started 28 consecutive games, the longest current streak on the Commodore roster.

# Commodore Roster

## 2006 STARTERS RETURNING: 19

### OFFENSE: 9

NAME	YEAR	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	KEY 2006 STATS
Earl Bennett	Jr.	WR	6-1/202	82 catches, 1,146 yards as '06 sophomore
Josh Eames	R-Sr.	OG	6-4/310	Dependable two-year starter at guard
Hamilton Holliday	Sr.	C	6-3/290	Started every game in '06 at center
Cassen Jackson-Garrison	Sr.	TB	6-1/220	Set career high with 614 rushing yards
Merritt Kirchoffer	R-Sr.	OG	6-5/320	A potential standout at guard or tackle
Chris Nickson	R-Jr.	QB	6-1/210	Amassed 2,779 total yards as QB in 2006
George Smith	R-Jr.	WR	6-3/195	Ranked third on team with 21 receptions
Brian Stamper	R-Sr.	OT	6-5/295	'05 All-SEC pick returns from injury
Chris Williams	R-Sr.	OT	6-6/315	Named second team All-SEC by coaches

### DEFENSE: 8

NAME	YEAR	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	KEY 2006 STATS
Marcus Buggs	R-Sr.	LB	5-11/235	Posted 40 solo stops, 10.5 tackles for loss
Joel Caldwell	R-So.	CB	6-1/185	Contributed 42 tackles as first-year starter
Curtis Gatewood	R-Sr.	DE	6-3/245	Topped team with seven sacks in '06
Jonathan Goff	R-Sr.	LB	6-4/235	Captain, topped team in tackles as junior
Ryan Hamilton	R-So.	S	6-1/205	Contributed 43 tackles as starting safety
Theo Horrocks	Sr.	DT	6-3/295	Posted career highs in tackles and sacks
Reshard Langford	R-Jr.	S	6-2/215	Leader in Secondary; Nabbed three INTs
D.J. Moore	So.	CB	5-10/180	Contributed 37 tackles as true freshman

### SPECIALISTS: 2

NAME	YEAR	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	KEY 2006 STATS
Bryant Hahnfeldt	Jr.	P/PK	5-11/180	Made eight FGs coming off knee surgery
Brett Upson	So.	P	5-10/175	Averaged 38 yards as freshman punter

## 2006 STARTERS LOST: 5

### OFFENSE: 2

NAME	Pos.	KEY 2006 STATS
Steven Bright	TE	Garnered 18 catches before suffering season-ending foot injury
Marlon White	WR	No. 2 receiver with 25 catches; surpassed 100 career receptions

### DEFENSE: 3

NAME	Pos.	KEY 2006 STATS
Chris Booker	DE	Three-year starter; contributed 37 total tackles in 2006
Ray Brown	DT	Blossomed as senior starter; Contributed 36 total tackles
Kevin Joyce	LB	Team's second leading tackler with 59 stops, 43 unassisted

## NEWCOMERS TO WATCH

NAME	YEAR	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Joey Bailey	R-Fr.	OL	6-4/260	Impressed as '06 frosh; needs added weight
Nate Campbell	R-Fr.	LB	6-3/228	Could be in mix at OLB with strong spring
Jared Funk	R-Fr.	QB	6-2/200	Accurate QB who impressed as freshman
Justin Green	R-Fr.	TE	6-6/230	As size/strength increase, future is unlimited
Marquez Hall	R-Fr.	CB	5-9/165	One of Commodores' fastest players
Adam Smotherman	R-Fr.	DT	6-3/270	Hard worker with chance to contribute in '07
Alan Strong	R-Fr.	CB	5-10/175	Athletic corner; had solid off-season effort

## LETTERWINNERS RETURNING: 53

**OFFENSE** (26) Mackenzi Adams, Brad Allen, Bryant Anderson, Earl Bennett, Jake Bradford, Matt Bubis, Ryan Custer, Josh Eames, Jared Hawkins, Eric Hensley, Hamilton Holliday, Cassen Jackson-Garrison, Jeff Jennings, Merritt Kirchoffer, Gaston Miller, Chris Nickson, Chris Reinert, Larry Simmons, George Smith, Brian Stamper, Bradley Vierling, Sean Walker, Alex Washington, Thomas Welch, Justin Wheeler, Chris Williams

**DEFENSE** (23) Josh Allen, Patrick Benoist, Greg Billinger, Marcus Buggs, Brandon Bryant, Joel Caldwell, Jared Fagan, Curtis Gatewood, Jonathan Goff, Gabe Hall, Ryan Hamilton, Brandon Holmes, Theo Horrocks, Chris Johnson, Reshard Langford, Myron Lewis, Quavian Lewis, D.J. Moore, Darlron Spead, Broderick Stewart, Steven Stone, Brent Trice, David Whittington

**SPECIALISTS** (4) Bryant Hahnfeldt, Nick Miller, Matt Quinn, Brett Upson

## LETTERWINNERS LOST: 12

**OFFENSE** (4) Steven Bright, Elliot Hood, Mac Pyle, Marlon White

**DEFENSE** (6) Chris Booker, Ray Brown, Sean Dixon, Funtaine Hunter, Ben Koger, Adrian Reif

**SPECIALISTS** (2) Patrick Johnson, Kyle Keown

## COMMODORES BY CLASS

**SENIORS** (12) Marcus Buggs, Josh Eames, Gabe Hall, Hamilton Holliday, Theo Horrocks, Curtis Gatewood, Jonathan Goff, Cassen Jackson-Garrison, Merritt Kirchoffer, Richard Kovalcheck, Brian Stamper, Chris Williams

**JUNIORS** (13) Brad Allen, Josh Allen, Bryant Anderson, Earl Bennett, Jared Fagan, Bryant Hahnfeldt, Brandon Holmes, Jeff Jennings, Reshard Langford, Chris Nickson, George Smith, Sean Walker, David Whittington

**SOPHOMORES** (35) Mackenzi Adams, Bo Baggerly, Patrick Benoist, Greg Billinger, Jake Bradford, Brandon Bryant, Matt Bubis, Joel Caldwell, Thomas Carroll, Ryan Custer, Derrius Dowell, Drew Gardner, Ryan Hamilton, Jared Hawkins, Eric Hensley, Chris Johnson, David Leinweber, Myron Lewis, Quavian Lewis, Gaston Miller, Nick Miller, D.J. Moore, Matt Quinn, Chris Reinert, Larry Simmons, Darlron Spead, Broderick Stewart, Steven Stone, Brent Trice, Brett Upson, Ryan Vance, Bradley Vierling, Alex Washington, Thomas Welch, Justin Wheeler

**REDSHIRT FRESHMEN** (16) Joey Bailey, Teriall Brannon, Drew Brenk, Nate Campbell, Jared Funk, Michael Garcia, Steven Goulet, Justin Green, Marquez Hall, Reilly Lauer, Kikko Logan, Austin Newton, Kennard Reeves, Adam Smotherman, Alan Strong, Turner Wimberly



# Pre-Spring Depth Chart

## THE COMMODORE OFFENSE

<b>QB</b>	3	CHRIS NICKSON (6-2, 210, R-Jr.)
	9	Mackenzi Adams (6-2, 208, R-So.)
	15	Richard Kovalcheck (6-2, 222, R-Sr.)
<b>TB</b>	22	CASSEN JACKSON-GARRISON (6-1, 220, Sr.)
-or-	21	Jeff Jennings (6-1, 222, R-Jr.)
	31	Jared Hawkins (5-10, 192, R-So.)
<b>WR</b>	10	EARL BENNETT (6-1, 202, Jr.)
	81	Bryant Anderson (6-3, 210, R-Jr.)
<b>WR</b>	88	GEORGE SMITH (6-3, 195, R-Jr.)
	26	Alex Washington (5-10, 180, R-So.)
<b>WR</b>	7	Sean Walker (6-0, 180, R-Jr.)
	80	Justin Wheeler (6-0, 175, R-So.)
<b>TE</b>	83	Brad Allen (6-3, 240, R-Jr.)
	85	Jake Bradford (6-6, 260, R-So.)
<b>LT</b>	74	CHRIS WILLIAMS (6-6, 315, R-Sr.)
	66	Eric Hensley (6-6, 305, R-So.)
<b>LG</b>	78	JOSH EAMES (6-5, 310, R-Sr.)
	70	Drew Gardner (6-5, 305, R-So.)
<b>C</b>	53	HAMILTON HOLLIDAY (6-3, 290, Sr.)
	70	Bradley Vierling (6-3, 290, R-So.)
<b>RG</b>	64	MERRITT KIRCHOFFER (6-5, 315, R-Sr.)
-or-	73	Ryan Custer (6-4, 295, R-So.)
<b>RT</b>	72	Brian Stamper (6-5, 295, R-Sr.)
	76	Thomas Welch (6-6, 280, R-So.)

## THE COMMODORE DEFENSE

<b>DE</b>	48	CURTIS GATEWOOD (6-3, 245, R-Sr.)
	51	Quavian Lewis (6-3, 225, R-So.)
<b>DT</b>	56	Gabe Hall (6-1, 288, Sr.)
-or-	98	Greg Billinger (6-2, 290, So.)
<b>DT</b>	54	THEO HORROCKS (6-3, 295, Sr.)
	92	Brandon Holmes (6-3, 295, R-Jr.)
<b>DE</b>	89	Broderick Stewart (6-5, 225, R-So.)
-or-	95	Steven Stone (6-6, 255, R-So.)
<b>SLB</b>	24	MARCUS BUGGS (5-11, 235, R-Sr.)
	52	Nate Campbell (6-3, 228, R-Fr.)
<b>MLB</b>	47	JONATHAN GOFF (6-4, 235, R-Sr.)
	57	Chris Johnson (6-1, 230, R-So.)
<b>WLB</b>	35	Brandon Bryant (6-1, 230, R-So.)
-or-	30	Patrick Benoist (6-0, 215, So.)
<b>CB</b>	29	JOEL CALDWELL (6-1, 185, R-So.)
-or-	5	Myron Lewis (6-2, 195, So.)
<b>SS</b>	33	RESHARD LANGFORD (6-2, 215, R-Jr.)
	41	Brent Trice (6-2, 205, So.)
<b>FS</b>	2	RYAN HAMILTON (6-1, 205, R-So.)
	4	Roger Herndon (5-11, 200, So.)
<b>CB</b>	16	D.J. Moore (5-10, 175, So.)
-or-	14	Josh Allen (5-9, 182, R-Jr.)
<b>NB</b>	6	DARLRON SPEAD (5-10, 185, R-So.)
	20	Jared Fagan (5-10, 180, R-Jr.)

## THE COMMODORE SPECIALISTS

<b>PK</b>	8	BRYANT HAHNFELDT (5-11, 180, Jr.)	<b>PR</b>	10	Earl Bennett (6-1, 202, Jr.)
<b>P</b>	39	BRETT UPSON (5-10, 175, So.) -or-		26	Alex Washington (5-10, 180, R-So.)
	8	Bryant Hahnfeldt (5-11, 180, Jr.)	<b>KR</b>	10	Earl Bennett (6-1, 202, Jr.)
<b>KO</b>	8	BRYANT HAHNFELDT (5-11, 180, Jr.)		14	Josh Allen (5-10, 182, R-Jr.)
<b>H</b>	9	MACKENZI ADAMS (6-2, 208, R-So.)	<b>LS</b>	84	MATT QUINN (6-5, 220, So.)
	3	Chris Nickson (6-1, 210, R-Jr.)		75	Nick Miller (6-3, 250, R-So.)
			<b>SN</b>	75	NICK MILLER (6-3, 250, R-So.)

\* All players listed in ALL CAPS ended 2006 season as starters



# Alphabetical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Year/CL	Hometown/High School
9	Mackenzi Adams	QB	6-2	208	So.-1L	Tulsa, Okla./Union
83	Brad Allen	TE	6-4	240	Jr.-2L	Venice, Fla./Venice
14	Josh Allen	CB	5-9	182	Jr.-2L	Roswell, Ga./Roswell
81	Bryant Anderson	WR	6-3	210	Jr.-2L	Roswell, Ga./Centennial
49	Bo Baggerley	LB	6-1	210	So.-SQ	Forsyth, Ga./Stratford Academy
71	Joey Bailey	OL	6-4	260	Fr.-RS	Trussville, Ala./Hewitt-Trussville
10	Earl Bennett	WR	6-1	202	Jr.-2L	Birmingham, Ala./West End
30	Patrick Benoist	LB	6-0	215	So.-1L	Southlake, Texas/Carroll Senior
98	Greg Billinger	DT	6-3	290	So.-1L	Lilburn, Ga./Parkview
85	Jake Bradford	TE	6-6	260	So.-1L	St. Simons Island, Ga./Glynn Acad.
89	Teriell Brannon	DE	6-3	230	Fr.-RS	Spartanburg, S.C./Broome
67	Drew Brenk	OG	6-4	295	Fr.-RS	Needville, Texas/Needville
35	Brandon Bryant	LB	6-1	230	So.-1L	Cincinnati, Ohio/St. Xavier
32	Matt Bubis	FB	5-10	240	So.-SQ	Nashville, Tenn./Montgomery Bell
24	Marcus Buggs	LB	5-11	235	Sr.-3L	Madison, Tenn./Goodpasture
29	Joel Caldwell	CB	6-1	185	So.-1L	Hoover, Ala./Hoover
52	Nathan Campbell	LB	6-3	228	Fr.-RS	Hazen, Ark./Hazen
50	Thomas Carroll	PK	5-9	165	So.-SQ	Columbus, Ga./Brookstone
73	Ryan Custer	OG	6-4	295	So.-1L	Troy, Ohio/Troy
99	Derrius Dowell	DT	6-3	280	So.-SQ	Atlanta, Ga./Douglass
78	Josh Eames	OG	6-5	310	Sr.-3L	North Cape May, N.J./Lower Cape
20	Jared Fagan	CB	5-9	180	Jr.-2L	Waldorf, Md./Westlake
61	Nick Forte	OG	6-3	290	So.-SQ	Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood Acad.
12	Jared Funk	QB	6-2	200	Fr.-RS	Long Grove, Ill./Saint Viator
62	Michael Garcia	LB	5-11	230	Fr.-RS	Jacksonville, Fla./Bolles School
70	Drew Gardner	OG	6-5	305	So.-1L	Hoxie, Ark./Hoxie
48	Curtis Gatewood	DE	6-3	245	Sr.-3L	Memphis, Tenn./White Station
47	Jonathan Goff	LB	6-4	235	Sr.-3L	Lynn, Mass./St. John's Prep
87	Steven Goulet	WR	6-2	180	Fr.-RS	Irmo, S.C./Dutch Fork
82	Justin Green	TE	6-7	230	Fr.-RS	Troy, Ala./Henderson
8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	P/PK	5-11	180	Jr.-2L	Nashville, Tenn./Montgomery Bell
56	Gabe Hall	DT	6-1	288	Sr.-3L	Virginia Beach, Va./Fork Union
34	Marquez Hall	CB	5-9	165	Fr.-RS	Shorter, Ala./Booker T. Washington
2	Ryan Hamilton	S	6-1	205	So.-1L	Wycombe, Pa./Council Rock North
41	Ben Havrilesko	DB	5-10	180	So.-SQ	Winchester, Ky./Clark
31	Jared Hawkins	TB	5-10	192	So.-1L	Spring, Texas/Klein
66	Eric Hensley	OT	6-6	305	So.-1L	Clinton, Tenn./Clinton
4	Roger Herndon	S	5-11	200	So.-RS	Greenbrier, Tenn./Greenbrier
53	Hamilton Holliday	C	6-3	290	Sr.-3L	Marietta, Ga./Walton
92	Brandon Holmes	DT	6-3	295	Jr.-2L	Garland, Texas/Garland
54	Theo Horrocks	DT	6-3	295	Sr.-3L	Fayetteville, Tenn./Lincoln County
22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison	TB	6-1	220	Sr.-3L	Knoxville, Tenn./Central
21	Jeff Jennings	TB	6-1	222	Jr.-2L	Dandridge, Tenn./Jefferson County
57	Chris Johnson	LB	6-1	230	So.-1L	Birmingham, Ala./Oak Mountain
64	Merritt Kirchoffer	OG	6-5	315	Sr.-3L	Roswell, Ga./Roswell
15	Richard Kovalcheck	QB	6-2	222	Sr.-1L	San Diego, Calif./St. Augustine
33	Reshard Langford	S	6-2	215	Jr.-2L	Tanner, Ala./Tanner
86	Reilly Lauer	TE	6-6	238	Fr.-RS	Gates Mills, Ohio/St. Ignatius
97	John Laughrey	K	6-0	180	Fr.-RS	McKenzie, Tenn./McKenzie
93	David Leinweber	DE	6-5	250	So.-SQ	Bloomington Hills, Mich./Kingswood
5	Myron Lewis	CB	6-2	195	So.-1L	Pompano Beach, Fla./Pom. Beach
51	Quavian Lewis	DE	6-3	225	So.-1L	Troy, Ala./Henderson
50	Kikko Logan	DE	6-2	230	Fr.-RS	Elba, Ala./Elba
27	Gaston Miller	TB	5-6	165	So.-1L	Murfreesboro, Tenn./Riverdale
68	Nick Miller	OL	6-2	250	So.-1L	Matthews, N.C./East Mecklenburg
16	D.J. Moore	CB	5-10	175	So.-1L	Spartanburg, S.C./Broome
66*	Dom Morais	LB	6-0	218	Jr.-SQ	Dayton, Texas/Dayton
93	Austin Newton	LB	6-2	215	Fr.-RS	McDonough, Ga./Union Grove
3	Chris Nickson	QB	6-1	210	Jr.-2L	Brundidge, Ala./Pike County
5*	Sam Panke	DE	6-1	230	Fr.-RS	St. Louis, Mo./Watkins
84	Matt Quinn	SN	6-5	220	So.-1L	Wellford, S.C./Byrnes
47	Chris Reinart	WR	5-9	175	So.-1L	Santa Ana, Calif./Servite
28	Kennard Reeves	RB	5-11	195	Fr.-RS	Duluth, Ga./Duluth
18	Larry Simmons	WR	5-10	165	So.-SQ	Austin, Texas/Anderson

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Year/CL	Hometown/High School
88	George Smith	WR	6-3	195	Jr.-2L	Hollywood, Fla./Hollywood Hills
59	Adam Smotherman	DT	6-4	270	Fr.-RS	Smyrna, Tenn./Smyrna
6	Darlon Spead	CB	5-10	185	So.-1L	Kingsland, Ga./Camden Co.
72	Brian Stamper	OT	6-5	295	Sr.-3L	Windermere, Fla./Lake Highland
89	Broderick Stewart	DE	6-5	225	So.-1L	Newnan, Ga./Riverside Military
96	Steven Stone	DE	6-5	255	So.-1L	Conway, Ark./Conway
12	Alan Strong	CB	5-9	170	Fr.-RS	Atlanta, Ga./Douglass
41	Brett Trice	S	6-2	205	So.-1L	Orange, Va./Fork Union Military
39	Brett Upson	P	5-10	175	So.-1L	Griffin, Ga./Spalding
79	Ryan Vance	OG	6-3	280	So.-SQ	Bellaire, Texas/Episcopal
60	Bradley Vierling	C	6-4	295	So.-1L	Warminster, Pa./Central Bucks East
7	Sean Walker	WR	6-0	180	Jr.-2L	Louisville, Ga./Jefferson County
26	Alex Washington	WR	5-10	180	So.-1L	Stone Mountain, Ga./Stephenson
76	Thomas Welch	OT	6-6	280	So.-1L	Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood
80	Justin Wheeler	WR	6-0	175	So.-1L	North Augusta, Ga./No. Augusta
44	David Whittington	DE	6-2	250	Jr.-2L	Lafayette, La./St. Thomas More
74	Chris Williams	OT	6-6	315	Sr.-2L	Glynn, La./Catholic
13	Turner Wimberly	WR	6-0	195	Fr.-RS	Austin, Texas/Hun School (N.J.)

## Numerical Roster

2	Ryan Hamilton	SS	51	Quavian Lewis	DE
3	Chris Nickson	QB	52	Nathan Campbell	LB
4	Roger Herndon	FS	53	Hamilton Holliday	C
5	Myron Lewis	CB	54	Theo Horrocks	DE
5*	Sam Panke	DE	56	Gabe Hall	DT
6	Darlon Spead	CB	57	Chris Johnson	LB
7	Sean Walker	WR	59	Adam Smotherman	DT
8	Bryant Hahnfeldt	PK/P	60	Bradley Vierling	OL
9	Mackenzi Adams	QB	61	Nick Forte	OL
10	Earl Bennett	WR	62	Michael Garcia	LB
12	Jared Funk	QB	64	Merritt Kirchoffer	OG
12	Alan Strong	CB	66	Eric Hensley	OT
13	Turner Wimberly	WR	66*	Dom Morais	LB
14	Josh Allen	CB	67	Drew Brenk	OL
15	Richard Kovalcheck	QB	68	Nick Miller	OL
16	D.J. Moore	CB	70	Drew Gardner	OL
18	Larry Simmons	WR	71	Joey Bailey	OL
20	Jared Fagan	CB	72	Brian Stamper	OT
21	Jeff Jennings	TB	73	Ryan Custer	OL
22	Cassen Jackson-Garrison	TB	74	Chris Williams	OT
24	Marcus Buggs	LB	76	Thomas Welch	OT
26	Alex Washington	WR	78	Josh Eames	OT
27	Gaston Miller	TB	79	Ryan Vance	OL
28	Kennard Reeves	TB	80	Justin Wheeler	WR
29	Joel Caldwell	CB	81	Bryant Anderson	WR
30	Patrick Benoist	LB	82	Justin Green	TE
31	Jared Hawkins	TB	83	Brad Allen	TE
32	Matt Bubis	DB	84	Matt Quinn	SN
33	Reshard Langford	FS	85	Jake Bradford	TE
34	Marquez Hall	CB	86	Reilly Lauer	TE
35	Brandon Bryant	LB	87	Steven Goulet	WR
39	Brett Upson	P	88	George Smith	WR
41	Brett Trice	SS	89	Teriell Brannon	DE
41*	Ben Havrilesko	DB	90	Broderick Stewart	DE
44	David Whittington	FB	91	Austin Newton	DE
47	Jonathan Goff	LB	92	Brandon Holmes	DT
47*	Chris Reinart	WR	93	David Leinweber	DE
48	Curtis Gatewood	DE	96	Steven Stone	DE
49	Bo Baggerley	LB	97	John Laughrey	PK
50	Kikko Logan	DE	98	Greg Billinger	DT
50*	Thomas Carroll	PK	99	Derrius Dowell	DT









Two offensive line prospects to watch this spring are tackles **Thomas Welch** (6-6, 280, R-So.) and **Eric Hensley** (6-6, 305, R-So.). Welch is an athletic big man who decided to move from tight end last year to aid the Commodores' sagging depth up front. He enters Spring Practice 20 pounds heavier than a year ago, and much stronger off excellent off-season conditioning. Hensley also moved forward since the 2006 season, impressing strength coaches with his drive to improve in the weight room and on the practice field. Several other young prospects, including **Drew Gardner** (6-5, 305, R-So.), **Ryan Vance** (6-3, 280, R-So.) and walk-on **Nick Forte** (6-2, 290, So.), will try to show coaches this spring that they deserve consideration for playing time.

## THE COMMODORE DEFENSE

**TACKLES:** The interior leader is **Theo Horrocks** (6-3, 295, Sr.), a two-year starter and one of the most productive Commodore tackles in several years. The All-Southeastern Conference caliber Horrocks goes as hard as he can every snap, and continues to improve with each season. Last year, he posted career numbers in virtually every statistical category, ranking among the team leaders in forced fumbles, sacks, tackles for loss and total tackles. Horrocks also was a workhorse inside, playing more than 90 percent of the defensive snaps.

The coaching staff will use spring drills to evaluate several candidates hoping to replace graduated Ray Brown as the tackle slot next to Horrocks. **Gabe Hall** (6-1, 288, Sr.), one of the strongest players on the Vanderbilt roster, and **Greg Billinger** (6-3, 290, So.) are the most likely prospects to earn the opening. Hall played well for the Commodores early in the 2006 season only to become limited by injuries as the season wore on. With Hall sidelined, the inexperienced Billinger moved into a role spelling Brown.

Two other returnees, **Brandon Holmes** (6-4, 295, R-Jr.) and **Derrius Dowell** (6-3, 280, R-So.) have a chance to secure playing time this spring.

**DEFENSIVE ENDS:** **Curtis Gatewood** (6-3, 245, R-Sr.) is back after posting a superb season last year as a first-year starter. Gatewood displayed an off-the-edge quickness and toughness to take on 300-pound tackles as a junior.

exiting the season with seven sacks, three forced fumbles and 36 solo tackles. Gatewood is positioned for All-SEC consideration if he continues to improve.

Across from Gatewood, Commodore coaches need to identify a replacement for graduate starter Chris Booker this spring. A pair of talented redshirt sophomores, **Broderick Stewart** (6-5, 225) and **Steven Stone** (6-6, 255), are expected to compete for the starting role. Stewart was a big-play specialist last year, contributing five sacks while Stone produced 6.5 tackles for loss among his 24 total tackles.

**David Whittington** (6-2, 250, R-Jr.) and a pair of former linebackers, **Quavian Lewis** (6-3, 225, R-So.), **Terrell Brannon** (6-3, 230, R-Fr.) and **Kikko Logan** (6-2, 230, R-Fr.), will get a chance in spring drills to make their case for playing time at defensive end. Walk-on **David Leinweber** (6-5, 250, Jr.) also will get repetitions.

**LINEBACKERS:** All-America candidate **Jonathan Goff** (6-4, 235, R-Sr.) is a physical presence for the Commodores from his middle linebacker position and one of the top defensive players in the Southeastern Conference. Goff and strongside linebacker **Marcus Buggs** (5-11, 235, R-Sr.) give the squad a pair of solid performers and excellent leaders returning for their final year wearing black and gold.

Goff, highly regarded by NFL draft experts, continues the superb Commodore tradition at linebacker, and enters 2007 having started 27 consecutive games. Goff is the Commodores' active career leader with 194 total tackles. Goff enters spring drills in superb condition, five pounds lighter than a year ago.

Buggs became a vocal leader and impact hitter as a first-year starter in 2006. He should continue to blossom, and like Goff, serves as an excellent example at practice for the more inexperienced linebackers.

One of the top items this spring will be the competition to replace graduated Kevin Joyce at weakside linebacker. The staff will evaluate several candidates, including **Brandon Bryant** (6-1, 230, R-So.), **Patrick Benoist** (6-0, 215, So.), **Chris Johnson** (6-1, 230, R-So.), **Nathan Campbell** (6-3, 228, R-Fr.) and **Austin Newton** (6-2, 215, R-Fr.). The athletic Bryant contributed 18 tackles in a reserve role last year while Benoist was creating a key role for himself

## COMMODORES IN THE SPOTLIGHT



# CURTIS GATEWOOD

**Redshirt Senior • Def. End • 6-3, 245**  
**Memphis, Tennessee**

Gatewood had a break through year in 2006, ranking among the SEC's Top 10 with seven quarterback sacks. He also contributed three forced fumbles and three fumble recoveries.



## THEO HORROCKS

**Senior • Defensive Tackle • 6-3, 295**  
**Fayetteville, Tennessee**

Horrocks had his best season in 2006, ranking among the SEC defensive tackle leaders with four forced fumbles, five quarterback sacks and 49 total tackles.



## JONATHAN GOFF

**Redshirt Senior • Linebacker • 6-4, 235**  
**Lynn, Massachusetts**

A second-team All-SEC pick in 2006 who has started 27 straight games, Goff ranks among the SEC's top active tacklers. Goff has 141 solo tackles for his credit entering his final season.



# Spring Outlook

as a freshman in 2006 before missing the last five games to injury. Johnson enters spring drills needing a strong showing to propel his Commodore career forward while the coaches were impressed with the practice abilities of Campbell and Newton as redshirt freshmen last year. Others, including walk-ons **Dom Morais** (5-11, 220, Sr.), and **Bo Baggarley** (6-1, 210, Jr.), also will compete this spring for playing time next fall.

**SAFETIES:** Vanderbilt returns an excellent young starting pair of safeties, but need to identify more depth at the position in spring drills.

The leader is two-year starting strong safety **Reshard Langford** (6-2, 215, R-Jr.), an All-Southeastern Conference caliber player who blends a knack for the football with a hard-hitting style rarely witnessed on the Commodore campus. Langford also gives the secondary an outstanding field leader.

**Ryan Hamilton** (6-1, 205, R-So.) returns after earning a starting job at free safety in '06. Hamilton struggled in the early season, learned from his mistakes, and became a solid contributor in the second half of the season.

The staff expects **Brent Trice** (6-2, 205, So.) to blossom in his first Spring Practice. The physical Trice worked his way into a second-team playing role behind Langford as a true freshman.

The Commodores lack experience behind Langford, Hamilton and Trice, and will look to walk-on **Roger Herndon** (5-11, 200, R-So.) and perhaps a player with cornerback experience to accept a bigger role at safety.

**CORNERBACKS:** One of the Commodores' deepest positions, five young cornerbacks with a bounty of experience are back vying for playing time this spring, along with three solid untested prospects.

Both starters from a year ago, **D.J. Moore** (5-10, 175, So.) and **Joel Caldwell** (6-1, 185, R-So.), are back after getting a taste of Southeastern Conference intensity as freshmen performers. While Moore and Caldwell periodically struggled in their initial year, each showed plenty of talent and should improve substantially in their second year of action. The Commodores also return two experienced redshirt juniors, **Josh Allen** (5-9, 182) and **Jared Fagan** (5-9, 180). Allen finished the 2006 season back in the starting lineup while Fagan's minutes increased as the season endured.

The Commodores' experienced cornerbacks will be pushed by a trio of largely talented newcomers. **Myron Lewis** (6-2, 195, So.) showed talent in a limited role last year, and could blossom as he competes for more time this spring. A pair of redshirt freshmen, **Marquez Hall** (5-9, 165) and **Alan Strong** (5-9, 175), impressed coaches and teammates on the practice field last year and enter Spring Practice with the benefit of an excellent off-season conditioning effort.

**Darlon Spead** (5-10, 185, R-So.), a superb open-field tackler, was the Commodores' top nickelback from a year ago. He could be limited as spring drills open recuperating from an off-season knee procedure.

## THE COMMODORE SPECIAL TEAMS

With experienced performers returning at virtually every position, Vanderbilt needs special teams to become an area of strength if the squad plans to improve of its 4-8 season from a year ago.

**PLACEKICKERS:** The Commodores return a two-year starter **Bryant Hahnfeldt** (5-11, 180). The junior struggled at times last year, making eight of 17 field goals, but came back just nine months after undergoing knee surgery. With the injury another year in the past, Hahnfeldt enters Spring Practice more confident and stronger than a year ago.

Hahnfeldt is the only Commodore kicking prospect with collegiate experience. Other kicking candidates include walk-ons **Thomas Carroll** (5-9, 165, R-So.) and **John Laughrey** (6-0, 180, R-Fr.).

**PUNTERS:** Sophomore **Brett Upson** (5-10, 175) is back after serving as the team's No. 1 punter as a true freshman. The first-year experience should help Upson, who started strongly only to slump toward the end of the year. One of Upson's top assets last year with solid hang time, with opponents averaging less than six yards per return.

Upson's main competition could come from Hahnfeldt, who was the Commodores' primary punter as a freshman in 2005 before suffering the knee injury.

## COMMODORES IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**MARCUS BUGGS**

**Redshirt Senior • Linebacker • 5-11, 235  
Madison, Tennessee**

Buggs was one of the Commodores' most active defenders as a first-year starter in 2006, contributing a team-high 10.5 tackles for loss. He also was third on the team with 40 solo tackles.



**RESHARD LANGFORD**

**Redshirt Junior • Safety • 6-2, 215  
Tanner, Alabama**

A unanimous All-SEC Freshman pick by coaches in 2005, the physical Langford played through injuries last year to top the Commodore secondary with three interceptions and 51 total tackles.



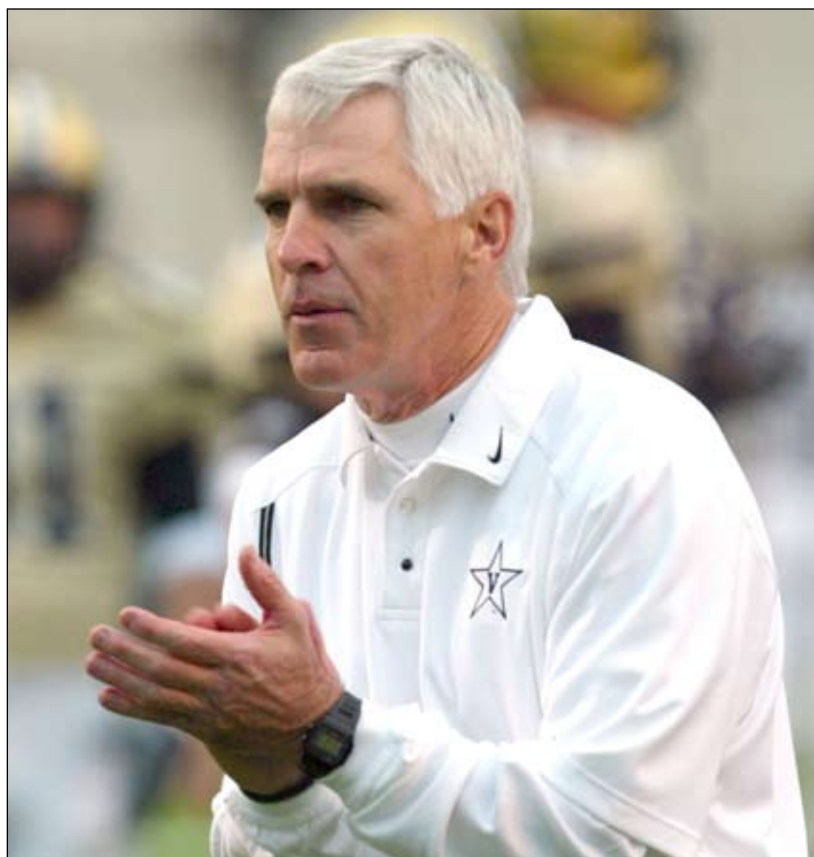
**BRYANT HAHNFELDT**

**Junior • Kicker • 5-11, 180  
Nashville Tennessee**

Hahnfeldt showed plenty of heart in 2006, kicking eight field goals, including a career-long boot of 51 yards, just nine months after undergoing knee surgery.



The goal of winning football games at Vanderbilt is a formidable task for any coach. In 2005, Johnson directed his Commodores to their best record in years. The squad's five victories, which included three on the road, were the most by a Vanderbilt squad in seven seasons. Three wins in SEC play were the most by a Vanderbilt team since the league went to divisional play in 1992. Last year, Commodore fans watched their team play eventual national Florida, SEC West champion Arkansas and Alabama toe-to-toe, then go to Athens, Ga., and earn a thrilling win in front of 92,000 Georgia fans.



*Bobby Johnson enters his sixth Spring Practice directing the Commodores.*

Johnson believes that better times are ahead for his Commodores.

College football observers are taking notice of Johnson's efforts. Several Commodores are earning individual accolades. Three current Commodore starters, including All-America wide receiver Earl Bennett, earned All-SEC recognition last year. Experts believe Bennett, senior linebacker Jonathan Goff and senior offensive tackle Chris Williams may be among the nation's elite at their positions. In 2005, four-year starting quarterback Jay Cutler rewrote Vanderbilt record books, and eventually became the No. 11 overall pick of the Denver Broncos. Last year, Chris Nickson put together one of the finest seasons ever by a Commodore signal caller following Cutler, the 2005 SEC Offensive Player of the Year.

In his five-year tenure, Johnson's mentoring and straight-forward approach has had a positive impact on the Vanderbilt student-athletes, both on and off the field. Under Johnson, nine Commodores have earned All-SEC recognition. Johnson has produced 11 freshmen All-SEC selections, including Vanderbilt's first SEC Freshman of the Year in 2002. Off the field, the Commodores lead the conference in Academic Honor Roll recognition, with more than 20 earning that recognition last year. In recent years, cornerback Andrew Pace and fullback Clark Lea have been nominated for national awards. In 2002, linebacker Hunter Hillenmeyer earned the prestigious National Scholar Athlete Award.

The national media have taken notice of Johnson's tenure at Vanderbilt. Last year, Johnson's Commodores opened the college football season for ESPN, traveling to Ann Arbor to play nationally regarded Michigan. In the last two years, 10 Vanderbilt games have been regionally or nationally televised. Numerous media outlets, from the *New York Times* and *Atlanta Journal*

# Head Coach Bobby Johnson



*The nation is taking notice of Johnson's Commodores. In 2006, Vanderbilt opened ESPN's college football coverage against Michigan.*

Constitution to ESPN's *SportsCenter* and *College Football GameDay*, have featured the Commodores' progress and Johnson's approach to coaching.

The South Carolina native arrived at Vanderbilt in December 2001 from Furman University, armed with the ideal combination of professional success and personal well-being to turn the Commodores into winners. He left few accomplishments unfulfilled at Furman.

During an eight-year reign as head coach, Johnson guided the Paladins to a 60-36 overall record, a NCAA I-AA national runner-up finish, four NCAA appearances and a pair of Southern Conference titles. He mentored an abundance of All-Americans, including 2000 Walter Payton Award winner Louis Ivory.

Johnson directed Furman to the pinnacle of success in 2001, culminating a tremendous rebuilding job by the head coach. The Paladins claimed a share of the Southern Conference, then scored three playoff wins to reach the I-AA national championship for the first time since 1988. In his last game directing the Paladins, Furman narrowly fell to No. 1 ranked Montana in the I-AA national title game.

Johnson's professional reputation is built on years of squeezing the most out of his players' abilities while urging them to put forth maximum effort on and off the field. His career has included roles as an academic advisor and admission office liaison. Academic achievement by his players remains a key element of his philosophy.

Johnson's coaching career, which covers 30 years, began in 1976 as defensive ends coach at Furman. In 1980, Johnson left the university to serve as an academic counselor at his alma mater, Clemson, but he returned

to Furman the following year. In 1983, he added the responsibility of defensive coordinator. In 1993, he accepted a similar position at Clemson. During his tenure as defensive coordinator at Furman, the Paladins were 91-31-3, claimed

five conference crowns and registered eight I-AA Top 20 final rankings. In his only season at Clemson, his strong Tiger defense helped deliver a Peach Bowl victory, though he left the team prior to the bowl to accept the head coaching job at Furman.

A native of Columbia, S.C., Johnson starred as a football, baseball and basketball player at Eau Claire High School. He continue playing at Clemson, where he lettered three years as a receiver and cornerback.

He graduated from Clemson in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in management. In 1979, he was awarded a master's degree in education from Furman.

He is married to the former Catherine Bonner of Charleston, S.C.

## THE BOBBY JOHNSON FILE

### COACHING CAREER

YEAR	SCHOOL	POSITION	RECORD
2006	Vanderbilt	Head Coach	4-8
2005	Vanderbilt	Head Coach	5-6
2004	Vanderbilt	Head Coach	2-9
2003	Vanderbilt	Head Coach	2-10
2002	Vanderbilt	Head Coach	2-10
2001	Furman	Head Coach	12-3
2000	Furman	Head Coach	9-3
1999	Furman	Head Coach	9-3
1998	Furman	Head Coach	5-6
1997	Furman	Head Coach	7-4
1996	Furman	Head Coach	9-4
1995	Furman	Head Coach	6-5
1994	Furman	Head Coach	3-8
1993	Clemson	Defensive Coordinator	8-3
1992	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	6-5
1991	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	7-4
1990	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	9-4
1989	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	12-2
1988	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	13-2
1987	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	7-4
1986	Furman	Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator	7-3-2
1985	Furman	Defensive Coordinator	12-2
1984	Furman	Defensive Coordinator	8-3
1983	Furman	Defensive Coordinator	10-2-1
1982	Furman	Defensive Backs Coach	9-3
1981	Furman	Defensive Backs Coach	8-3
1980	Clemson	Athletic Academic Counselor	
1979	Furman	Defensive Backs Coach	5-6
1978	Furman	Defensive Backs Coach	8-3
1977	Furman	Defensive Backs Coach	4-5-2
1976	Furman	Defensive Ends Coach	6-4-1

### COACHING HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Overall Head Coaching Record of 75-79 in nine seasons
- ★ 2001 I-AA National Coach of the Year at Furman
- ★ Three-Year I-AA Region II Coach of the Year

### PLAYING CAREER

COLLEGE:	HIGH SCHOOL:
Clemson (1969-72)	Eau Claire (S.C.) HS (1965-68)

# Assistant Coaches

## Warren Belin

**ALMA MATER: WAKE FOREST**

**POSITIONS: SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR;  
LINEBACKERS**

**YEARS AT VANDERBILT: 6**

Warren Belin, a 18-year veteran of collegiate coaching, enters his sixth year mentoring the Commodores' linebacking corps. Prior to the 2006 season, Belin also added Special Teams Coordinator responsibilities to his duties.

In each of Belin's years with the Commodores, he has coached stellar linebackers. Last year, his junior pupil Jonathan Goff ranked among the Southeastern Conference leaders in several defensive categories. Goff also was an All-SEC freshman selection in 2004. Outside linebacker Moses Osemwegie was named first team All-SEC by the coaches' in 2004 and 2005, finishing his collegiate career as the league's active leading tackler. Before that, middle linebacker Hunter Hillenmeyer earned the National Student Athlete Award while leading the SEC in tackles and winning all-league honors. Last winter, Hillenmeyer started for the Chicago Bears in the Super Bowl.

Belin came to Vanderbilt from SMU, where he continued the school's strong linebacking reputation. At least one Mustang linebacker was named All-Western Athletic Conference each year of Belin's service. Three pupils - Vic Viloria, Jason Simonton and Chris Bordano - were named All-WAC linebackers during Belin's tenure. Bordano was drafted by the NFL's New Orleans Saints.

Prior to joining SMU, Belin worked as an defensive assistant at William & Mary, serving as defensive line coach in 1995 and linebackers coach in 1996. He also served three years as a linebackers coach at Cornell (1991, 1993-94) and a year as linebackers coach at East Tennessee State in 1992.

A native of Marshville, North Carolina, Belin was a three-year starter and four-year letter winner at Wake Forest from 1987-90. He earned a bachelor's degree in Health and Sports Science from Wake Forest, graduating cum laude. He was named to the Atlantic Coast Conference All-Academic Team in 1990, and was a two-time ACC Academic Honor Roll recipient. Belin is active in FCA.

Belin is married to the former Yolanda Taylor. They are the parents of a daughter, Camryn, 5; and 2-year-old twin daughters, Morgan and MacKenzi.

## Jamie Bryant

**ALMA MATER: OHIO WESLEYAN**

**POSITON: SECONDARY**

**YEARS AT VANDERBILT: 6**

Jamie Bryant is in his sixth year as the defensive secondary coach for the Commodores.

He joined the Vanderbilt staff after serving a year at the University of North Carolina.

Bryant's secondary personnel is headed by junior safety Reshard Langford, a defensive team leader and 2005 Freshman All-Southeastern Conference pick.

In 2006, Bryant's secondary was one of the nation's youngest corps, featuring a sophomore (Langford) and three freshmen starters. In multi-wide receiver formulations, the Commodore nickelback was another freshman.

Despite the youth, Bryant had the unit ranked among the SEC leaders in pass defense for much of the season.

Bryant, 36, came to Vanderbilt after working one season at North Carolina with current Commodore assistant head coach and offensive line coach Robbie Caldwell.

Bryant assisted at UNC after serving a year at St. Francis (Pa.) University. His coaching career also includes a three-year stint at Clarion (Pa.) University and five years of high school experience.

The Tar Heels finished strong in 2001, using an aggressive defense to win seven of their final nine regular season games and the Peach Bowl over Auburn, 16-10. The Tar Heels ranked first in the ACC - and 15th nationally - in total defense. They also topped the conference in pass efficiency defense.

Prior to joining UNC, Bryant's efforts as defensive coordinator and secondary coach improved a struggling defense at I-AA St. Francis.

Bryant entered the collegiate coaching ranks in 1997 as linebackers coach at Clarion. His duties at Clarion evolved to secondary coach and special teams coordinator for his final two seasons.

From 1992-96, Bryant coached at three Ohio high schools, including a three-year stint as head coach at East Clinton High.

Bryant, native of Fredericktown, Ohio, was a three-year letterman at Ohio Wesleyan, graduating in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in economics management.

He and his wife, Elisa, are the parents of a 1-year son, Luke.

## Ted Cain

**ALMA MATER: FURMAN**

**POSITION: OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR**

**YEARS AT VANDERBILT: 6**

Ted Cain, a former assistant at Furman and I-AA head coach with 29 years of coaching experience, serves as offensive coordinator and tight ends coach for the Commodores. The first assistant hired by Bobby Johnson at Vanderbilt, Cain enters his sixth year on the staff.

Cain's tenure at Vanderbilt has produced some of the most potent offenses in Commodore history. The 2005 offense, directed by current Denver Bronco QB Jay Cutler, produced more points and first downs than any Commodore offense in the last three decades. The team's 395-yard total offense average has been bettered only once since World War II. Last year, the offense continued to develop under first-year starting quarterback Chris Nickson. One of the chief beneficiaries of the scheme has been junior receiver Earl Bennett, who enters the 2007 campaign needing less than 50 receptions to become the SEC's all-time leader.

Cain's coaching resume includes a two-year stint as head coach at Virginia Military Institute, a distinguished tenure as offensive coordinator at North Carolina State University and many years of coaching services at Furman University.

Cain was a three-year letterman at tight end for Furman. After serving a two-year term as an U.S. Army second lieutenant, Cain began his coaching career as outside linebackers coach at Furman in 1977. The next year, he moved across the line of scrimmage, coordinating the Furman passing game and receivers. He continued in that capacity for eight years, playing a key role in helping Furman produce a 69-23-2 overall record.

The success at Furman led to Cain's move to North Carolina State in 1986. While serving as offensive coordinator and tight ends coach with the Wolfpack, Cain directed seven of the top 10 passing seasons in North Carolina State history.

In 1997, Cain accepted his first head coaching job at Virginia Military Institute. Although there just two seasons, Cain worked to improve facilities and renew a commitment to strength training. Cain rekindled his relationship with Furman in 1999. Since the return, Furman went 30-9, and won a pair of conference titles.

Cain earned a bachelor's degree in geology and a master's in education from Furman.

Cain and his wife, Susan, are the parents of two children: Matt, 24, a Commodore offensive graduate assistant coach; and Erin, 21, a junior at Furman.



# Assistant Coaches

## Kenny Carter

**ALMA MATER: CITADEL**

**POSITIONS: RECRUITING COORDINATOR/**

**RUNNING BACKS**

**YEARS AT VANDERBILT: 4**

Kenny Carter enters his fourth year on the Vanderbilt staff as running backs coach.

In 2006, Carter accepted a larger role on the coaching staff, becoming the recruiting coordinator.

Last year, Carter mentored tailbacks Cassen Jackson-Garrison and Jared Hawkins, who combined for more than 900 rushing yards and eight touchdowns from the Commodores' one-back set.

In 2005, he coached a youthful running back corps that included sophomore starter Jeff Jennings and Jackson-Garrison. Carter also directed the coaching of Steven Bright, who moved from quarterback to fullback/H-back. Bright became one of the Commodores' top offensive weapons as an aerial target out of the backfield. Jennings missed the 2006 season recuperating from a knee injury.

Carter joined Vanderbilt after coaching receivers at Penn State under legendary coach Joe Paterno. At Penn State, Carter was instrumental in the development of Bryant Johnson, a first-team All-Big Ten pick in 2002 and eventual first-round 2003 NFL draft choice of the Cardinals. Johnson ranks second all-time at Penn State with 2,008 career receiving yards and is fourth with 110 career receptions.

He has also served on coaching staffs at the University of Pittsburgh, LSU and the Citadel in addition to his tenure at Penn State.

Carter guided running backs at Pittsburgh under head coach Walt Harris, mentoring Kevan Barlow and Nick Goins. Barlow is a starter for the San Francisco 49ers while Goins started with the Carolina Panthers. Carter worked in the SEC in 1999, coaching outside linebackers at LSU.

A native of Camden, S.C., Carter served as a tight ends assistant at Furman in 1993, three years after graduating from the Citadel in Charleston. He returned to his alma mater in 1994, coaching there until joining the LSU staff. Carter served as assistant head coach at the Citadel during his tenure.

Carter is married to the former Bonnie Bridges. They are the parents of two children: Brey, 20, a sophomore at the Citadel, and Kennedy, 11.

## Robbie Caldwell

**ALMA MATER: FURMAN**

**POSITIONS: ASSISTANT HEAD COACH/**

**OFFENSIVE LINE**

**YEARS AT VANDERBILT: 6**

Caldwell, a 30-year veteran of the collegiate coaching ranks, serves as Vanderbilt's assistant head coach and offensive line mentor. He enters his sixth year as a key member of the Commodore coaching staff.

In 2006, Caldwell patched together a youthful line corps decimated by injuries into a cohesive unit that allowed just 19 quarterback sacks on the season. He also mentored two of the SEC's brightest line products for 2007 in tackle Chris Williams and center Trey Holliday.

In 2005, Caldwell's unit provided solid protection for SEC Player of the Year Jay Cutler. The 2005 offense ranks among the all-time finest units to wear the Vanderbilt Black and Gold colors in terms of points, first downs and total offense. In 2004, Caldwell worked with All-SEC lineman Justin Geisinger, currently a member of the Tennessee Titans.

Before joining Vanderbilt, Caldwell, 52, served two years at North Carolina and 14 years at North Carolina State. His ties with Coach Johnson date back to his playing days and first coaching positions at Furman University.

At North Carolina State, Caldwell tutored the offensive line for 11 years, then had the added responsibility of assistant head coach from 1997-99. Caldwell coached 14 Wolfpack linemen to all All-Atlantic Coast Conference honors, and helped guide six of the top 10 total offenses in North Carolina State history.

Prior to joining the North Carolina State staff, Caldwell coached the offensive line at Furman from 1978-85, and served the university as a graduate assistant in 1976. He coached football and baseball at Hanahan (S.C.) H.S. in 1977.

At Furman, Caldwell coached six Southern Conference champion teams, including the national runnerup in 1985. Eight of his pupils at Furman were named first-team All-Southern Conference, and five captured the conference's Jacobs Blocking Award during his tenure.

Caldwell, a native of Pageland, S.C., was a three-year letterman at center for Furman, and was named the team's MVP in 1975. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in health and physical education in 1976.

Caldwell is married to the former Nora Lynn Lassister of Arlington, Va. They are the parents of a daughter, Emsley, 12.

## Charlie Fisher

**ALMA MATER: SPRINGFIELD**

**POSITIONS: PASSING GAME CO-COORDINATOR;**

**WIDE RECEIVERS**

**YEARS AT VANDERBILT: 6**

Charlie Fisher, a former Division II head coach, enters his fourth season working with Commodore wide receivers and sixth year on the Vanderbilt staff. In 2006, Coach Johnson awarded Fisher's effort by adding the title of Passing Game Co-Coordinator.

In 2005 and 2006, Fisher has mentored wide receiver Earl Bennett to unprecedented campaigns. Twice named first team All-Southeastern Conference, Bennett caught 82 passes in 2006, second most in Vanderbilt history and earned the distinction of becoming the first receiver in SEC history to post two seasons of at least 75 receptions. In 2005, Bennett put together one of the greatest freshman receiving campaigns in league history, breaking the SEC freshman mark with 82 catches. He also set an abundance of freshman team marks.

Fisher's 2006 receiving corps included three others – Marlon White, George Smith and Sean Walker – with at least 16 catches.

In 2002-03, Fisher mentored Commodore running backs.

Prior to joining the Commodores, Fisher served two years as offensive coordinator and quarterback coach at Temple.

Fisher also was successful during a two-year stint tutoring wide receivers at North Carolina State. The Wolfpack passing attack led the ACC and ranked ninth nationally in 1998, averaging 309 yards per game.

Fisher's coaching background includes a successful tenure as head coach of West Georgia State prior to moving to North Carolina State. From 1993-97, Fisher guided the Braves to a 36-17 overall record, the highest five-year winning percentage in school history. He began his tenure at West Georgia as offensive coordinator in 1991. From 1985-1990, Fisher served as a position coach, and eventually, offensive coordinator at Lenoir-Rhyne (N.C.) College.

Fisher played from 1977-80 at Springfield (Mass.) College. He also lettered as a shortstop in baseball. He earned a degree in physical education. Fisher earned a master's in sports management from Eastern Kentucky in 1984.

Fisher is married to the former Julie Shaffer of Watsonstown, Pa. They are the parents of two sons: Brian, 18, and Brett, 12.









# Commodore Returnees

## Benoist's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

TOTAL TACKLES: 8, vs. Temple, 9/23/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	10-4-14	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0

## Greg Billinger

So., Defensive Tackle, 6-3, 290

Lilburn, Ga. • Parkview H.S.

**2006** Developed into key reserve defensive tackle, becoming the only true freshman to see action on either of Vanderbilt's interior lines... Ended season with six total tackles... Saw action in every game... Contributed two tackles in first career appearance at Michigan.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Team captain... Started three years for one of Georgia's most powerful prep programs... Started at OT and DE as junior and senior... Parkview went 11-2 this season, advancing to third round of state AAAAA playoffs... Named to "Super Southern" team by *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*... Missed the second half of senior season from injuries suffered in a family car accident near Nashville... As junior, posted 60 tackles as DE.

## Billinger's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

TACKLES: 2, at Michigan, 9/2/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	5-1-6	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0

## Jake Bradford

R-So., Tight End, 6-6, 260

St. Simons Island, Ga. • Glynn Academy

**2006** Developed into the Commodores' No. 2 tight end midway through the season only to be slowed by injuries in the final games... Played in 11 of 12 games, missing the Kentucky outing to injury... Minutes increased after FB/TE Steven Bright was lost to lower leg fracture... Did not register a catch.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Worked as tight end during fall practices.

## Terrell Brannon

R-Fr., Defensive End, 6-3, 230

Spartanburg, S.C. • Broome H.S.

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Participated as scout team defensive end, earning Defensive Scout of the Week honors after Georgia game.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Team captain as senior for strong South Carolina AA program... Started three years at defensive end and tight end... Twice named All-State as TE... All-Region as senior... As TE, hauled in 21 receptions for 455 yards and five TDs; on defense, totalled 49 tackles, 17 tackles for loss, 15 quarterback sacks, three forced fumbles and 10 deflected passes... Helped Centurions to playoffs in 2005 and to the AA state title in 2004... A two-year

post starter for state's defending AA champion basketball squad, averaging 11 points as a senior... Also lettered as triple jumper and thrower in track.

## Drew Brenk

R-Fr., Offensive Guard, 6-5, 295

Needville, Texas • Needville H.S.

**2006** Redshirted as freshman... Participated on scout team offensive line.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Team captain as junior... Three-year starter on offensive line... As senior, started both ways at tackle... Helped Blue Jays to 8-4 record, district title and second round of 3A playoffs... Team improved each year of varsity career... First Team All-Area selection, two-time All-District pick... Plays post position on basketball squad... As discus thrower, advanced to track & field regional meet as a junior... An honors student and first team Academic All-District recipient.

## Brandon Bryant

R-So., Linebacker, 6-1, 230

Cincinnati, Ohio • St. Xavier H.S.

**2006** Athletic reserve linebacker who played in 11 of 12 games... Earned reputation as heavy hitter and sure tackler in redshirt freshman campaign... Ended season with 18 total includes, including 17 solo stops... Also contributed two forced fumbles and a pair of tackles for loss in limited minutes... Posted career high seven tackles in win over Temple... Also had three tackles against Florida... Solid performer on coverage units, Bryant shared team's Specialist of the Week honors after win over Duke.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Impressed at linebacker during fall practices.

## Bryant's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

TACKLES: 7, vs. Temple, 9/23/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	17-1-18	2.0-5	0-0	0-0	2/0	1

## Matt Bubis

So., Fullback, 6-0, 240

Nashville, Tenn. • Montgomery Bell Academy

**2006** Walk-on who enjoyed first collegiate action as blocking fullback vs. South Carolina... Did not register a rushing attempt.

**2005** Did not see action, though named team's top defensive scout after Wake Forest game.

# Commodore Returnees

## Marcus Buggs

R-Sr., Linebacker, 5-11, 235

Madison, Tenn. • Goodpasture Christian H.S.

**2006** Developed into one of the most productive defensive performers and a leader for unit during redshirt junior campaign... Punishing tackler started every game at weakside linebacker... Topped the team with 10.5 tackles for loss, the most by a Commodore in four years... Also ranked third on team with 40 solo tackles and fourth with 50 total tackles... Shared team high with four quarterback hurries while contributing a pair of QB sacks, an interception and fumble recovery... Produced at least three tackles in 10 of 12 starts... Shared team's Defensive Player of the Week honors with DT Theo Horrocks after performance against Arkansas that included three tackles for loss and six total tackles... Also posted two tackles for loss, including a sack, in win over Temple... First career interception came in win over rival Tennessee State... Finished the year with at least four tackles in five of the last six games.

**2005** Following a move to linebacker in Spring Practice, played in every game at strongside linebacker... Earned starts against Georgia and Tennessee... Finished season with 17 solo tackles, 29 total tackles and one tackle for loss... Had at least one tackle in every game... In season opener at Wake Forest, posted four tackles, a tackle for loss and first career forced fumble... Season high of five tackles came in win over Richmond... Also contributed four tackles in season-ending victory at Tennessee.

**2004** Played in 10 of 11 games... Started twice at free safety, including win over Mississippi State, as replacement for Kelechi Ohanaja... First collegiate start came at Navy... Slowed by injury toward end of season... Contributed a tackle for loss and defended pass in career high seven-tackle performance at Navy... Added five tackles in win over Mississippi State.

**2003** Redshirted after playing in opening-season game versus Ole Miss... Season-ending knee injury came in practice before Chattanooga game... Participated in spring drills, but missed contact rehabilitating from injury.

### Buggs' Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

SOLO TACKLES: 7, at Navy, 9/25/2004

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	40-10-50	10.5-35	2.0-8	1-0	0/1	4
2005	17-12-29	1.0-4	0-0	0-0	1/0	0
2004	10-3-13	1.0-3	0-0	0-0	0/0	1
Career	57-25-92	12.5-39	2.0-8	1-0	1/1	5

## Joel Caldwell

R-So., Cornerback, 6-1, 185

Hoover, Ala. • Hoover H.S.

**2006** Played in every game at cornerback as a redshirt freshman, starting the final 11 games... Played first month of season with a dislocated elbow suffered in preseason practices... First collegiate start came in his home state against Alabama... Concluded the year with 33 solo tackles, 42 total tackles and a pair of defended passes... In second start, contributed seven solo tackles in narrow loss to Arkansas... Ended season by posting career highs in solo tackles (10) and total tackles (12) at Kentucky, then following up with five-tackle effort against Tennessee.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Impressed coaches as cornerback in fall practices... Named Defensive Scout of the Week after Tennessee game.

### Caldwell's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

SOLO TACKLES: 10, at Kentucky, 11/11/2006

TOTAL TACKLES: 12, at Kentucky, 11/11/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	33-9-42	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	2

## Nathan Campbell

R-Fr., Linebacker, 6-3, 228

Hazen, Ark. • Hazen H.S.

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Participated as scout team linebacker.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Team captain as senior... Three-year starter at linebacker and quarterback... Guided Hornets to 2A state playoffs each season... As senior LB, garnered 148 total tackles, three INTs and three fumble recoveries... Credited with more than 350 tackles in three-year career... Amassed 2,500 yards of total offense as QB during junior and season seasons, rushing for more than 10 TDs... Two-time First Team All-State and three-time All-Conference pick... Multi-sport standout for Hazen... Starting forward on basketball squad, all-conference pitcher/third baseman in baseball, and three-year letter winner in track & field.

## Thomas Carroll

Jr., Placekicker, 5-9, 160

Columbus, Ga. • Brookstone H.S.

**2006** Did not see action as a sophomore placekicker.

**2005** Walk-on placekicker... Did not see action.

## Ryan Custer

R-So., Offensive Guard, 6-4, 295

Troy, Ohio • Troy H.S.

**2006** As a redshirt freshman, Custer saw action in every game as an offensive guard, playing his way into a more substantial role during the second half of the season... Role expanded in Georgia game after injury sidelined veteran guard Josh Eames... Started at left guard in the next three games – South Carolina, Duke and Florida – until Eames returned to the lineup.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Worked as guard during fall practices.

## Derrius Dowell

R-So., Defensive Line, 6-3, 280

Atlanta, Ga. • Douglass H.S.

**2006** Did not see action as a redshirt freshman defensive tackle... Earned Defensive Scout of the Week honors after Florida game.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Worked as defensive lineman during the fall.





# Commodore Returnees

## Curtis Gatewood

**R-Sr., Defensive End, 6-3, 245**

**Memphis, Tenn. • White Station H.S.**

**2006** Became one of Commodores' top performers in first full year at defensive end... Co-recipient of team's postseason Most Valuable Defensive Lineman Award with DT Theo Horrocks... Started every game at DE...

Topped all Commodores with seven quarterback sacks, ranking eighth in the Southeastern Conference in the statistical category... Only one former Commodore, Jovan Haye in 2003, has more sacks in the last decade...

Ranked among team leaders with 36 solo tackles (T-4th), 49 total tackles (T-5th), eight quarterback sacks (2nd), three fumble recoveries (T-1st) and three forced fumbles (2nd)... Named team's Defensive Player of the Week after nine-tackle performance in win over Tennessee State... Also contributed 1.5 sacks, two tackles for loss and a quarterback hurry in TSU win... Also named Defensive Player of the Week after Tennessee performance that included a sack, forced fumble and fumble recovery... Posted a sack, forced fumble and interception against South Carolina... Also shared Defensive Player of the Week honors with linebacker Jonathan Goff following effort to Florida.

**2005** Moved from linebacker during preseason camp... Ended season with 17 solo tackles, 22 total tackles, pair of quarterback hurries and 2.5 tackles for loss... Produced four tackles, including 1.5 tackles for loss, in win at Arkansas, then added a tackle for loss and quarterback hurry in victory over Ole Miss... Closed the season with four tackles at Florida, and a pair of stops against Kentucky and Tennessee.

**2004** Played in all 11 games as reserve outside linebacker and special teams contributor... Credited with nine tackles on the season... Contributed pair of tackles against Ole Miss and LSU... Named Special Teams Co-Player of the Week after Mississippi State performance.

**2003** Redshirted... Named scout team Defensive Player of the Week on three occasions.

### Gatewood's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**SOLO TACKLES:** 6, vs. Tennessee State, 9/30/2006

**TOTAL TACKLES:** 9, vs. Tennessee State, 9/30/2006

**SACKS:** 1.5, vs. Tennessee State, 9/30/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2006	36-13-49	8.0-50	7.0-48	1-0	3/3	3
2005	17-5-22	2.5-8	0-0	0-0	0/0	2
2004	6-3-9	0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0
Career	59-21-80	10.5-58	7.0-48	1-0	3/3	5

total tackles in all but one game... Started season in strong fashion, earning team's Defensive Player of the Week honors against Michigan after setting career highs in solo stops (12) and total tackles (14) in front of 109,000 fans and a national ESPN audience at Ann Arbor... Also blocked a Wolverine field goal attempt... Returned in Week 2 to produce another outstanding individual performance at Alabama, racking up 13 total tackles and a pair of forced fumbles in narrow loss to Crimson Tide... Contributed seven tackles in Commodore road win at Georgia and 10 total tackles and a sack in road win at Duke... Shared team's Defensive Player of the Week honors after nine-tackle, one-sack effort in narrow home loss to Florida... Helped Commodores stage late comeback against eventual national champion Gators with two individual defensive plays: an interception of Chris Leak attempt deep in Vanderbilt territory and timely tackle for loss of QB Tim Tebow on third down that halted another second half Florida drive.

**2005** Showed continued improvement in every game as starter at middle linebacker... Concluded season as team's third leading tackler with 47 solo stops and 63 total tackles... Established new season career highs in virtually every defensive category, including tackles for loss (3) and quarterback hurries (2)... Also contributed a quarterback sack and two defended passes... Named team's Defensive Player of the Week after nine-tackle performance versus Kentucky... Played superb game in season-ending win at Tennessee, posting 10-tackle effort... Set single game career high with 14 tackles in early season road win at Arkansas... Totalled at least four tackles in nine games.

**2004** Played in every game at linebacker... Started final four games at middle linebacker... First collegiate start came at LSU... Set single-game career highs in primary tackles (7) and total tackles (9) at Kentucky... Contributed seven tackles versus Florida... In first start, had five tackles and a forced fumble at LSU... Also posted five tackles in finale versus Tennessee... Co-winner of Defensive Player of the Week honors for Kentucky performance... Named Special Teams Player of the Week after win over Eastern Kentucky.

**2003** Redshirted. Earned scout team Defensive Player of the Week honors after UT-Chattanooga and Mississippi State games.

### Goff's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**SOLO TACKLES:** 9, twice, most recently at Tennessee, 11/19/2005

**TOTAL TACKLES:** 14, at Arkansas, 9/10/2005

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2006	67-26-93	6.0-38	2.5-31	1-0	2/0	4
2005	47-16-63	3.0-9	1.0-4	0-0	0/0	2
2004	27-11-38	0-0	0-0	0-0	1/0	1
Career	141-53-194	9.0-47	3.5-35	1-0	3/0	7

## Jonathan Goff

**R-Sr., Linebacker, 6-4, 235**

**Lynn, Mass. • St. John's Preparatory**

**2006** Defensive captain... Started every game at middle linebacker, extending career consecutive start streak to 27 games... Named Second team All-Southeastern Conference linebacker in coaches' ballot... Recipient of team's postseason Most Valuable Linebacker Award... Topped Commodores with 67 solo tackles and 93 total tackles, and ranked among team leaders with four quarterback hurries (T-1st), six tackles for loss (T-5th), 2.5 quarterback sacks (5th) and two forced fumbles (T-3rd)... Achieved at least five

## Steven Goulet

**R-Fr., Wide Receiver, 6-2, 180**

**Irmo, S.C. • Dutch Fork H.S.**

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Participated as a scout wide receiver.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain... Three-year starter... Played wide receiver, quarterback and safety for Dutch Fork... As senior, had 12 receptions for 218 yards and three TDs before early season injury... Honorable mention All-State as senior... Played in Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas postseason all-star game... Posted 41 receptions as junior, earning All-Region recognition... Had three TD receptions vs. North Augusta (S.C.) HS... Team went 9-4 overall in 2005, and advanced to AAAA state playoffs last two years.





# Commodore Returnees

## Ryan Hamilton

R-So., Safety, 6-2, 205

Wycombe, Pa. • Council Rock North H.S.

**2006** Played every game at safety as a redshirt freshman, earning nine starting assignments, including final seven games of season... Formed part of a solid, hard-hitting safety duo with two-year starter Reshard Langford... Concluded season as one of defense's top tacklers, posting 36 solo tackles (T-4th on team) and 43 total tackles (7th on team)... After losing starting job to senior Ben Koger early in season, returned to develop into a steady performer late in the season... Breakthrough outing came at Georgia, as six-tackle effort in upset win earned team's Defensive Player of the Week honors... In last two games, contributed career high of nine tackles, including a tackle for loss, at Kentucky and six solo stops versus Tennessee... Played virtually the entire season with painful foot ailment... First career interception, which came deep in Vanderbilt territory, helped fuel comeback against Florida.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Impressed as safety during fall practices.

### Hamilton's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**TOTAL TACKLES:** 9, at Kentucky, 11/11/2006

**SOLO TACKLES:** 6, vs. Tennessee, 11/18/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	36-7-43	1.0-3	0-0	1-0	1/0	1

## Ben Havrilesko

So., Defensive Back, 5-10, 180

Winchester, Ky. • Clark H.S.

**2006** Did not see action as a freshman walk-on... Participated as scout team defensive back.

## Jared Hawkins

R-So., Tailback, 5-10, 192

Spring, Texas • Klein H.S.

**2006** Played every game as redshirt freshman, competing as the No. 2 tailback to Cassen Jackson-Garrison... Demonstrated excellent running style with unusual ability to set up offensive line blocks... Ended season third on squad with 298 rushing yards, averaging a team-high 6.9 yards per carry... Burst onto scene by gaining 76 yards on three carries against Arkansas, including season long rush of 41 yards... Also had a 35-yard carry against Florida... Gained 54 yards and scored first career touchdown in win over Tennessee State, then produced two scores in victory over Temple... Contributed seven tackles and a fumble recovery on special team coverage units.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Named team's Offensive Scout of the Week after Arkansas and Kentucky games.

### Hawkins' Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME RUSHING HIGHS

**RUSH ATTEMPTS:** 9, vs. Tennessee State, 9/23/2006

**RUSH YARDS:** 76, vs. Arkansas, 9/16/2006

**RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS:** 2, vs. Temple, 9/30/2006

	RUSHING ATT.	RUSHING YARDS	AVG.	TDs	LONG
2006	43	298	6.9	3	41

## Eric Hensley

R-So., Offensive Line, 6-6, 305

Clinton, Tenn. • Clinton H.S.

**2006** Worked as reserve offensive tackle, seeing limited action in seven games... Also participated as blocker on Commodore placekicking teams.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Worked as offensive tackle and guard during fall practices.

**High School** Team captain as senior... Started as senior at offensive tackle... Started three years at defensive tackle... Named to *Knoxville News Sentinel's* First Team PrepXtra team... Elected to play in Tennessee-Kentucky All-Star Game.

## Hamilton Holliday

Sr., Center, 6-3, 290

Marietta, Ga. • Walton H.S.

**2006** Became one of team's most consistent interior players as a first-year starter at center... Started every game for the Commodores, and enters 2007 having started 14 consecutive games... Part of an unproven center-quarterback duo entering the season, Holliday quickly earned the praise of coaches and teammates, winning the squad's Offensive Player of the Week honors in the opener at Michigan... Later in the year, he share the offensive team honor with QB Chris Nickson for his performance in victory at Duke... Along with OT Chris Williams, typically earned the highest blocking grade among Commodore linemen.

**2005** Finished strongly after starting the season limited by injury... A versatile lineman, enjoyed much of his playing time at offensive guard while serving as top backup to starting center Trey Holloway... In closing games of season, was playing significant minutes at guard... Was on the field for most of win at Tennessee, including game-winning final possession.

**2004** Played in six games... Started at right guard at end of season against Kentucky and Tennessee following injury to Nigel Seaman... Named to Freshman All-Southeastern Conference Team by coaches and *The Sporting News*... Also showed ability to play center.

# Commodore Returnees

## Brandon Holmes

**R-Jr., Defensive Tackle, 6-4, 295**

**Garland, Texas • Garland H.S.**

**2006** Nagging injuries limited Holmes' involvement... Saw action in three games, at defensive tackle... Played in season finale versus Tennessee, and in midseason victories over Tennessee State and Temple... Did not register a tackle on the season.

**2005** Played in three games at defensive tackle... Enjoyed first collegiate action in win over Richmond... Also played at South Carolina and Florida... Credited with a tackle at Florida.

**2004** Redshirted. Named scout team Defensive Player of the Week after Florida game.

**Holmes' Career Statistics**

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2006	0-0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0
2005	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0
Career	1-0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0

## Theo Horrocks

**Sr., Defensive Tackle, 6-3, 295**

**Fayetteville, Tenn. • Lincoln County H.S.**

**2006** Put together best year of career that culminated with Horrocks sharing team's postseason Most Valuable Defensive Lineman Award with DE Curtis Gatewood... Started every game for the Commodores at tackle... Set single-season career highs in virtually every defensive statistical category... Concluded season by setting single-season career highs in solo tackles (31) and total tackles (49), both tops among Commodore DTs... Ranked third in the SEC with four forced fumbles... Also ranked among team leaders with five quarterback sacks and six tackles for loss... Showed remarkable consistency, contributing at least four tackles in 10 of 12 games... Earned team's Defensive Player of the Week honors after contributing three quarterback sacks and a forced fumble in superb performance in loss at Kentucky... Aided win over Temple with six tackles and two forced fumbles.

**2005** Played in 10 of 11 games, missing the Georgia outing with a leg injury... Started the first six games and season-ending encounters against Kentucky and Tennessee... Played through painful injury to end season on high note... Led Commodore defensive tackles with 15 solo tackles... Concluded with single-season high in total tackles (21), tackles of loss (2) and quarterback hurries (3)... Best game of year came in season finale, with five tackles to aid Commodore win at Tennessee... Three-tackle performance in season-opening victory at Wake Forest earned team's Defensive Player of the Week honors... Also shared team defensive honors with four-tackle performance in win over Ole Miss.

**2004** Played in nine games, starting twice late in the season at defensive end... Earned first collegiate start at LSU... Set single high with six tackles against Florida... Had four tackles and one tackle for loss at Georgia... Garnered four solo tackles versus Tennessee.

### Horrocks' Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**SOLO TACKLES:** Six, vs. Arkansas, 9/16/2006

**TOTAL TACKLES:** Six (on two occasions), most recently vs. Temple, 9/30/2006

**SACKS:** Three, at Kentucky, 11/11/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2006	31-18-49	6.0-35	5.0-34	0-0	4/1	4
2005	15-6-21	2.0-2	1.0-1	0-0	0/0	3
2004	13-6-19	1.0-3	0.0-0	0-0	0/0	1
Career	59-30-89	9.0-40	5.0-35	0-0	4/1	8

## Cassen Jackson-Garrison

**Sr., Tailback, 6-1, 220**

**Knoxville, Tenn. • Central H.S.**

**2006** Every game starter at tailback for first time in Vanderbilt career, Jackson-Garrison set single season highs with 152 rushing attempts, 614 rushing yards and 15 receptions... Resumed starting role when Jeff Jennings missed the season recovering from knee injuries... Platooned much of season with redshirt freshman Jared Hawkins... Concluded the season second on team in rushing yardage behind QB Chris Nickson... Played season opener at Michigan just 17 days after undergoing surgery for emergency appendectomy... Set career high in rushing attempts (21) in solid performance against Arkansas that included 90 rushing yards and a 9-yard TD catch, first of his career... Shared team's Offensive Player of the Week honors with Steven Bright after scoring first two touchdowns in win over Temple with rushes of 43 and 16 yards... Rushed for career-high 142 yards in Temple performance... Rushed for at least 35 yards in nine of 12 games.

**2005** Posted excellent campaign in first year as tailback after playing fullback in 2004... Started only once (in finale at Tennessee), though shared tailback duties throughout season with fellow junior Jeff Jennings... Finished season as team leader with 539 rushing yards, eight rushing touchdowns and 5.6-yard per carry average... Ranked 12th in SEC in rushing yards... Tied for fourth in league in rushing TDs... Team's top breakaway rushing threat, posting five rushes of at least 35 yards... Also caught 14 passes for 139 yards as receiver out of the backfield... Break-through came at Arkansas, with 71-yard rush (team high for year) sparking comeback victory... Rushing total in win over Richmond (119 yards) was most by a Commodore... Shared team's Offensive Player of the Week honors after Richmond performance... Scored at least one touchdown in last five games... Played extremely well in first career start at Tennessee, rushing for 60 yards and a touchdown while catching three passes for 49 yards, helping Commodores to road victory in his hometown... Also averaged 19.9 yards on 15 kickoff returns.

**2004** Played in seven games... Saw action at fullback in offensive backfield and on special-team coverage units... First collegiate action came in win over Mississippi State... Solidified role during final six games... Concluded season with 67 rushing yards on 13 carries and 17 receiving yards on three catches... On coverage units, contributed a forced fumble and five solo tackles... Set single-game career highs in rushing attempts (5), rushing yards (37) and longest rush (13) at Georgia... Also contributed a forced fumble and tackle at Georgia... Netted a special teams tackle in five of last six games, earning Special Teams Player of the Week honors.

# Commodore Returnees

## Jackson-Garrison's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME RUSHING HIGHS

RUSH ATTEMPTS: 21, vs. Arkansas, 9/16/2006

RUSH YARDS: 142, vs. Temple, 9/30/2006

LONGEST RUSH: 70, at Arkansas, 9/10/2005

### SINGLE-GAME RECEIVING HIGHS

RECEPTIONS: 4, on two occasions, most recently at Alabama, 9/9/2006

RECEIVING YARDS: 58, vs. Kentucky, 11/12/2005

LONGEST RECEPTION: 35, at Tennessee, 11/19/2005

	ATT	Yards	Avg.	TDs	Long	Rec.	Yards	Long
2006	152	614	4.0	5	43	15	104	26
2005	97	539	5.6	8	71	14	139	35
2004	13	67	5.2	0	13	3	17	8
Career	262	1,220	4.7	13	71	32	260	35

## Jennings' Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME RUSHING HIGHS

RUSH ATTEMPTS: 24, vs. Ole Miss, 9/17/2005

RUSH YARDS: 103, vs. Ole Miss, 9/17/2005

RUSH TOUCHDOWNS: 3, vs. Ole Miss, 9/17/2005

### SINGLE-GAME RECEIVING HIGHS

RECEPTIONS: 6, vs. Richmond, 9/24/2005

	ATT	Yards	Avg.	TDs	Long	Rec.	Yards	Long
2006	Did Not Play							
2005	123	448	3.6	7	21	21	156	16
2004	46	135	2.9	5	14	-	-	-
Career	169	583	3.5	12	21	21	156	16

## Jeff Jennings

R-Jr., Running Back, 6-1, 222

Dandridge, Tenn. • Jefferson County H.S.

**2006** Did not play, redshirted due to knee injury from previous season.

**2005** Started first 10 games of season at tailback before suffering knee injury versus Kentucky that prematurely ended campaign... Shared rushing workload at tailback with fellow junior Cassen Jackson-Garrison... Concluded season as team's second leading rusher with 448 yards... Season rushing total marks career best... A punishing runner (3.6 yards per carry) who was best in short yardage situations, rushed for seven touchdowns... Set career highs in rushing attempts (24) and rushing yards (103) in outstanding performance against Ole Miss, helping Commodores to league victory... Also rushed for a team-high three touchdowns against Rebels, sharing Offensive Player of the Week honors with tackle Chris Williams... In season opener at Wake Forest, rushed for two touchdowns, including the game winner with 1:48 left... Was team's leading rusher against Georgia (84 yards) and Florida (50 yards)... Career long rush of 21 yards came at Florida... Showed excellent ability as receiver out of backfield, ranking fourth among Commodores with 21 catches, good for 156 yards and a touchdown... Caught six passes in win over Richmond and four in loss to Kentucky.

**2004** Played in 10 of the Commodores' 11 games, missing only the season opener versus South Carolina... First and only collegiate start came at Georgia... Ended season with 135 rushing yards on 46 carries... Ranked second to QB Jay Cutler with five rushing touchdowns... Had seven carries for 27 yards in first substantial playing time at Navy... Rushed for 33 yards in win over Mississippi State... Scored first collegiate touchdown from nine yards versus Rutgers... Scored two touchdowns and set single-season high of 35 rushing yards versus Tennessee.

## Chris Johnson

R-So., Linebacker, 6-1, 230

Birmingham, Ala. • Oak Mountain H.S.

**2006** One of Commodores' top special team coverage players, Johnson saw action in 11 of 12 games, missing the finale due to suspension... Was credited with six tackles, including five solo stops, on the season... Saw limited action at outside linebacker... Solo tackle of Ole Miss kickoff returner Dexter McCluster during opening play of game was one of top Commodore hits of the season.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Worked as linebacker during fall practices.

## Johnson's Career Statistics

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	5-1-6	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0

## Merritt Kirchoffer

R-Sr., Offensive Guard/Tackle, 6-5, 320

Roswell, Ga. • Roswell H.S.

**2006** Kirchoffer had a roller coaster campaign as a redshirt junior, starting strongly at right guard and closing as a starting tackle after struggling with midseason injuries... One of the Commodores' strongest players, Kirchoffer started in nine games, and played in all 12 games... Kirchoffer started first eight games at right guard, giving way to a healthy Mac Pyle.. In last weeks of season, Kirchoffer moved to right tackle when depth became an issue... After two weeks spelling Elliot Hood at tackle, Kirchoffer worked his way into the starting lineup at tackle for the finale against Tennessee.

**2005** Played in every game... Served as key offensive guard reserve and on special team conversion units... Enjoyed most offensive line action during middle stages of season.

**2004** Played in four games during the season, missing several games mid-way through the campaign due to an ankle injury... Participated at offensive guard in the first three games, then returned to play in the season finale.

**2003** Redshirted.





# Commodore Returnees

## Myron Lewis

So., Cornerback, 6-3, 195

Pompano Beach, Fla. • Pompano Beach H.S.

**2006** Played in 10 games as a true freshman, contributing primarily on special teams... Also limited action in secondary following injury of safety Ben Koger... Credited with four solo tackles on season... Returned two kick-offs for 23 yards.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Four-year starter and captain... Versatile athlete, playing receiver, defensive back, kicker and punter... As senior, posted 40 catches for 750 yards and 10 TDs as receiver, and 85 tackles, 20 defended passes and two INTs as DB... Two-time MVP for Golden Tornadoes... Named First-Team 2A All-State by Florida Sports Writers Association and First Team 2A All-Broward County by *Miami Herald*.

### Myron Lewis' Career Statistics

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	4-0-4	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0

## Quavian Lewis

R-So., Defensive End, 6-3, 225

Troy, Ala. • Henderson H.S.

**2006** Played in eight games, primarily on special teams, as redshirt freshman... Finished year with three total tackles... First career action came in win over Tennessee State... Played in eight of last nine games... Received team's Specialist of the Week honors with pair of tackles against South Carolina.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Impressed coaches as linebacker in fall practices... Named team's Defensive Scout of the Week after MTSU game.

### Quavian Lewis' Career Statistics

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	2-1-3	0.0-0	0-0	0-0	0/0	0

## Kikko Logan

R-Fr., Defensive End, 6-2, 230

Elba, Ala. • Elba H.S.

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Participated as scout team linebacker/defensive end.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain... Three-year starter... Two-time All-Region selection... Played running back and outside linebacker... As senior, rushed for 615 yards and 10 TDs on 78 carries while contributing 77 tackles, three sacks and three INTs on defense... As junior, gained 1,102 rushing yards and scored 14 TDs... Amassed 157 total tackles, five INTs, seven sacks and seven forced fumbles in varsity career... Averaged double digits in points and rebounds as forward in basketball.

## Gaston Miller

So., Tailback, 5-7, 165

Murfreesboro, Tenn. • Riverdale H.S.

**2006** Played in final eight games of season as true freshman... Saw first action in win over Temple, rushing for 58 yards on eight carries... Performance versus Temple also included season-long rush of 19 yards... Finished season with 13 rushes for 70 yards... Also carried three times for 13 yards in finale vs. Tennessee... Returned one kickoff nine yards.

### Gaston Miller's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME RUSHING HIGHS

RUSH ATTEMPTS: 8, vs. Temple, 9/30/2006

RUSH YARDS: 58, vs. Temple, 9/30/2006

	RUSHING ATT.	RUSHING YARDS	AVG.	TDs	LONG
2006	13	70	5.4	0	19

## Nick Miller

Jr., Snapper, 6-3, 250

Matthews, N.C. • East Mecklenburg H.S.

**2006** In his initial season as a contributor, served as the Commodores' primary snapper for field goals and extra points.

**2005** Walk-on who worked with offensive scout team during fall drills.

## D.J. Moore

So., Cornerback, 5-10, 175

Spartanburg, S.C. • Broome H.S.

**2006** Played in every game at a true freshman, starting nine straight games at cornerback... Also saw action as a punt returner... Named to All-Southeastern Conference Freshman squad by coaches... Finished year ranking among Commodore top ten with 27 solo tackles and 37 total tackles... Shared SEC and team lead with three fumble recoveries with DE Curtis Gatewood... After earning team's Specialist of the Week honors in first collegiate appearance at Michigan, Moore posted six total tackles and a fumble recovery in his first collegiate start in front of 92,000 fans at Alabama... Was outstanding in Commodore win at Georgia, setting career highs with seven solo tackles and eight total tackles... Also contributed an athletic fumble recovery that led to Vanderbilt points at Georgia... Sealed Commodore road win at Duke with late interception... Posted at least three tackles in seven games.

### Moore's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

SOLO TACKLES: 7, at Georgia, 10/14/2006

TOTAL TACKLES: 8, at Georgia, 10/14/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	27-10-37	0.0-0	0-0	1-0	0/3	2

# Commodore Returnees

## Dom Morias

**Sr., Linebacker, 6-0, 215**

**Dayton, Texas • Dayton H.S.**

**2006** Walk-on linebacker... Did not see action... Named team's Defensive Scout of the Week after Michigan opener.

**2005** Did not see action, though selected as team's top defensive scout after win at Wake Forest.

**2004** Did not see action as walk-on.

## Austin Newton

**R-Fr., Linebacker, 6-2, 215**

**McDonough, Ga. • Union Grove H.S.**

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman, serving as a scout team defensive end/linebacker.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Two-year starter at defensive end... Three-year letterwinner who also saw limited role as wide receiver as senior... First Team All-Area and Second Team All-Region selection... On defense, totalled 60 tackles, 10 quarterback sacks, 10 quarterback hurries, six tackles for loss and two fumble recoveries... Helped guide Union Grove to 9-3 overall record, advancing to AAAA playoffs before losing to eventual state champion Lowndes.

## Chris Nickson

**R-Jr., Quarterback, 6-1, 210**

**Brundidge, Ala. • Pike County H.S.**

**2006** As a first-year starter, Nickson put together one of the finest seasons ever by a Commodore signal caller... Recipient of team's postseason Most Valuable Offensive Back Award... Campaign was highlighted by a remarkable three-game stretch late in the season that included more than 900 passing yards, six touchdown passes and five rushing touchdowns... Concluded season completing 160 of 292 passes, good for 2,085 yards and 15 TDs... His passing totals rank second all-time among Commodore sophomores, trailing only Jay Cutler's 2003 campaign... As a running threat, Nickson was tremendous, rushing for team-high 694 yards and nine touchdowns... Rushing total is the single-season record for Commodore quarterbacks... Amassed 2,779 yards of total offense, a sophomore team mark and fourth all-time among Commodores... Shared team's Offensive Player of the Week honors following four games... Started season slowly, with first collegiate start at Michigan in front of 109,688, largest crowd to ever watch a Commodore game... Initial Offensive Player of the Week honors came after Arkansas performance, where he threw for a score and ran for two others in a narrow home loss... Threw for two touchdowns and artfully guided fourth quarter drive that ended in last second field goal to give Commodores a 24-22 upset at Georgia... Remarkable late-season stretch started at Duke, when Nickson fashioned one of the finest games ever by Vandy quarterback, throwing for 250 yards and a pair of touchdowns while running for 150 yards and three scores in the Commodore win... Rushing total against Duke ranks second all-time by Commodore signal caller... One week later against eventual national champion Florida, Nickson completed 27 of 44 passes for 298 yards and two TDs... Capped impressive stretch by producing 517 yards of total

offense (446 passing, 71 rushing) and accounting for three TDs at Kentucky... Passing yardage total at Kentucky is team's third highest ever; total offense accumulation is second highest in school history... Efforts against Florida and Kentucky also earned offensive player of the week recognition... Combined with sophomore WR Earl Bennett to form one of the most potent aerial duos in SEC history.

**2005** Served as backup to All-SEC Offensive Player of the Year Jay Cutler... Played quarterback in five of the Commodores' first six games... Also saw action as wide receiver in two games... Completed one of three passes for 13 yards... Was team's fourth leading rusher with 49 yards on 16 carries, including a long of 15 yards... As a receiver, had one catch for 10 yards against Middle Tennessee... Rushed for 39 yards in win over Richmond.

**2004** Redshirted. Named top offensive scout after games with Navy and Florida.

### Nickson's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**COMPLETIONS:** 27, vs. Florida, 11/4/2006

**PASS ATTEMPTS:** 44, vs. Florida, 11/4/2006

**PASSING YARDS:** 446 yards, vs. Kentucky, 11/11/2006

**TOUCHDOWN PASSES:** 2, (five occasions), most recently vs. Florida, 11/4/2006

**RUSHING YARDS:** 150 yards, at Duke, 10/18/2006

**RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS:** 3, at Duke, 10/18/2006

	ATT/COMP-INT	YDS.	PCT.	TD	LONG	RUSH-YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
2006	292-160-13	2085	54.8	15	77	146-694	4.8	9	39
2005	3-1-0	13	33.3	0	13	16-49	3.3	0	15
Career	295-161-13	2098	54.6	15	77	162-743	4.6	9	39

## Sam Panke

**R-Fr., Defensive End, 6-1, 230**

**St. Louis, Mo. • Wellford, S.C.**

**2006** Redshirted as a freshman... Joined team as an invited walk-on during the preseason, and practiced as a scout team defensive end.

## Matt Quinn

**So., Long Snapper, 6-5, 220**

**Wellford, S.C. • James Byrnes H.S.**

**2006** As a true freshman, Quinn contributed as the team's primary long snapper in punting situations.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Three-year letterwinner with one of nation's top prep programs... As senior WR, posted 77 receptions for 1,038 yards and 15 TDs... Helped Byrnes to three consecutive state titles, and No. 2 national ranking in 2005... Top game of senior season – 10 catches, 190 yards, 1 TD – came at Vanderbilt Stadium against Montgomery Bell Academy of Nashville... First Team All-Region II-4A and All-Area selection... Squad posted 43-1 overall record from 2003-05... Had five receptions for 95 yards and a touchdown in Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas postseason game... As junior, caught 21 passes for 239 yards and five touchdowns.





# Commodore Returnees

Cornerback starter as a 10th grader... As senior, rushed for 532 yards and 13 TDs and caught 10 passes for 149 yards and 2 TDs... Named AAAAA All-State by both the Georgia Sports Writers Association and *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

## Spead's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

TACKLES: Six, vs. Florida, 11/11/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	14-2-16	1.0-5	0-0	3-27	0/0	5

## Stewart's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

TACKLES: 3, at Kentucky, 11/11/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2006	13-6-19	5.0-44	5.0-44	0-0	0/0	1

## Brian Stamper

R-Sr., Offensive Tackle, 6-5, 295

Windermere, Fla. • Lake Highland Prep

**2006** Granted a medical redshirt by NCAA in late January, allowing for his fifth and final year as a Commodore in 2007... Struggled early with injuries, and eventually was forced out of uniform with a back injury... As an co-captain, started first five games at right tackle but played minimal offensive snaps in two final games... After midseason surgery, continued to participate in pregame coin toss with linebacker and fellow captain Jonathan Goff.

**2005** One of the Commodores' top offensive performers, Stamper developed into a top-notch lineman in the Southeastern Conference... Started every game at right tackle and currently holds the longest consecutive start streak (31) of any Commodore player... Named Second Team All-SEC by coaches' ballot... Consistently graded out as the team's top blocker... Did not allow a sack while facing several of the league's top defensive ends... Named SEC Offensive Lineman of the Week for play during win at Arkansas... Earned team's Offensive Player of the Week honors following season-opening win at Wake Forest.

**2004** Started all 11 games at offensive right tackle, resulting in existing consecutive start streak of 20 games... Started opposite All-SEC tackle Justin Geisinger... One of three linemen, along with guard Brian Kovalisky and center Trey Holloway, to play in more than 90 percent of Commodore offensive plays.

**2003** Named to Coaches All-SEC Freshman Team... Played in 11 of 12 games... Started the final nine games at right tackle after Kenan Arkan suffered lingering effects of high ankle sprain... Faced TCU All-American Bo Schobel in first collegiate career... Allowed no sacks in head-to-head encounter with another All-American DE, Georgia's David Pollack.

## Broderick Stewart

R-So., Defensive End, 6-5, 225

Newnan, Ga. • Riverside Military Academy

**2006** Became a key defensive line contributor as a redshirt freshman, playing every game at end... Finished season with 19 total tackles, including 13 primary stops... Tied with tackle Theo Horrocks for second on team behind DE Curtis Gatewood with five quarterback sacks... Recorded sacks against Michigan, Alabama, Temple, Kentucky and Tennessee... Single high in tackles (3) came at Kentucky.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman, practicing as defensive end... Earned team's top defensive scout after Richmond game.

## Steven Stone

R-So., Defensive End, 6-5, 255

Conway, Ark. • Conway H.S.

**2006** Became a key defensive line contributor as a redshirt freshman end, playing every game as a second-team end... Ended campaign with 24 total tackles, including 22 solo stops... Ranked fourth on the team with 6.5 tackles for loss... Played superbly in Commodore road win at Georgia, contributing five total tackles... Recorded a tackle for loss in five of final seven games.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Added strength while impressing coaches as defensive end in fall practices.

## Stone's Career Statistics

### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

TACKLES: 5, at Georgia, 10/14/ 2007

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	QH
2006	22-2-24	6.5-19	0.5-7	0-0	0/0	0

## Alan Strong

R-Fr., Cornerback, 5-9, 170

Atlanta, Ga. • Douglass H.S.

**2006** Redshirted as freshman... Finished season as one of team's top contributors in practice, earning Defensive Scout of the Week honors after Duke and Kentucky games.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain... Three-year letter winner for one of Georgia's best large-school programs... Squad went 18-5 overall in 2004-05, advancing to AAAAA playoffs both years... As senior, posted 45 tackles, an INT and six defended passes as opponents frequently looked in other direction... Named First Team All-City by *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*... Also named to AJC's "Super 11" team and "Georgia's Top 50 Prospects" list... Racked up 40 tackles as junior... Nominated to the U.S. Army All-Star Game... Owns 4.3 clocking in 40... Standout sprinter, capturing 100 and 200 in 2005 Atlanta Track Classic... PRs of 10.65 in 100 and 21.4 in 200.

# Commodore Returnees

## Brent Trice

So., Safety, 6-3, 205

Barboursville, Va. • Fork Union Military Academy

**2006** Played every game as a true freshman, either in the secondary as a second team or on special team coverage units... Ended season with eight total tackles, five solo stops, two tackles for loss, and an interception... Playing time increased when safety Ben Koger was lost for eight games with a leg fracture... First career pick came in win over Temple... Posted career high of two tackles versus Tennessee.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Played safety and flex tight end for nationally regarded Fork Union Military Academy postgraduate squad in 2005... Posted three INTs and 10 sacks from safety position; caught 10 passes as tight end... Senior captain and multiple-year starter at Orange County HS... Central Virginia Defensive Player of the Year in 2004, posting 81 tackles, five sacks, five forced fumbles, one interception and two blocked field goals... As receiver, hauled in 27 passes for 423 yards and five TDs... Standout in basketball, averaging 12 points and 12 rebounds as senior.

### Trice's Career Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**TACKLES:** 2, vs. TENNESSEE, 11/18/2006

**INTERCEPTIONS:** 1, vs. TEMPLE, 9/30/2006

	TACKLES	TFL	SACKS	INT	FF/FR	PBU
2006	5-3-8	2.0-2	0-0	1-2	0/0	0

## Brett Upson

So., Punter, 5-10, 175

Griffin, Ga. • Spalding H.S.

**2006** Earned starting role as true freshman, replacing Bryant Hahnfeldt, who concentrated on placekicking as a sophomore... Finished the season ranked 10th among SEC punters with 37.4-yard average... Of Upson's 52 punts, 27 were either fair caught or downed inside the opponents' 20-yard line... Opposing returners averaged less than six yards per return, ranking Vanderbilt 17th in the NCAA... Started the season in excellent fashion, winning team's Specialist of the Week honors at Alabama by averaging 43.7 yards... In first home appearance versus Arkansas, attempts include a career-long 69 yarder... Posted two punts covering more than 50 yards to aid in Commodore road win over Georgia.

## Ryan Vance

R-So., Offensive Line, 6-3, 280

Bellaire, Texas • Episcopal H.S.

**2006** Saw limited action at offensive guard... Only action came in season finale versus Tennessee.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Named team's top offensive scout after LSU game.

## Bradley Vierling

R-So., Center/Guard, 6-3, 290

Warminster, Pa. • Central Bucks East H.S.

**2006** Saw action in nine games backing up center Hamilton Holliday and the offensive guard corps... First career action came against Arkansas... Like fellow redshirt freshman Ryan Custer, playing time increased as injuries became a factor midway through season... Saw time in last six games of season.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Practiced as center and guard... Impressed coaches last fall, earning team's postseason Offensive Scout Player of the Week honors... Named team's top offensive scout after Ole Miss, Georgia and Tennessee games.

## Sean Walker

R-Jr., Wide Receiver, 6-0, 180

Louisville, Ga. • Jefferson County H.S.

**2006** Showed great strides from redshirt freshman campaign, concluding the year as one of Chris Nickson's favorite aerial targets... Started five games as receiver in multiple wideout formations... Ended season as team's fifth leading receiver with 16 catches, good for 204 yards and a pair of touchdowns... Had at least one catch in 10 games... First career start came versus Arkansas... Break-through performance came at Ole Miss with an 18-yard touchdown catch... Named team's co-Offensive Player of the Week for effort in win over Georgia... Had two key receptions against Bulldogs, a 35-yarder for touchdown and a six-yard catch that provided crucial first down in Commodores' game-winning possession... Gained 49 yards on three rushes, including a 35-yard reverse for a touchdown at Kentucky... Named squad's Specialist of the Week for kickoff return effort versus Tennessee.

**2005** Recovering from offseason knee ailment, Walker saw action as special teams contributor and reserve wide receiver... Played in seven games during the season... Did not record a reception.

**2004** Redshirted.

### Walker's Career Receiving Statistics

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**RECEPTIONS:** 3, at Duke, 10/28/2006

**RECEIVING YARDS:** 41, at Georgia, 11/14/2006

**LONGEST RECEPTION:** 37, vs. Florida, 11/4/2006

	RECEPTIONS-YARDS	AVG	TD	LONG
2006	21-313	14.9	3	44



# Commodore Returnees

## Alex Washington

**R-So., Wide Receiver, 5-10, 180**

**Stone Mountain, Ga. • Stephenson H.S.**

**2006** Played in every game as either a receiver or return specialist... Ranked eighth among SEC kickoff returners with 19.2 average... Season-long kickoff return of 43 yards came in Georgia win... Handled team's punt returning chores for much of season, averaging 5.6 yards on 10 attempts... As a wide receiver, hauled in three catches for 12 yards... Concluded season with 432 all-purpose yards, fourth best on the team.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Impressed as wide receiver during fall practices... Named team's top offensive scout player after Middle Tennessee and South Carolina games.

### Washington's Career Statistics (Receiving & Returns)

#### SINGLE-GAME HIGHS

**LONGEST PUNT RETURN:** 16, vs. Temple, 9/30/2006

**LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN:** 43, at Georgia, 10/14/2006

	REC.-YARDS	AVG	LONG	PR	AVG.	KOR	AVG.
2006	3-12	4.0	12	10-56	5.6	19-364	19.2

## Thomas Welch

**R-So., Offensive Tackle, 6-6, 280**

**Brentwood, Tenn. • Brentwood H.S.**

**2006** Moved to offensive tackle from tight end early in season after injuries sidelined two tackles... Saw action as a tight end in season opener, then played as an undersized tackle in seven games... First action as a tackle came in win over Temple... Enjoyed substantial role in three-game stretch that included South Carolina, Duke and Florida.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Worked as tight end during fall drills.

## Justin Wheeler

**R-So., Wide Receiver, 6-0, 175**

**North Augusta, S.C. • North Augusta H.S.**

**2006** Saw limited role at wide receiver as redshirt freshman... Appeared in six games, including wins over Temple, Tennessee State and Duke... Did not register a catch... Also contributed on special teams.

**2005** Redshirted as freshman... Impressed as receiver during fall practices.

## David Whittington

**R-Jr., Defensive End, 6-2, 250**

**Lafayette, La. • St. Thomas More H.S.**

**2006** Moved to defensive end prior to season... Played sparingly, seeing action in four games, including wins at Georgia and Duke... Did not earn defensive statistics.

**2005** Started at fullback in first collegiate career action at Wake Forest... For much of season, saw action as reserve blocking fullback and special teams contributor... Played in every game... Did not register a rushing attempt.

**2004** Redshirted... Named offensive scout team player of the week after Georgia game.

## Chris Williams

**R-Sr., Offensive Tackle, 6-6, 315**

**Glynn, La. • Catholic H.S.**

**2006** Developed into the Commodores' top offensive lineman and one of the premier tackles in the Southeastern Conference... League coaches tabbed Williams as a postseason second team All-SEC recipient... In post-season ceremonies, earned team's Most Valuable Offensive Lineman Award from coaching staff... Started every game protecting quarterback's blind side at left tackle, running his consecutive start streak to 21 games... Constantly earned unit's top blocking grade... Shared team Offensive Player of the Week honors with receiver Earl Bennett following performance in win over Temple, then shared the same recognition with QB Chris Nickson following narrow loss at Kentucky... Earned the team offensive award outright for his performance in season finale versus Tennessee... After allowing one quarterback sack in the opener at Michigan, did not allow another in the final 11 games.

**2005** In first year of collegiate action, this agile, yet versatile lineman continually showed improvement as the season progressed... By season's end, regarded as one of team's most dependable offensive lineman, alternating between two positions on left side with responsibility of protecting quarterback's blindside... Consistently graded out as one of team's top offensive linemen while seeing action in every game... Earned nine consecutive starts at left guard, though he played just as frequently at left tackle... Shared team's Offensive Player of the Week honors after performance in first collegiate start against Ole Miss... Two weeks later, named team's Offensive Player of the Week for performance against Middle Tennessee.

**2004** Did not dress... Participated as practice squad offensive tackle, earning scout team Offensive Player of the Week honors after Tennessee game.

**2003** Redshirted.

## Turner Wimberly

**R-Fr., Wide Receiver, 6-0, 195**

**Austin, Texas • Hun School (N.J.)/Westside H.S. (Texas)**

**2006** Did not see action as a freshman... Moved to practice squad quarterback after starting preseason camp in defensive secondary.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Played quarterback and safety at prestigious New Jersey prep school, earning Prep Player of the Year honors from Trenton (N.J.) Times... Earned three varsity letters at Westlake, helping Chaparrals to state semifinals in 2003 and district title in 2004, compiling more than 2,100 yards of total offense... Voted MVP by Westlake teammates... Standout centerfielder for Westlake baseball squad.



# 2007 Signees

## Theron Kadri, Defensive End

6'3", 235, Brighton H.S., Brighton, Tenn.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior defensive captain... Worked his way into starting defensive end role late in junior season... Earned First Team Region 7-4A recognition as senior after accumulating 68 total tackles, three quarterback sacks and a fumble recovery... Ended prep career with 17 tackles for loss... Helped Cardinals to berth in 2006 4A state playoffs... Also saw limited action as blocking fullback in goal-line situations and at offensive tackle as senior... Also earned two varsity letters in track and field.

**PERSONAL** Theron Olabode Kadri... Son of Laisi and Evelyn Kadri... Born Jan. 21, 1989 in Monroe, La... Youngest of four siblings: two brothers and a sister... Dad is a production engineer; mom is a teacher... Mom is a Vanderbilt alumni... Both brothers are engineers... Plays the saxophone... Played on two-time state runnerup rugby squad.

## Chris Marve, Linebacker

6'0", 230, White Station H.S., Memphis, Tenn.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Two-year team captain and team MVP... Voted Tennessee 5A Mr. Football Lineman of the Year, first recipient ever from White Station... Named First Team All-State, "Best of the Preps" by *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, "All-South" by *Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel* and *Nashville Tennessean's* "Dream Team"... Helped Spartans to 12-2 overall record in 2006 and 5A state semifinals... Achieved 178 total tackles, including 133 solo stops, four QB sacks and eight forced fumbles as a senior, earning Region 8-5A most outstanding player... Credited with 120 solo tackles as a standout junior... Earned four varsity football letters... An academic honor roll student, and member of the National Honor Society.

**PERSONAL** Christopher Ryan Marve... Son of Clayton Samuel and Robin Samuel... Born March 1, 1989 in Fort Worth, Texas... Dad is engineer; mom is supervisor with Comcast... Oldest of seven siblings: two brothers, four sisters... White Station also produced Commodore senior starting DE Curtis Gatewood.

## Austin Monahan, Tight End

6'6", 235, Phillips (Mass.) Academy, Charlotte (N.C.) Country Day

**PREP SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL** Two-way starter in 2006 as postgraduate student at prestigious Phillips Academy... Started at tight end and defensive end for 7-1 Big Blue that lost in New England Prep School Athletic Conference championship to Salisbury... As TE, hauled in 36 receptions for 536 yards and seven TDs... On defense, contributed 28 tackles, eight quarterback sacks and three fumble recoveries... At Charlotte Country Day, caught 48 passes for 896 yards and 14 TDs as senior, earning invite to play in Shriners Bowl of the Carolinas... Helped Charlotte school to 2004 state title.

**PERSONAL** Austin Beatty Joyce Monahan... Born Feb. 7, 1988 in Evanston, Ill... Son of Sephen and Mary Joyce Monahan... Middle of three brothers: Steve, 21, and Ryan, 16... Dad is an investment banker; mom coaches middle school field hockey team... In high school, mentored youngsters through Big Brothers-Big Sisters organization.

## Larry Smith, Quarterback

6'3", 200, Prattville H.S., Prattville, Ala.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain for state champion Lions... Three-year starter as dual-threat quarterback for powerful Alabama team... Directed first undefeated season in Prattville history, concluding 15-0 campaign with MVP performance in win over Hoover for 6A state title... Named Alabama's all-classification Mr. Football as senior... Picked as All-America QB by Prep Nation, MaxPreps and EA Sports... Two-time All-State selection... Helped Prattville to 39-2 overall record from 2004-06, setting school career marks of 6,011 passing yards and 54 touchdown passes... Smith never lost a regular season game as starter... In 2006, threw of 2,465 yards, 21 TDs and two INTs, earning 6A Back of the Year honors... Also ran for 670 yards as a senior.

**PERSONAL** Larry Darnell Smith, Jr... Son of Larry and Pamela Smith... Born Feb. 22, 1989 in Riverside, Calif... An only child... Dad is ROTC and aerospace science instructor; mom is computer technician... Joins QB Chris Nickson as the second Alabama Mr. Football recipient to sign with Vanderbilt in last four years.

## John Stokes, Linebacker

6'5", 225, Memphis University School, Memphis, Tenn.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Senior captain and defensive MVP for powerful Memphis private school... Helped Owls to three state playoff appearances, and Division II state titles in 2004 and 2005... Named Division II-AAA Mr. Football Lineman of the Year as senior... Also included in "Best of the Preps" by *Memphis Commercial Appeal* and "Tennessee Dream Team" by *Nashville Tennessean*... Three-year starter at LB, helping Owls to 27-8 overall record... Played varsity as freshman... In 2006, achieved 85 tackles, five tackles of loss, an interception and one fumble recovery taken for TD... Top rebounder as starting pivot for MUS basketball team that captured 2007 Division II state championship.

**PERSONAL** John Whittemore Stokes IV... Son of Jack and Carol Stokes... Born Feb. 1, 1988 in Memphis... Middle of three siblings; sister, Cameron, 21; and brother, Will, 16; Dad works in sales for Morgan Keegan investment firm; mom is a homemaker... Both parents graduated from Vanderbilt... Enjoys playing the guitar.

## Udom Umoh, Wide Receiver

5'11", 170, Peach County H.S., Fort Valley, Ga.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Talented wide receiver who helped the Peach County Trojans to consecutive AAA state titles... Named to Georgia Sportswriters Association AAA First Team All-State as senior... All-region selection as junior and senior... In 2006, caught 64 passes for 1,058 yards and 14 touchdowns, including two TDs in 28-7 3A state championship win over Shaw HS... Trojans were 14-1 in 2006 after 12-3 title run in 2005... As a junior, caught 22 passes for more than 400 receiving yards and five touchdowns... A standout sprinter in track & field, with personal bests of 21.7 in the 200 meters and 48.6 in the 400 meters.

**PERSONAL** Udom Iyamba Umoh... Son of Jerry and Angela Murtagh... Born Dec. 6, 1988 in Maiduguri, Nigeria... Has an older sister, Jann Umoh, and younger brother, Michael Murtagh... Dad teaches at Fort Valley State; mom is academic advisor for Upward Bound program.



# 2006 Signees

## **Ryan van Rensburg, Running Back** 6'1", 220, The Bolles School, Jacksonville, Fla.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Three-year letterwinner for one of Florida's top 2A programs... Started as lone back as junior and senior, helping Bulldogs to 2006 state title... Averaged 14 yards per carry rushing for 1,049 yards and 15 TDs as senior, earning All-State honors... Named by *Jacksonville Times-Union* to Florida Super 75 team... As junior, rushed for 20 TDs and nearly 1,000 yards... Also lettered in track & field and weightlifting... Finished third in state weightlifting championships as junior and qualified for state track meet in shot put.

**PERSONAL** Ryan J. van Rensburg... Son of Andre and Linda van Rensburg... Born March 22, 1988 in Cape Town, South Africa... Dad is in commercial real estate development; mom is an artist and horseback riding instructor... Older brother, Shaun, plays linebacker for Furman... Family immigrated to America in 2000... Became U.S. citizen in 2005... Started playing football upon arriving in Florida... Grew up playing rugby in in South Africa... Also speaks native Afrikaans language from South African heritage... Enjoys sculpting... Close friends with fellow Commodore football recruit Tim Fugger.

## **James Williams, Offensive Tackle** 6'6", 300, Smyrna H.S., Smyrna, Tenn.

**HIGH SCHOOL** Co-captain as senior... Started at offensive tackle as junior and senior... Played big role in Bulldogs 13-2 campaign in 2006 that ended with convincing 5A state championship victory, first in school history... Earned all-region honors as senior, earning team's offensive line MVP... Also earned a varsity letter as thrower in track & field... Maintained perfect attendance through high school.

**PERSONAL** James Michael Williams... Son of James J. and Hollis Williams... Born Aug. 31, 1989 in Atlanta... Dad works as supervisor; mom is registered nurse... Dad played baseball at Oberlin (Ohio) College... Has one sister, Camille, 16... Plans on majoring in civil engineering... Prep teammate of current Vanderbilt redshirt freshman lineman Adam Smotherman.