



# 2017-18 QUICK FACTS

## Quick Facts

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

## Basketball Staff

Head Coach.....Bryce Drew  
 Record Overall.....143-65 (6)  
 Record at Vanderbilt.....19-16 (1)  
 Associate Head Coach.....Roger Powell, Jr.  
 Assistant Coaches.....Jake Diebler, Casey Shaw  
 Director of Operations.....Matt Olinger  
 Director of Scouting.....Luke Simons  
 Athletic Trainer.....Shannon Gordon  
 Academic Counselor.....Neal Clark  
 Administrative Assistant.....Debbie Green  
 Strength and Conditioning Coach.....Jeremy Anderson  
 Office Number.....(615) 322-6530

## Athletic Communications

Men's Basketball SID.....Andy Boggs  
 Media Relations Address.....2601 Jess Neely Dr.  
 .....Nashville, TN 37212  
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## History

Overall record.....1,590-1,122  
 NCAA Tournament Appearances.....15  
 Tournament Record.....10-16 (.385)  
 Total Tournament Games.....26  
 Last Appearance.....2017; Lost to Northwestern in 1st Round  
 Best Finishes at NCAA's.....Elite 8 (1965: field of 23)  
 .....Sweet 16 (1988, 1993: field of 64; 2004, 2007: field of 65)  
 NIT Appearances.....12 (1983, 1987, 1990, 1992, 1994  
 .....1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2015)  
 NIT Record.....20-12 (.625)  
 Total NIT Games.....32  
 Last Appearance.....2015; Lost at Stanford in Quarterfinals  
 Best Finishes at NIT.....Champion (1990); Runner-Up (1994)

## Team Information

2016-17 Record.....19-16  
 SEC Record/Finish.....10-8/T-5th  
 Home Record.....11-5  
 Away Record.....5-6  
 Neutral Record.....3-5  
 Postseason . NCAA First Round (Lost 68-66 to Northwestern in Salt Lake City)  
 Final AP Ranking.....NA  
 Starters Returning/Lost.....3/2  
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost.....8/2  
 Newcomers.....6

## Returning Players (2016-17 averages)

Name	P	Ht	Wt	CL	Pts	Rebs	A/B/S
Matthew Fisher-Davis	G	6'5	186	Sr.	13.9	3.2	1.1a
Jeff Roberson	F	6'6	220	Sr.	13.2	6.2	1.7a
Riley LaChance	G	6'2	185	Sr.	10.5	3.3	3.9a
Joe Toye	F	6'7	206	Jr.	6.4	2.6	1.1a
Payton Willis	G	6'4	186	So.	5.2	1.8	1.9a
Djery Baptiste	C	6'10	235	So.	1.8	1.9	0.4b
Clevon Brown	F	6'8	233	So.	1.6	1.5	0.4b
Larry Austin, Jr.	G	6'2	182	Jr.			Redshirted

## Letterwinners Lost

Name	P	Ht	Wt	CL	Pts	Rebs	A/B/S
Luke Kornet	F	7'1	240	Sr.	13.2	6.2	2.0b
Nolan Cressler	G	6'4	210	Sr.	7.8	4.2	1.7a

## Newcomers

Names	Ht	Wt	Hometown	Previous School
Max Evans	6'2	186	Houston, Texas	Bellaire HS
Saben Lee	6'2	174	Tempe, Ariz.	Corona Del Sol HS
Ejike Obinna	6'10	234	Enugu, Nigeria	Virginia Academy (Va.)
Isaiah Rice	5'11	189	Carmel, Ind.	Park Tudor HS
Matt Ryan	6'8	209	Cortlandt Manor, N.Y.	Notre Dame
Yanni Wetzell	6'10	235	Auckland, N.Z.	St. Mary's (Texas)



# 2017-18 ROSTER

## 2017-18 Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.-Yr	Hometown (Previous School)
0	Saben Lee	G	6-2	174	Fr. - 1st	Tempe, Ariz. (Corona Del Sol)
1	Payton Willis	G	6-4	186	So. - 2nd	Fayetteville, Ark. (Fayetteville)
2	Joe Toye	G/F	6-7	206	Jr. - 3rd	Chicago, Ill. (Whitney Young)
3	Larry Austin, Jr.	G	6-2	182	R.-Jr. - 4th	Springfield, Ill. (Xavier University/Lanphier)
4	Yanni Wetzell	F/C	6-10	235	R.-So. - 3rd	Auckland, N.Z. (St. Mary's (Texas)/Westlake Boys)
5	Matthew Fisher-Davis	G	6-5	186	Sr. - 4th	Charlotte, N.C. (Butler)
10	Maxwell Evans	G	6-2	186	Fr. - 1st	Houston, Texas (Bellaire)
11	Jeff Roberson	F	6-6	220	Sr. - 4th	Houston, Texas (The Kinkaid School)
12	Djery Baptiste	C	6-10	235	R.-So. - 3rd	Gonaives, Haiti (Prestonwood Christian (Texas))
13	Riley LaChance	G	6-2	185	Sr. - 4th	Brookfield, Wis. (Brookfield Central)
14	Isaiah Rice	G	5-11	189	Fr. - 1st	Carmel, Ind. (Park Tudor)
15	Clevon Brown	F	6-8	233	So. -2nd	San Antonio, Texas (Churchill)
32	Matt Ryan	F	6-8	209	R.-So. - 3rd	Cortlandt Manor, N.Y. (Notre Dame/Iona Prep)
50	Ejike Obinna	F/C	6-10	234	Fr. - 1st	Enugu, Nigeria (Virginia Academy (Va.))

### COACHING STAFF

Head Coach ..... **Bryce Drew** (Valparaiso, 1998) - 2nd  
 Associate Head Coach ..... **Roger Powell** (Illinois, 2005) - 2nd  
 Assistant Coach ..... **Jake Diebler** (Valparaiso, 2009) - 2nd  
 Assistant Coach ..... **Casey Shaw** (Toledo, 1998) - 2nd  
 Director of Scouting ..... **Luke Simons** (Purdue, 2005) - 2nd  
 Director of Operations..... **Matt Olinger** (Liberty, 2007) - 2nd

### SUPPORT STAFF

Athletic Communications Dir. .... **Andy Boggs** (Florida State, 1998)  
 Academic Support..... **Neal Clark** (Kentucky, 1992)  
 Athletic Trainer..... **Shannon Gordon** (Indiana State, 1992)  
 Strength and Conditioning ..... **Jeremy Anderson** (Liberty, 2011)

### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Djery Baptiste..... **Jerry - Bap-TEEST**  
 Clevon Brown ..... **CLEE-von**  
 Jake Diebler ..... **DEEB-ler**  
 Ejike Obinna ..... **EEH-Je-KAY Oh-Bean-a**  
 Jeff Roberson..... **ROE-ber-son**  
 Joe Toye..... **TOY**

### ROSTER BY CLASS

#### Seniors (3)

**Matthew Fisher-Davis** .....Charlotte, N.C.  
**Riley LaChance** ..... Brookfield, Wisc.  
**Jeff Roberson** ..... Houston, Texas

#### Juniors (2)

**Larry Austin, Jr.** ..... Springfield, Ill.  
**Joe Toye** ..... Chicago, Ill.

#### Sophomores (5)

**Djery Baptiste** ..... Gonaives, Haiti  
**Clevon Brown** ..... San Antonio, Texas  
**Matt Ryan** ..... Cortlandt Manor, N.Y.  
**Yanni Wetzell** ..... Auckland, N.Z.  
**Payton Willis** ..... Fayetteville, Ark.

#### Freshman (4)

**Maxwell Evans** ..... Houston, Texas  
**Saben Lee** ..... Tempe, Ariz.  
**Ejike Obinna** ..... Enugu, Nigeria  
**Isaiah Rice** ..... Carmel, Ind.



# 2017-18 PRESEASON NOTES

## Bryce Drew makes NCAA Tournament in first season

Commodore head coach Bryce Drew led the Commodores to the NCAA Tournament in his first season in Nashville, marking the first time in the history of the program a first-year Vanderbilt coach has led his team to the tournament. Overall, the Commodores made their 15th appearance in the NCAA Tournament and their first back-to-back appearances since making three consecutive tournaments from 2010-12.

## Commodores faced tough slate in 2016-17

Vanderbilt had five top-25 wins, six top-50 victories and 11 top-100 RPI wins, the overall toughest strength of schedule and toughest non-conference schedule in the nation, and were the only SEC team to sweep Florida. The Commodores tied for the second-most top 50 wins in SEC with Florida with six - only UK (8) has more. The Commodores played 11 teams that advanced to the NCAA Tournament (Marquette, Bucknell, Butler, Minnesota, Middle Tennessee, Dayton, Kentucky, Florida, Arkansas, Iowa State, and South Carolina) and four teams in the 2017 Postseason NIT (Belmont, Alabama, Georgia, and Ole Miss). Twenty of Vanderbilt's 34 games came against teams that advanced to the postseason.

## Returning for the Commodores

The Commodores return eight letter winners and three of their top four scorers in 2017-18, rising seniors Matthew Fisher-Davis (13.9), Jeff Roberson (10.8), and Riley LaChance (10.5). Junior Joe Toye, who started in 13 games a year ago, also returns after averaging 6.4 points and 2.6 rebounds per game. In all, Vanderbilt returns 70.5% of its scoring and six players who started at least one game in 2016-17. In all, 261 cumulative starts return for the Commodores and a combined 532 games played between the eight letterwinners returning.

## Fisher-Davis, LaChance 1,000 point scorers

Matthew Fisher-Davis and Riley LaChance each surpassed the 1,000-point barrier last season, with Jeff Roberson only 169 points shy of the mark entering his senior season.

## Vanderbilt record-breaking shooting

Altogether, Vanderbilt made 337 threes last season, which set a new school record for a single season. The previous best was 322 in the 2004-05 campaign. The Commodores' 77.6% clip from the charity stripe ties for the second-best in school history. Six Commodores made 30 threes or more in 2016-17 - Joe Toye, Nolan Cressler, Jeff Roberson, Riley LaChance, Luke Kornet, and Matthew Fisher-Davis - and were the SEC's best three-point shooting team (37.7%), the league's leader in three's made per game (9.9) and in free-throw percentage (77.6%).

## Shooting the Lights Out

Vanderbilt made 19 threes against High Point on December 6, 2016, which set a new school record for threes in a game, surpassing an 18-three performance at Tennessee on January 8, 2005.

The Commodores also set a new record for most 3-pointers made at Memorial Gym, passing the old mark of 16 that was set on Jan. 8, 1994

vs. South Carolina and then matched on Feb. 11, 1995 vs. Arkansas. The Commodores hit 12 of their 19 3-pointers in the first half.

## Kornet departs as all-time blocks leader

Vanderbilt senior center Luke Kornet, who was signed as a free agent by the New York Knicks, departs the Commodores as the program's all-time blocks leader with 210 career blocks, surpassing Festus Ezeli, who had 204 blocks in his career. Kornet was named the SEC Scholar Athlete of the Year in 2017, as well as an All-SEC first team and all-defensive team selection.

## LaChance made threes at high clip in 2016-17

Riley LaChance, who played the point guard position in 2016-17 and will slide over to his more natural two-guard spot in his senior season, made 49.3% of his three-point attempts last year, which is the third-best in a single-season all-time for the Commodores - only Billy McCaffrey (51.2%, 1992-93) and Barry Booker (50%, 1986-87) have had better seasons from three. LaChance led the SEC in three-point shooting in 2016-17.

## Newcomers in 2017-18

Vanderbilt will welcome six newcomers to the team in 2017-18 - true freshmen guards Saben Lee (6-2, 174, Tempe, Ariz.) and Maxwell Evans (6-2, 186, Houston, Texas), true freshman big man Ejike Obinna (6-10, 234, Enugu, Nigeria), redshirt sophomore transfers Matt Ryan (6-8, 209 forward, Notre Dame) and Yanni Wetzell (6-10, 235 forward/center, St. Mary's (Texas)), and freshman walk-on guard Isaiah Rice (5-11, 189, Carmel, Ind.).

## Ranked Opponents

The Commodores won their first road game against a ranked opponent since Dec. 29, 2011, after defeating Florida on January 21, 2017, in Gainesville, 68-66. Vanderbilt won five true road games in Southeastern Conference play in 2017 (LSU, Auburn, Texas A&M, Arkansas, Tennessee), the most since 2010. Against ranked opponents in 2016-17, the Commodores finished 4-2.

## 999

Vanderbilt has made a 3-pointer in 999 consecutive games, a streak which began at the inception of the 3-point line in 1986-87. The Commodores rank third only to UNLV and Kentucky for the longest streak in Division I basketball. Vanderbilt, UNLV and Princeton are the only three schools in college basketball to have made at least one 3-pointer in every game played since the 3-point line was implemented.

## Career and Single-Season Lists

- Matthew Fisher-Davis is 8th in 3's made in a career with 234. Riley LaChance's 48.6% from three clip in 2016-17 is Vanderbilt's 3rd-best all-time.