



VANDERBILT ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS

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NCAA Women's Golf Championships East Regional

May 11-13, 2000 • University Scarlet Course • Columbus, Ohio

Vanderbilt Makes History

For just the second time in school history the Vanderbilt women's golf team has been selected to play in the NCAA Regionals. Vanderbilt qualified for the East Regional by posting top-six finishes in four of its last five tournaments, including a seasonal-best tie for fourth place at the Bryan National Collegiate. The Commodores' only other appearance in the NCAA Regionals came in 1996. Vanderbilt finished 17th with Mallory Crosland leading the way with her tie for 35th place.

Crosland Tops in 1999

Vanderbilt's top performance in the postseason came last year at the NCAA East Regional. Mallory Crosland shot a then-school record score of 219 to become the first Vanderbilt golfer, men's or women's, to advance to the NCAA Championship. Adding to the suspense for Crosland was the one-hole playoff she won to earn one of the four individual invitations to the Championship.

SEC Dominates the Field

The SEC dominates the NCAA East Regional with 10 schools making the 24-team field. Seven teams from the South District and three teams from the Mid-Atlantic/East District combined to form the SEC contingent. Also, six of the 10 teams are ranked in the top 25 in the latest MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings.

March Madness

The month of March was very kind to sophomore Meredith Ward. In March, Ward began the final round of three tournaments holding at least a share of the individual lead.

The highlight of those three tournaments was the Tulane Green Wave Classic, where she fired a one-under-par 218 to claim medalist honors. It was the first time in the history of the program that a Commodore had won an event. Also, the score of 218 gave her the three-round school record despite the fact she had to do it on a par-73 course. For her efforts, she was named the SEC Golfer of the Week.

She also took the lead into the final round of South Florida Invitational and the Spartan Invitational, finishing third and 15th, respectively.

School-Record Performance

Vanderbilt finished in a tie for fourth place with a score of 913 at the Bryan National Collegiate. The score of 913 is a school record and the fourth-place tie was the team's best finish of the season. Freshman Nicki Cutler (230) and sophomore Leticia Lanham (236) each posted the best scores of their careers.

Youth Movement

The Commodores' future looks bright as they enter this year's postseason with Julie Sabo as the only senior on the roster. Filling out this weekend's Vanderbilt roster are sophomores Annie Kirkland, Leticia Lanham and Meredith Ward, along with freshman Nicki Cutler. The abundance of youth does not represent a lack of experience since this lineup has been the primary one used the last two seasons.

Vanderbilt Veteran

Julie Sabo is the only senior on the Commodore roster. The St. Louis, Mo., native is second on the team with a 78.93 stroke average and has led VU in two tournaments this year.

VANDERBILT DID YOU KNOWS

- This is just the second time Vanderbilt has qualified for the postseason and the first time since 1996.
- The Commodores come into the East Regional with top-six finishes in four of their last five tournaments.
- Vanderbilt has been represented at the NCAA East Regional four of the past five years.
- Meredith Ward's first-place finish at this year's Green Wave Classic is VU's only individual title in school history.
- Meredith Ward's 218 score at the Green Wave Classic is a school record.
- Annie Kirkland is a third generation SEC student-athlete.
- Meredith Ward's 225 score in her first collegiate tournament ranks fifth in school history.
- Julie Sabo is the only senior on this year's squad.
- Head coach Page Dunlap played seven years on the LPGA Tour after winning the 1986 NCAA Individual Championship.
- Vanderbilt's seven players came to Nashville from six different states.
- After this weekend, the Commodores will have played 12 tournaments in nine different states.
- The Commodores returned four of five letterwinners this season.

Commodores Hitting the Books

Three Commodores were named to the 2000 SEC Women's Golf Academic Honor Roll. Junior Katie Murinas sports a 3.326 GPA in Biomedical Engineering, senior Julie Sabo has a 3.353 GPA in Civil Engineering and sophomore Meredith Ward has a 3.451 GPA while still being undecided about her major.

Ward Sets Standard for Vanderbilt

Sophomore Meredith Ward leads the team and is 15th in the SEC in stroke average with a mark of 77.06. The Crystal Lake, Ill., native has recorded three top-10 finishes and has led the Commodores in eight of 11 tournaments. In addition to her title at the Tulane Green Wave Classic, Ward also took the individual lead into two other tournaments, finishing third at the South Florida Invitational and 15th at the Spartan Invitational. For her efforts this season, Ward was named Second Team All-SEC.

Cutler on a Roll

Nicki Cutler joined the team this season as a freshman and quickly added depth to the rising Commodore program. The Englewood, Colo., native is third on the team in stroke average with a mark of 80.55. She is coming off her best collegiate performance at the Bryan National Collegiate where she recorded a score of 230 to lead Vanderbilt and finish in a tie for 20th place.

Turning the Page

Vanderbilt women's golf coach Page Dunlap announced that she will be leaving the program at the end of this season. Her departure from Vanderbilt came about when she decided to move to Florida and get married this June. In her two years at the helm of the Vanderbilt women's golf program, Dunlap helped the team post four tournament scores that rank in the school's top-10 list. Last year, she guided Mallory Crosland to become the first Vanderbilt golfer, male or female, to qualify for the NCAA Championships.

Freitag Named Vanderbilt Coach

Martha Freitag was announced as the new Vanderbilt women's golf coach last month. Freitag comes to Nashville from the University of Texas, where she has been the assistant women's golf coach for the past three years. Last season Texas finished as the Big 12 runner-up before placing ninth at the NCAA Championship.

Before moving to Texas, Freitag was the head coach at Boise State and served as an assistant women's golf coach at Stanford. She also taught at the Jim McLean Golf Academy and played three years on the LPGA Tour.

Freitag, the former Martha Richards, is a 1993 graduate of Stanford, where she played both golf and basketball. She was an All-America golfer in 1993 and was named to the Pac-10's All-Decade Team. She also was a member of Stanford's 1990 national championship basketball team.

Freitag joins Vanderbilt men's golf coach Jim Ragan as former Texas assistants who have come to Nashville. Ragan was an assistant at Texas from 1994-97.

1999-2000 VANDERBILT WOMEN'S GOLF RESULTS

TEAM RESULTS

Rounds: 31 Strokes: 9794 Stroke Average: 315.94

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOURNAMENT</u>	<u>FINISH</u>	<u>SCORES</u>	<u>PAR (+-)</u>
Sept. 20-21	Lady Razorback Invitational	7 of 13	312-323=635	+59
Sept. 27-28	Heather Farr Invitational	12 of 15	311-318=629	+53
Oct. 8-10	Tar Heel Invitational	12 of 15	322-331-318=971	+107
Oct. 15-17	Mercedes-Benz Championship	13 of 18	311-318-333=962	+98
Oct. 29-30	Lady Paladin	16 of 24	327-317-321=965	+101
Feb. 25-27	Lady Gator	T11 of 15	320-319-307=946	+82
March 6-8	Spartan Invitational	6 of 14	306-306-324=936	+72
March 13-14	Green Wave Invitational	5 of 15	310-314-319=943	+67
March 20-21	South Florida Invitational	5 of 15	312-310-306=928	+64
March 24-26	Bryan National Collegiate	T4 of 15	311-300-302=913	+49
April 21-23	SEC Championship	10 of 12	328-318-320=966	+102

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Meredith Ward (So.)

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Par (+-)</u>
Lady Razorback	T7	74-78=152	+8
Heather Farr	T14	74-76=150	+6
Lady Tar Heel	T53	78-85-80=243	+27
Mercedes-Benz	T43	79-76-81=236	+20
Lady Paladin	T42	81-78-78=237	+21
Lady Gator	T23	80-77-76=233	+17
SJSU Spartan Invit.	T15	75-71-84=230	+14
Green Wave Classic	1	74-71-73=218	-1
South Florida Invit.	3	74-71-79=224	+8
Bryan National	T29	79-78-75=232	+16
SEC Championship	T17	76-83-75=234	+18

Julie Sabo (Sr.)

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Par (+-)</u>
Lady Razorback	T26	75-85=160	+16
Heather Farr	T61	81-81=162	+18
Lady Tar Heel	T39	79-81-79=239	+23
Mercedes-Benz	T49	78-80-81=239	+23
Lady Paladin	49	83-76-79=238	+22
Lady Gator	T23	80-80-73=233	+17
SJSU Spartan Invit.	T34	75-80-83=238	+22
Green Wave Classic	T40	85-80-78=243	+24
South Florida Invit.	T4	81-72-72=225	+9
Bryan National	WD	77-73-WD	
SEC Championship	T34	86-80-75=241	+25

Nicki Cutler (Fr.)

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Par (+-)</u>
Lady Razorback	32	81-80=161	+17
Heather Farr	T17	75-76=151	+7
Lady Tar Heel	T48	79-83-80=242	+26
Mercedes-Benz	T69	79-79-89=247	+31
Lady Paladin	T74	82-81-82=245	+29
Lady Gator	T40	78-81-80=239	+23
SJSU Spartan Invit.	T47	86-79-78=243	+27
Green Wave Classic	T32	77-78-85=240	+21
South Florida Invit.	T73	83-87-83=253	+37
Bryan National	T20	79-75-76=230	+14
SEC Championship	T43	83-78-85=246	+30

Annie Kirkland (So.)

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Par (+-)</u>
Lady Razorback	T56	85-86=171	+27
Mercedes-Benz	82	86-83-86=255	+39
Lady Gator	T52	82-81-78=241	+25
SJSU Spartan Invit.	T19	77-76-79=232	+16
Green Wave Classic	T57	79-85-84=248	+29
South Florida Invit.	T23	75-84-76=235	+19
Bryan National	T29	84-74-74=232	+16
SEC Championship	T50	83-81-86=250	+34

Leticia Lanham (So.)

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Par (+-)</u>
Lady Razorback	T33	82-80=162	+18
Heather Farr	75	81-87=168	+24
Lady Tar Heel	T58	86-82-79=247	+31
Mercedes-Benz	59	75-83-85=243	+27
Lady Paladin	T84	81-82-86=249	+33
Lady Gator	T74	83-87-82=252	+36
SJSU Spartan Invit.	62	79-86-85=250	+34
Green Wave Classic	T67	80-88-84=252	+33
South Florida Invit.	T52	82-83-79=244	+28
Bryan National	T39	76-83-77=236	+20
SEC Championship	54	89-78-85=253	+37

Katie Murinas (Jr.)

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Par (+-)</u>
Heather Farr	T73	82-85=167	+23
Lady Tar Heel	79	94-92-86=272	+56
Lady Paladin	113	92-91-82=265	+49

1999-2000 Women's Golf Cumulative Stats

Name	Rounds	Strokes	Avg.	Low Round	High Round	Top 10 Finishes	Best 54 Holes	Best Finish
Meredith Ward	31	2389	77.06	71 (3)	85	3	218—Green Wave	1— Green Wave
Julie Sabo	30	2368	78.93	72 (2)	86	1	225—South Florida	T4— South Florida
Nicki Cutler	31	2497	80.55	75 (2)	87	0	230—Bryan National	T17— Heather Farr
Annie Kirkland	23	1864	81.04	74 (2)	86 (4)	0	232—SJSU & Bryan National	T23— South Florida
Leticia Lanham	31	2556	82.45	75	89	0	236—Bryan National	T19— SJSU
Katie Murinas	8	704	88.00	82 (2)	94	0	265—Lady Paladin	T73—Heather Farr

1999-2000 Women's Golf Tournament-by-Tournament Results

Lady Razorback Invitational Sept. 20-21, 1999 7 of 13 (635)

Meredith Ward	T7	74-78=152	+8
Julie Sabo	T26	75-85=160	+16
Nicki Cutler	32	81-80=161	+17
Leticia Lanham	T33	82-80=162	+18
Annie Kirkland	T56	85-86=171	+27

Heather Far Invitational Sept. 27-28, 1999 12 of 15 (629)

Meredith Ward	T14	74-76=150	+6
Nicki Cutler	T17	75-76=151	+7
Julie Sabo	T61	81-81=162	+18
Katie Murinas	T73	82-85=167	+23
Leticia Lanham	75	81-87=168	+24

Lady Tar Heel Invitational Oct. 8-10, 1999 12 of 15 (971)

Julie Sabo	T39	79-81-79=239	+23
Nicki Cutler	T48	79-83-80=242	+26
Meredith Ward	T53	78-85-80=243	+27
Leticia Lanham	T58	86-82-79=247	+31
Katie Murinas	79	94-92-86=272	+56

Mercedes-Benz Championship Oct. 15-17, 1999 13 of 18 (962)

Meredith Ward	T43	79-76-81=236	+20
Julie Sabo	T49	78-80-81=239	+23
Leticia Lanham	59	75-83-85=243	+27
Nicki Cutler	T69	79-79-89=247	+31
Annie Kirkland	82	86-83-86=255	+39

Lady Paladin Oct. 29-30, 1999 16 of 24 (965)

Meredith Ward	T42	81-78-78=237	+21
Julie Sabo	49	83-76-79=238	+22
Nicki Cutler	T74	82-81-82=245	+29
Leticia Lanham	T84	81-82-86=249	+33
Katie Murinas	113	92-91-82=265	+49

Lady Gator Feb. 25-27, 2000 T11 of 15 (946)

Julie Sabo	T23	80-80-73=233	+17
Meredith Ward	T23	80-77-76=233	+17
Nicki Cutler	T40	78-81-80=239	+23
Annie Kirkland	T52	82-81-78=241	+25
Leticia Lanham	T74	83-87-82=252	+36

SJSU Spartan Invitational March 6-8, 2000 6 of 14 (936)

Meredith Ward	T15	75-71-84=230	+14
Annie Kirkland	T19	77-76-79=232	+16
Julie Sabo	T34	75-80-83=238	+22
Nicki Cutler	T47	86-79-78=243	+27
Leticia Lanham	62	79-86-85=250	+34

Green Wave Invitational March 13-14, 2000 5 of 15 (943)

Meredith Ward	1	74-71-73=218	-1
Nicki Cutler	T32	77-78-85=240	+21
Julie Sabo	T40	85-80-78=243	+24
Annie Kirkland	T57	79-85-84=248	+29
Leticia Lanham	T67	80-88-84=252	+33

South Florida Invitational March 6-7, 2000 5 of 15 (928)

Meredith Ward	3	74-71-79=224	+8
Julie Sabo	T4	81-72-72=225	+9
Annie Kirkland	T23	75-84-76=235	+19
Leticia Lanham	T52	82-83-79=244	+28
Nicki Cutler	T73	83-87-83=253	+37

Bryan National Collegiate March 17-19, 2000 T4 of 15 (913)

Nicki Cutler	T20	79-75-76=230	+14
Annie Kirkland	T29	84-74-74=232	+16
Meredith Ward	T29	79-78-75=232	+16
Leticia Lanham	T39	76-83-77=236	+20
Julie Sabo	WD	77-73-WD	

SEC Championships April 21-23, 2000 10 of 12 (966)

Meredith Ward	T17	76-83-75=234	+18
Julie Sabo	T34	86-80-75=241	+25
Nicki Cutler	T43	83-78-85=246	+30
Annie Kirkland	T50	83-81-86=250	+34
Leticia Lanham	54	89-78-85=253	+37

