

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 2018 SEC Soccer Awards Announced

**Birmingham, Ala.** – The Southeastern Conference unveiled its soccer coaches' postseason awards Sunday to cap off another exciting season of SEC soccer.

Vanderbilt's Darren Ambrose earned SEC Coach of the Year honors while Alabama senior midfielder Emma Welch was named SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Tennessee's Bunny Shaw was selected as the SEC Offensive Player of the Year. South Carolina defender Grace Fisk was tabbed SEC Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive season. Vanderbilt's Haley Hopkins garnered SEC Freshman of the Year honors.

It is the first SEC Coach of the Year honor for Ambrose who led the Commodores to their first SEC championship since 1994. The 2018 has been one of the most success in school history. Vanderbilt achieved the highest ranking in school history when the United Soccer Coaches listed them No. 7 on October 23. The Dores also had a 16-game unbeaten streak, which is the longest such streak in program history.

Welch carries a 4.0 grade point average in the Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) which allows graduate in December 2018 with a BS in Marketing and a MS in Marketing. The McDonough, Ga., native is Alabama's all-time assists leader with 23 career assists.

Shaw becomes the second Tennessee player to win SEC Offensive Player of the Year honors, joining Kylee Rossi (2006 & 2007). The senior from Spanish Town, Jamaica, led the SEC by averaging 1.14 goals and 2.57 points per game in league play. Her five gamewinning goals in SEC games was more than twice as many as anyone else.

Fisk, a native of Bromley, London, England, anchored a stingy South Carolina defense that held opponents to a conference-best five goals in SEC play this season. The Gamecocks notched clean sheets in seven of their 10 conference matches.

Hopkins became the first Commodore to earn SEC Freshman of the Year honors after leading Vanderbilt and ranking second in the SEC with seven goals and 17 points in league games this year. The Newport Beach, Calif., native has found the back of the net 12 times on the season.



## 2018 SEC Soccer Awards

First Team All-SEC

Forward: Sarah Luebbert, Missouri Forward: Bunny Shaw, Tennessee Forward: Ally Watt, Texas A&M Forward: Haley Hopkins, Vanderbilt

Midfielder: Bri Folds, Auburn
Midfielder: Lais Araujo, Florida
Midfielder: CeCe Kizer, Ole Miss
Midfielder: Katie Cousins, Tennessee

Defender: Lucy Parker, LSU
Defender: Maya Neal, Tennessee
Defender: Grace Fisk, South Carolina

Defender: Haley VanFossen, Arkansas

Goalkeeper: Mikayla Kreczowski, South Carolina

At-Large: Grace Jackson, Vanderbilt

**All-Freshman Team** 

Cecily Stoute, Georgia Abby Steiner, Kentucky Abbey Newton, LSU

Haleigh Stackpole, Ole Miss

Zakirah McGillivary, Mississippi State

Julissa Cisneros, Missouri Jyllissa Harris, South Carolina

Selma Sól Magnúsdóttir, South Carolina

Ásdís Halldórsdóttir, Texas A&M Haley Hopkins, Vanderbilt Ella Shamburger, Vanderbilt

Second Team All-SEC

Forward: Tori Cannata, Arkansas
Forward: Adrienne Richardson, LSU
Forward: Channing Foster, Ole Miss
Forward: Erin Gilroy, Tennessee
Midfielder: Stefani Doyle, Arkansas
Midfielder: Carly Mauldin, Mississippi State

Midfielder: Lauren Chang, South Carolina

Midfielder: Addie McCain, Texas A&M
Defender: Alyssa Malonson, Auburn
Defender: Alex Thomas, LSU
Defender: MA Vignola, Tennessee
Defender: Kendall Ritchie, Texas A&M
Goalkeeper: Kelsey Dossey, Missouri

Goalkeeper: Kelsey Dossey, Missour At-Large: Treva Aycock, Auburn At-Large: Nia Dorsey, Vanderbilt Coach of the Year

Darren Ambrose, Vanderbilt

Offensive Player of the Year

Bunny Shaw, Tennessee

**Defensive Player of the Year** 

Grace Fisk, South Carolina

Freshman of the Year

Haley Hopkins, Vanderbilt

**Scholar-Athlete of the Year** 

Emma Welch, Alabama