



GAME 7 — DECEMBER 9, 1998
Furman Paladins (3-3, 0-0 SoCon) vs. Mercer Bears (2-4, 0-0 TAAC)
Greenville, South Carolina, Timmons Arena (5,000)
7:30 P.M. EST



PROBABLE STARTING LINEUPS

Furman Paladins				ppg	rpg
G 15	Marcus Dilligard	6-4	195 So. La Belle, Mo.	7.2	2.3
G 24	Bubba Smith	6-4	190 Sr. Hendersonville, Tenn.	12.0	2.5
F 3	Anthony Thomas	6-4	185 Fr. Atlanta, Ga.	6.0	3.7
F 42	Stanislav Makshantsev	6-8	230 Jr. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan	15.3	6.8
C 32	Daniel Quigley	6-7	210 Sr. Tipton, Ind.	9.3	7.7
Larry Davis (Asbury '78)					
12-23 (2nd Year at Furman), 12-23 (2nd Year Overall)					

Mercer Bears				ppg	rpg
G 22	Korey McCray	6-1	185 So. Decatur, Ga.	6.8	3.5
G 21	Earnest Brown	6-2	190 Jr. Albany, Ga.	10.7	1.8
F 4	Evans Davis	6-3	220 Sr. Decatur, Ga.	8.5	4.3
F 5	Mark Adamson	6-6	225 Jr. Ft. Stewart, Ga.	12.7	9.3
C 11	Terry Lawyer	6-8	205 So. Pass Christian, Miss.	5.0	5.2
Mark Slonaker (Georgia '80)					
7-25 (2nd Year at Mercer), 7-25 (2nd Year Overall)					

FURMAN-MERCER SERIES INFORMATION

- ✓ Wednesday's Furman-Mercer game will mark the 11th meeting in basketball between the two schools. Furman is 6-4 versus Mercer, and the Paladins have captured the last three meetings, including a 76-65 decision last year in Macon. The last time the Paladins and Bears clashed in Greenville, Furman claimed an 85-74 decision during the 1991-92 season. Mercer's last win over Furman was a 118-115 verdict in Greenville during the 1972-73 campaign.
- ✓ Furman's win over Mercer last season marked the Paladins' first win of the 1997-98 campaign and first head coaching victory for Furman mentor Larry Davis.
- ✓ Furman is 4-1 versus Mercer in Greenville. In Macon, the Bears own a 3-2 record against the Paladins.

NOTING THE PALADINS

✍ **CHARTING THE IMPROVEMENT...**Six games into the 1998-99 season, Furman has shown dramatic improvement over the past year as the comparisons below indicate:

1997-98 (6 Games)	Category (1997-98 Season)	1998-99 (6 Games)
1-5	Record (9-20)	3-3
44.2%	Field Goal Percentage (42.8%)	43.7%
50.5%	Field Goal Percentage Defense (42.6%)	41.9%
71.3%	Free Throw Percentage (65.8%)	66.7%
28.4%	3-Point Field Goal Percentage (27.8%)	41.3%
37.4%	3-Point Field Goal Percentage Defense (33.1%)	27.7%
64.0	Scoring Offense (61.7)	65.7
76.5	Scoring Defense (67.4)	66.0

1998-99 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS

North Division	Conference	Overall
VMI	1 - 0 1.000	2 - 5 .286
Appalachian State	0 - 0 .000	4 - 4 .500
Davidson	0 - 0 .000	2 - 5 .286
East Tennessee State	0 - 0 .000	5 - 1 .833
Western Carolina	0 - 0 .000	1 - 6 .143
North Carolina Greensboro	0 - 1 .000	1 - 6 .143

South Division	Conference	Overall
Georgia Southern	1 - 0 1.000	4 - 4 .500
The Citadel	0 - 0 .000	3 - 4 .429
College of Charleston	0 - 0 .000	4 - 2 .667
Furman	0 - 0 .000	3 - 3 .500
Wofford	0 - 0 .000	3 - 4 .429
Chattanooga	0 - 1 .000	1 - 5 .167

Tuesday

Georgia 63, Appalachian State 60
 Winthrop 64, The Citadel 49
 UNC Charlotte 71, Davidson 62

Wednesday

Mercer at Furman, 7:30

Thursday

Newberry at Western Carolina, 7:00
 Michigan State at East Tennessee State, 7:30
 VMI at UNC Charlotte, 7:30

Saturday

Furman vs. Duquesne (Albany, N.Y.)
 Tennessee Wesleyan at Western Carolina, 7:00
 George Mason at College of Charleston, 7:15
 Lynchburg at The Citadel, 7:15
 Bowdoin at Davidson, 7:30
 Austin Peay State at Georgia Southern, 7:30

✍ **FINAL SCORE NOT INDICATIVE OF EFFORT...**Taken at face value, the final score of Furman's loss to Georgia (63-47) last Friday night in Athens leaves the impression that the Bulldogs were in control for much of the game. It wasn't the case. Furman, which jumped out to a 13-4 lead, began the second half in a 27-27 tie with the Bulldogs, and the Paladins were within four points (42-38) with eight minutes left before Georgia pulled ahead for the game's final margin.

✍ **FREE THROW HIGHS AND LOWS...**After connecting on 35x50 free throws (70.0%) in an 88-85 win over Charleston Southern last Wednesday in Greenville, Furman went 1x8 from the line (12.5%) in last Friday night's 63-47 loss to Georgia in Athens. The 50 free throw attempts against Charleston Southern were the most by Furman since the 1989-90 season when the Paladins canned 35x51 FTs in 97-76 rout of Davidson in Greenville. Furman has attempted 29 more free throws than its opposition through six games (150-121).

✍ **MAKSHANTSEV MAKING HIS MARK...**After scoring Furman's first points on a three-pointer in last Wednesday game against Charleston Southern but later being benched after picking up his third foul at the 13:17 mark of the first half, hardly anyone could have predicted junior Stanislav Makshantsev's second half explosion. Playing 18 minutes and not committing a foul in the second period, Makshantsev scored 27 points, grabbed eight rebounds, and picked up a steal to ignite Furman's successful second half on the way to the 88-85 win. Makshantsev's 30-point performance was the first 30-point effort by a Paladins since Chuck Vincent tallied 30 in an 87-81 overtime loss to VMI last year. His performance against Charleston Southern included 10x13 FGs, 3x3 3PGs, and 7x10 FTs. A very strong low post player, Makshantsev is also forcing the opposition to respect his perimeter game, as he is 6x8 from three-point range (75.0%) this year.

✍ **FAST START VERSUS GEORGIA REVERSES TREND...**In racing to a 13-4 lead five minutes into last Saturday's game against Georgia, Furman reversed its string of slow starts. In last Wednesday's game against Charleston Southern the Paladins trailed the Buccaneers by as many as 12 points (18-6) nine minutes into the game. Against Northwestern (62-55 loss) on Nov. 28, Furman fell behind 21-6 eight minutes into the game before mounting a solid comeback that saw the Paladins pull to within one point twice midway through the second half. In a 60-59 loss to Winthrop on Nov. 23, Furman suffered turnovers on its first seven possessions of the game before scoring its first basket at the 15:43 juncture. And against William & Mary (79-67 win) on Nov. 17, the Paladins turned the ball over several times and didn't score its first point until the 15:39 mark.

✍️ TURNOVERS STILL A PROBLEM... Although the bright spots are plentiful in Furman's 3-3 start, one troublesome area that appears to be a holdover from a year ago is turnovers. Through six games the Paladins have committed 121 turnovers (20.2/game) while forcing opponents into only 90 miscues (15.0/game). A year ago, Furman committed a conference high 514 turnovers (17.7/game).

✍️ OFFENSIVE HIGH WATER MARK... In scoring 88 points in the 88-85 win over Charleston Southern last Wednesday, Furman tallied the most points in a game under head coach Larry Davis. The Paladins, who ranked last in the Southern Conference in scoring offense last year, averaging 61.7 ppg, head into the Wednesday night's game against Mercer averaging 65.7 ppg, an improvement of +4.0 ppg over last season.

✍️ AHEAD OF SCHEDULE... Furman didn't record its fourth win of the 1997-98 season until Jan. 5, when the Paladins edged East Tennessee State 46-44 in Greenville.

✍️ FURMAN IN PRE-SEASON POLLS... Furman was a consensus Southern Conference South Division third place pick in a pair of pre-season polls conducted by the league head coaches and media. College of Charleston, which begins Southern Conference play this year, was the consensus first place pick in the south division, and Davidson was the top pick in the Southern Conference North Division in both polls. Furman finished fourth in the league's south division last year with a 9-20 overall record and 5-9 league mark.

✍️ PALADINS GO 2-0 IN EXHIBITION CONTESTS... Furman claimed wins in its two pre-season exhibition games, taking a 90-70 decision over CSKA-Ukraine on Nov. 3 and an 87-73 verdict over Upstate AAU on Nov. 9. Senior guard Bubba Smith scored a game high 22 points and connected on 4-of-7 three-pointers in the Paladins' verdict of CSKA-Ukraine. Against Upstate AAU, the Paladins converted 10-of-21 three-point shots and got 25 points and 15 rebounds from senior forward Daniel Quigley. Freshman guard Anthony Thomas added 12 points and 15 boards in the Paladins' win over AAU.

✍️ PALADINS SIGN TWO... Furman got its recruiting season off to a fast start by signing two high school standouts to national letters of intent. Darrell Arbaugh, a 6-foot-8 forward from Ashland, Ky., signed with the Paladins first, and two days later Furman inked 6-foot-6 forward Kenny Ziegler from Lithonia, Ga. Ziegler is rated among the nation's top 200 players by Prep Stars Magazine, and recruiting analyst Bob Gibbons called him "the most highly rated player headed to a Southern Conference school -- a player with the talent and work ethic to be the premier newcomer in the league next year."

✍️ GARNER OUT... Junior forward Patrick Garner, who was expected to rejoin the Furman basketball team last week after playing tight end on the Paladin football team this fall, sustained a fractured thumb in Furman's 31-28, season ending win over Chattanooga on Nov. 21 and is out indefinitely.

PLAYER UPDATES

#24 BUBBA SMITH, 6-4, G, Sr. Hendersonville, Tenn.

Heads into the Mercer game having started at second guard in five of Furman's six games...scored 12 points in 27 minutes of action in Furman's 63-47 loss at Georgia...was held out of the lineup against Winthrop due to sprained ankle sustained in practice four days prior...did, however, play 31 minutes and score 14 points in the 60-59 loss in Rock Hill...excellent defensive player...is Furman's second leading scorer (12.0 ppg) and top shooter from three-point range (12x26, 46.2%)...converted 7x8 FTs over the final 40 seconds to help preserve Furman's 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...scored all 11 of his points (11x13) against Charleston Southern at the line...has tallied double figures in four of Furman's five games, including a season high 16 points in a 79-67 win over William & Mary in Williamsburg...ranks second on the team in assists (12)...is Furman's most experienced player, having played in 89 games and started in 84 contests...ranks eighth on Furman's all-time steals ledger with 124...has converted 116x320 3PGs (36.3%) in his career...current percentage would place him seventh all-time at Furman...has the best chance of any current Paladin to become the 30th player in school history to score 1,000 points...currently has 771 points...joins Daniel Quigley to give Furman two left-handers in the starting five.

FURMAN CAREER STEALS LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Games	Steals	Avg.
1)	Hal Henderson	1988-92	117	194	1.7
2)	Ron Smith	1975-78	113	172	1.5
3)	Steve Harris	1991-	109	148	1.4

4)	Mel Daniel	1979-82	110	144	1.3
	Noel Gilliard	1982-85	110	144	1.3
5)	Pat Marshall	1991-95	110	136	1.2
6)	David Brown	1986-89	110	128	1.2
	Derek Waugh	1989-93	114	128	1.1
7)	Shawn Reid	1984-88	117	126	1.1
8)	Bubba Smith	1995-	89	124	1.4
9)	John Castile	1985-88	109	119	1.1

FURMAN CAREER 3-POINT FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE LEADERS (Minimum 200 Attempts)

Rank	Player	Seasons	Games	FG-FGA	.Pct
1)	Shawn Reid	1983-88	*86	146-324	.450
2)	Chris Bass	1988-91	98	123-313	.393
3)	David Brown	1986-89	*83	161-418	.385
4)	Sammie Liberatore	1989-94	93	130-351	.370
5)	Hal Henderson	1989-92	117	185-504	.367
6)	Bubba Smith	1995-	89	116-320	.363
7)	Anthony Smith	1992-96	80	101-297	.340
8)	Tracy Garrick	1988-91	105	73-217	.336
9)	Matt Schrecengost	1994-97	90	69-207	.333
10)	Jason Stewart	1995-97	51	126-379	.332

#32 DANIEL QUIGLEY, 6-7, C, Sr., Tipton, Ind.

Has earned starts at center in each of Furman's six games...leads the team in rebounding (7.7 rpg) and is the Paladins' third leading scorer (9.3 ppg)...paced Furman with eight rebounds (two points) in the 63-47 loss to Georgia...registered a season low 22 minutes and scored nine points in the 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...three rebounds vs. Buccaneers was also a season low...has been solid from the free throw line (15x20, 75.0%) this year...was a perfect 7x7 from the line as part of a season-high 15-point performance against William & Mary (79-67 win) in Williamsburg...had a double-double (13 points, 10 rebounds) in Furman's season opening 66-59 win over Stetson in Greenville...has converted 3x7 three pointers (42.9%) this year and is a career 31.1% shooter from three-point range (42x135)...averaged a Southern Conference leading 8.5 rpg in 14 league games last year...is on pace to become only the 20th player in Furman history to claim 600 rebounds...has 515 boards heading into the Mercer game...is one of two left-handers in Furman's starting lineup (Bubba Smith).

#42 STANISLAV MAKSHANTSEV, 6-8, Jr., F, Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan

Has started a power forward in all six games...is Furman's first junior college transfer (N.E. Nebraska Community College) since 1979...leads Furman in scoring (15.3 ppg), field goal percentage (61.5%), and is second on the squad in rebounding (6.8 rpg) through six games...has converted 6x8 (75.0%) three-point field goal attempts...scored six points and claimed seven rebounds in Furman's 63-47 loss at Georgia...hit on 3x3 3PGs and scored 30 points (in 25 minutes), including 27 in the second half, in Furman's 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...scored only three points and was benched with three fouls seven minutes into the Charleston Southern game...30-point performance was the first by a Paladin since Chuck Vincent went for 30 in an 87-81 overtime loss at VMI last year...sparked Furman to a 79-67 win over William & Mary in Williamsburg by scoring 25 points and claiming four rebounds...physical player.

#15 MARCUS DILLIGARD, 6-4, So., G, La Belle, Mo.

Furman's starting point guard in all six games...is averaging 7.2 ppg and 2.3 rpg...shooting 42.1% from the field, up from 29.1% as a freshman a year ago...ranks second on the team in assists (12)...tallied 13 points in Furman's season opening 66-59 win over Stetson...scored five points, and added four assists and three steals in the Paladins' 63-47 loss at Georgia...fouled out with 10 points in the Paladins' 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...excellent defensive player...turned a brilliant defensive performance against William & Mary All-CAA guard Randy Bracy in the Paladins' 79-67 win in Williamsburg, fouling Bracy out after 25 minutes with only 10 points on 3x10 FGs...has started in every game (35) since coming to Furman...will look to post-up his defender due to prep experience as a small forward.

#3 ANTHONY THOMAS, 6-4, Fr., G/F, Atlanta, Ga.

Has earned starts at small forward in all six games...heads into the Mercer contest averaging 6.0 ppg and 3.7 rpg...tallied eight points, four rebounds, and three steals in Furman's 63-47 loss to Georgia...registered nine points and had a season high six rebounds in Furman's 79-67 win over William & Mary in Williamsburg...also tallied nine points and had four boards in a season high 34 minutes in a 60-59 loss to Winthrop in Rock Hill...hit on 1x5 three-pointers and scored eight points in the Paladins' 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...has connected on 8x8 FTs this year...playing time has been enhanced due to the

departure of returning starting small forward Andre Kerr prior to the start of the season...registered 12 points and 15 rebounds in Furman's 87-73 exhibition win over Upstate AAU...starred at Atlanta's Woodward Academy, where he was a two-time all-state performer and state AAA player-of-the-year as a junior.

#13 PAUL FOSTER, 6-0, Fr., G, Mt. Olive, N.C.

Furman's first substitute at the point guard slot behind Marcus Dilligard...has averaged 22.8mpg and 4.2 ppg in six games...leads Furman in assists with 17, and his +0.67 assist/turnover ratio leads the squad...recorded his first double figure scoring performance (11 points) in Furman's 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...went 8x13 at the free throw line and hit his only field goal attempt (three-pointer) in the win... is 3x5 (60.0%) from three-point range this season....had a team high five assists in a 62-55 loss to Northwestern in Evanston...starting point guard on North Carolina's state AA championship Wallace-Rose High School team that went 31-0.

#4 WILL COLES, 6-8, Sr., C, Nashville, Tenn.

Furman's first substitute inside at both center and power forward...is averaging 20.8mpg, 3.8 ppg, and 5.5 rpg...tie with Anthony Thomas for the team lead in blocks with four...had two points and five rebounds against Georgia...had seven points (7-10 FTs) and eight rebounds in 25 minutes in Furman's 88-85 win over Charleston Southern...missed virtually all of the pre-season with an ankle sprain but came back to contribute significantly in the Paladins' season opening, 66-59 win over Stetson, scoring eight points, pulling down seven rebounds, and blocking two shots in 24 minutes of action...has paced Furman in blocked shots each of the past two seasons...ranks seventh on the school's career blocked shots list with 64.

#23 KYLE JULIUS, 6-3, Fr., G, Thunder Bay, Ontario

Comes off the bench in relief of Bubba Smith at second guard...is averaging 10.7 mpg and 6.3 ppg on the season...has averaged 11.0 ppg and has shot 48.0% (12x25) from the field, including 9x17 (52.9%) from three-point range, over the last three games...paced Furman's offensive effort with 14 points in the Paladins' 63-47 loss to Georgia...connected on 5x10 FGs (4x8 3PFGs)...led Furman with a 17-point performance in the Paladins' 62-55 loss to Northwestern in Evanston...performance against the Wildcats included 5x8 3PFGs...is 10x22 from three-point range (45.5%) this season...scored five points in Furman's season opening, 66-59 win over Stetson in Greenville...helped Cathedral High School go 33-0 and claim the Ontario Provincial Championship his senior year.

🦅 PALADINS ON FM...The Furman University athletic department announced last week that all remaining regular season games will be broadcast over Upstate radio station WPEK-FM 98.1, with several scheduled for live broadcasts. Furman's radio network will still include Greenville flagship station WPCI-AM (1490), WKDY-AM (1400) of Spartanburg, and WHYZ-AM (1070) of Greenville as full-time, live broadcast affiliates.

FURMAN RADIO BROADCAST LINEUP

Date	Opponent	WPCI	WKDY	WHYZ	WPEK
Dec. 9	MERCER	L	L	L	L
Dec. 12	Duquesne (Albany, N.Y.)	L	L	L	L
Dec. 19	GREENSBORO	L	L	L	TD
Dec. 26	Clemson	L	L	L	L
Jan. 2	WOFFORD	L	L	L	TD
Jan. 4	THE CITADEL	L	L	L	L
Jan. 9	@ Georgia Southern	L	L	L	TD
Jan. 11	COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON	L	L	L	L
Jan. 16	UNC GREENSBORO	L	L	L	TD
Jan. 18	GEORGIA SOUTHERN	L	L	L	L
Jan. 23	@ The Citadel	L	L	L	TD
Jan. 25	@ Chattanooga	L	L	L	L
Jan. 30	VMI	L	L	L	TD
Feb. 1	@ East Tennessee State	L	L	L	L
Feb. 3	@ Davidson	L	L	L	TD
Feb. 6	WESTERN CAROLINA	L	L	L	TD
Feb. 8	@ Appalachian State	L	L	L	L
Feb. 13	@ Wofford	L	L	L	TD
Feb. 15	CHATTANOOGA	L	L	L	L
Feb. 20	@ College of Charleston	L	L	L	L
Feb.25-28	Southern Conference Tournament	L	L	L	TBA

L — Live; TD — Tape Delay

**1998-99 FURMAN PALADINS
RESULTS/SCHEDULE
(3-3 Overall; 0-0 Southern Conference)**

Date	Opponent	Result/Time
Nov. 14	STETSON	W 66-59
Nov. 17	@ William & Mary	W 79-67
Nov. 23	@ Winthrop	L 59-60
Nov. 28	@ Northwestern	L 55-62
Dec. 2	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	W 88-85
Dec. 4	@ Georgia	L 47-63
Dec. 9	MERCER	7:30
Dec. 12	Duquesne (Albany, N.Y.)	Noon
Dec. 19	GREENSBORO	7:30
Dec. 26	Clemson	1:30
Jan. 2	WOFFORD *	7:30
Jan. 4	THE CITADEL *	7:30
Jan. 9	@ Georgia Southern *	7:00
Jan. 11	COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON *	7:30
Jan. 16	UNC GREENSBORO *	7:30
Jan. 18	GEORGIA SOUTHERN *	7:30
Jan. 23	@ The Citadel *	7:15
Jan. 25	@ Chattanooga *	7:00
Jan. 30	VMI *	7:30
Feb. 1	@ East Tennessee State *	7:30
Feb. 3	@ Davidson *	7:30
Feb. 6	WESTERN CAROLINA *	7:30
Feb. 8	@ Appalachian State *	7:00
Feb. 13	@ Wofford *	7:00
Feb. 15	CHATTANOOGA *	7:30
Feb. 20	@ College of Charleston * (TV - Live)	Noon
Feb. 25-28	Southern Conference Tournament	TBA
	Greensboro, N.C.	

*Southern Conference Game
All Times Eastern (unless otherwise noted)