



**Game 6 — October 10, 1998**  
**Furman Paladins (4-1; 2-0 SoCon) vs. Appalachian State Mountaineers (4-0; 2-0 SoCon)**  
**Boone, North Carolina, Kidd Brewer Stadium (16,650) — Artificial Surface**  
**3:30 P.M. Kickoff (EDT) — Fox SportSouth TV (Live)**



**Furman Football SID: Hunter Reid (864) 294-2061**  
**Furman Football Web Site: [www.furman.edu/athletics](http://www.furman.edu/athletics)**

**Appalachian State Football SID: Bill Dyer (828) 262-2268**  
**Appalachian State Football Web Site: [www.apstate.edu](http://www.apstate.edu)**

**THE GAME**

Saturday's Furman-Appalachian State game represents a key Southern Conference showdown between a pair of NCAA I-AA nationally ranked teams who are also undefeated in league play.

Appalachian State, which is coming off an impressive 30-27 overtime win over ACC foe Wake Forest on Saturday, is 2-0 in Southern Conference action, with wins over East Tennessee State (22-17) and The Citadel (26-11). Furman also sports a 2-0 Southern Conference record following decisions over VMI (51-14) and Western Carolina (31-7) the last two weeks.

Saturday's game will be televised live by Fox SportSouth.

**THE SERIES**

In a series that got its start in 1971 with a 0-0 tie in Greenville, Furman holds an 18-6-3 series lead over Appalachian State and enters Saturday's game having claimed wins in its last two meetings with the Mountaineers.

Furman owns an 8-3-2 record against Appalachian State in Boone, and in Greenville the Paladins sport a 10-3-1 record versus the Mountaineers. The last time Furman and Appalachian State squared off in Boone, the Paladins claimed a 20-14 win during the 1996 season. Furman boasts a 4-1 record in the last five games against Appalachian State in Boone.

1971	T	0-0	GREENVILLE
1972	W	20-17	Boone
1973	W	17-0	GREENVILLE
1974	L	3-27	Boone
1975	W	30-23	GREENVILLE
1976	T	14-14	Boone
1977	W	28-20	GREENVILLE
1978	W	52-34	Boone
1979	W	31-17	GREENVILLE
1980	W	21-20	Boone
1981	W	22-18	GREENVILLE
1982	W	27-21	Boone
1983	W	49-0	GREENVILLE
1984	L	14-21	Boone
1985	W	21-7	GREENVILLE
1986	T	17-17	Boone
1987	L	8-16	GREENVILLE
1988	W	24-9	Boone
1989	W	31-6	GREENVILLE
1990	W	30-7	Boone
1991	L	23-26	GREENVILLE
1992	W	16-13	Boone

1993	W	27-21	GREENVILLE
1994	L	6-30	Boone
1995	L	28-41	GREENVILLE
1996	W	20-14	Boone
1997	W	24-22	GREENVILLE

*In Greenville: Furman leads 10-3-1*  
*In Boone: Furman leads 8-3-2*

**THE COACHES**

Furman: Bobby Johnson (Clemson '73)  
 29-22-0 (.568), 5th Year at Furman  
 29-22-0 (.568), 5th Year Overall  
 Johnson vs. Appalachian State (2-2)

Appalachian State: Jerry Moore (Baylor '61)  
 73-37 (.663), 10th Year at ASU  
 100-85-2 (.540), 17th Year Overall  
 Moore vs. Furman (3-6)

**THE OFFENSES**

Furman: Multiple I  
 '98 Points/Game — 28.6  
 '98 Yards/Game — 306.4  
   197.2 Rushing  
   109.2 Passing

Appalachian State: Multiple I  
 '98 Points/Game — 26.5  
 '98 Yards/Game — 362.8  
   202.5 Rushing  
   160.3 Passing

**THE DEFENSES**

Furman: 43  
 '98 Points/Game — 19.4  
 '98 Yards/Game — 300.2  
   158.0 Rushing  
   142.2 Passing

Appalachian State: 43  
 '98 Points/Game — 18.5  
 '98 Yards/Game — 282.3  
   93.3 Rushing  
   189.0 Passing

**1998 RESULTS AND SCHEDULE**

Furman (4-1, 2-0 Southern)
Sept. 5 Clemson 33, Furman 0
Sept. 12 Furman 27, South Carolina State 19
Sept. 19 Furman 34, Samford 24
Sept. 26 Furman 51, VMI 14
Oct. 3 Furman 31, Western Carolina 7
Oct. 10 @ Appalachian State, 3:30

**1998 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS**

Team	SoCon	Overall
Georgia Southern	3 0	5 0
Appalachian State	2 0	4 0
<b>FURMAN</b>	<b>2 0</b>	<b>4 1</b>
Western Carolina	2 1	2 2
Chattanooga	1 1	2 3
East Tennessee State	1 2	1 3
The Citadel	1 2	1 4
Wofford	0 3	1 3
VMI	0 3	1 4

**October 3**

Furman 31, Western Carolina 7  
 Appalachian State 30, Wake Forest 27 (ot)  
 South Florida 45, The Citadel 6  
 Georgia Southern 63, VMI 7  
 Chattanooga 31, Wofford 3  
 East Tennessee State was idle

**October 10**

Wofford @ VMI, 12:30  
 East Tennessee State @ The Citadel, 2:00  
 Furman @ Appalachian State, 3:30  
 Georgia Southern @ Western Carolina, 6:00  
 Chattanooga is idle

**1998 FURMAN PALADINS  
 PRE-SEASON HONORS**

Coaches All-Southern Conference

- C Mark Foster (1st Team)
- OG Ben Hall (1st Team)
- PK Jason Wells (1st Team)
- LB Orlando Ruff (1st Team)
- SS John Keith (1st Team)
- FLK Desmond Kitchings (2nd Team)
- DT B.J. Pate (2nd Team)

Southern Conference Coaches  
 Defensive Player-of-the-Year

LB Orlando Ruff

Sports Network All-America

C Mark Foster

Southern Conference Polls

Southern Conference Head Coaches (4th)  
 Southern Conference Media (4th)

Oct. 17 THE CITADEL, 1:30  
 Oct. 24 @ East Tennessee State, 2:00  
 Nov. 7 GEORGIA SOUTHERN, 1:30  
 Nov. 14 @ Wofford, 2:00  
 Nov. 21 CHATTANOOGA, 1:30

**Appalachian State (4-0; 2-0 SoCon)**

Sept. 5 ASU 28, Liberty 19  
 Sept. 12 ASU 22, East Tennessee State 17  
 Sept. 26 ASU 26, The Citadel 11  
 Oct. 3 ASU 30, Wake Forest 27 (ot)  
 Oct. 10 FURMAN, 3:30  
 Oct. 17 @ Georgia Southern  
 Oct. 24 WOFFORD  
 Oct. 31 @ Chattanooga  
 Nov. 7 VMI  
 Nov. 14 @ Eastern Kentucky  
 Nov. 21 @ Western Carolina

**FURMAN LAST WEEK**

GREENVILLE, S.C. — Furman converted three turnovers into 21 points and played error free ball on offense to down Western Carolina 31-7 in front of 9,620 Parents' Day fans at Paladin Stadium.

The Paladins' took an early 3-0 lead after Jason Wells converted a 36-yard field goal at the 9:01 mark of the first quarter, and later used interceptions by cornerback Richie Jackson and strong safety John Keith to set up a pair of touchdowns, which came on a 17-yard scoring run by freshman fullback Louis Ivory and a 4-yard touchdown run by tailback Ernest Crosby to take a 17-0 first quarter lead.

After Western Carolina closed the margin to 17-7 with a second quarter tally, the Paladins and Catamounts played a scoreless third period before Furman finally got its offense untracked and moved 65 yards in nine plays to put the game out of reach with a 3-yard touchdown run by Ernest Crosby at the 6:39 juncture of the fourth quarter.

Furman's defense closed out its stellar performance by accounting for the game's final score, which came on a 24-yard interception return by freshman linebacker Will Bouton with 6:10 left in the game.

In claiming their fifth straight home win, the Paladins limited Western Carolina to only 235 yards in total offense and picked off three passes while yielding only five completions in 23 attempts.

**APPALACHIAN STATE LAST WEEK**

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Quarterback Daniel Jeremiah's 1-yard touchdown run in overtime lifted Appalachian State to a 30-27 upset win over Atlantic Coast Conference member Wake Forest in front of 26,885 fans at Groves Stadium.

Jeremiah's game winning touchdown came after Wake Forest took a 27-24 lead following a Matthew Burdick 24-yard field goal on the Deacons' first possession in overtime. Wake Forest had tied the game at 24-24 with only 53 seconds left in regulation when quarterback Brian Kuklick connected with Jammie Deese on a 7-yard touch-

down pass.

Jeremiah and teammate David Reeves combined to complete 21-of-34 passes for 308 yards and one touchdown, and running back Terrence McCall ran for a game high 112 yards to spark a Mountaineers offense that rolled up 464 yards against the Deacons.

**LAST MEETING**

GREENVILLE, S.C. — (Oct. 11, 1997) — Ernest Crosby rushed for 128 yards and two touchdowns and linebacker Orlando Ruff came up with a game saving interception in the final minute of play to lift Furman to a 24-22 win over Appalachian State at Paladin Stadium.

Getting touchdown runs from Crosby covering 4 and 53 yards, as well as a 3-yard scoring run by Mark Moore and a 30-yard field goal from Jason Wells, Furman built a 24-10 lead by the end of the third quarter.

Appalachian State, however, roared back with a pair of fourth touchdown passes by quarterback Bake Baker, but a blocked PAT attempt by Furman's Jay Thier on the Mountaineers' first score of the period made it a 24-16 game, and Appalachian State later misfired on a two-point pass play after drawing to within two points at 24-22 on Baker's second touchdown with 2:49 left in the game.

After burning only 33 seconds on the ensuing possession, Furman punted and Appalachian State took over at its own 45. Moving to the Furman 32 in two plays, the Mountaineers appeared to be well on their way to a game winning field goal or touchdown until Furman linebacker Orlando Ruff intercepted a Baker pass at the Furman 28, which he returned 51 yards to the Appalachian State 21 with only 0:53 left in the game.

Although Appalachian State outgained Furman 354-287, the Mountaineers, who managed only 52 yards rushing, suffered four turnovers, including three interceptions.

Crosby's rushing performance earned him Southern Conference Offensive Player-of-the-Week honors for the second straight year against the Mountaineers.

**NOTING THE PALADINS**

✓ **STREAKING PALADINS...** Furman's 31-7 win over Western Carolina on Saturday extended the Paladins' season winning streak to four games and home winning streak to five games. The Paladins have now claimed wins in 13 of their last 14 homecontests dating back to the 1996 season and are now 86-23-1 in Paladin Stadium (.786) since moving into the facility in 1981.

(Furman In Paladin Stadium Since 1996, 13-1)

Opponent	Score	Result	Year
S.C. State	27-13	W	1996
Wofford	33-3	W	1996
Western Carolina	45-30	W	1996
The Citadel	35-25	W	1996
Georgia Southern	21-14	W	1996

**FURMAN RADIO**

Furman football action can be heard throughout the Upstate over the Paladins' radio network, headed up by flagship station WPCI-AM (1490) of Greenville, and affiliates WKDY-AM (1400) of Spartanburg and Greenville's WHYZ-AM (1070). In addition, WPEK-FM (98.1) will carry selected games this year.

Calling the play-by-play action will Chuck Hussion, now in his fifth year year as "Voice of the Paladins." Joining him in the booth for his fifth season of color commentary will be John Ingles. Gordon Higgins will again serve as Furman's sideline reporter, and Dave Cohen will host the pre-game show and again deliver halftime and post-game highlights.

**FURMAN ON TEAMLINE**

Furman football radio broadcasts will again be available to fans on the TEAMLINE telephone service. Fans can access Furman games by dialing 1-800-846-4700 and entering Furman's four-digit access code (1109).

**FURMAN TELEVISION**

Furman will make one television appearance this year when it takes on Appalachian State in Boone, N.C., on Oct. 10 in a live broadcast over Fox SportSouth. Kickoff is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

1998 Furman Football Television Schedule  
 Oct. 10, Appalachian St., Fox SportSouth - Live

**FURMAN ON THE INTERNET**

The Furman University sports information office maintains an athletics home page on the Internet. Furman's football web site includes program quick facts, coaches' biographies, season outlook, current roster and two-deep, schedule and game statistics, cumulative statistics, press releases, ticket information, as well as information on Furman's radio network and links to the Southern Conference and NCAA.

Furman's athletics home page address:

<http://www.furman.edu/athletics>.



Chattanooga	42-21	W	1996
VMI	35-14	W	1997
Appalachian State	24-22	W	1997
East Tennessee State	28-58	L	1997
Elon	38-20	W	1997
Wofford	28-7	W	1997
S.C. State	27-19	W	1998
Samford	34-24	W	1998
Western Carolina	31-7	W	1998

✓ **LOVELY BOONE...**Over the years Furman has racked up noteworthy success on the road against most current members of the Southern Conference, including VMI (8-5 in Lexington), Western Carolina (7-4-1), The Citadel (19-16-2), East Tennessee State (8-3), Wofford (16-14-1), and Chattanooga (8-6). Included in that mix is Furman's record against Appalachian State in Boone (8-3-2). In fact, the Paladins, who defeated Appalachian State 20-14 the last time the two met at Kidd Brewer Stadium, are an impressive 4-1 against the Mountaineers in Boone since 1988 and 4-1-1 since 1986. Georgia Southern is the only current member of the Southern Conference that has successfully defended its home turf against the Paladins, having posted a 3-0 mark against Furman in the young series history. Over the years Furman has posted a solid 74-54-6 (.574) road record against all current members of the Southern Conference. Oh yeah, in case you're wondering, the Paladins were 7-6 on the road versus former league member Marshall, including one contest that was played in Charleston in 1980 (35-0 win).

✓ **CROSBY GOING FOR THE TRIFECTA...**If Furman senior tailback **Ernest Crosby (Greenville, S.C.)** manages to earn Southern Conference Offensive Player-of-the-Week honors this week against Appalachian State, he'll complete the football version of a mini Triple Crown. That's because Crosby has been accorded the league's player-of-the-week citation for his work against Appalachian State in each of the past two seasons. In 1996 Crosby rushed for 157 yards, caught two touchdown passes, and set up another score with a career long 69-yard run in helping Furman to a 20-14 win in Boone. Last year he rushed for 128 yards and two touchdowns to pace the Paladins to a 24-22 win in Greenville. Crosby's other Southern Conference Player-of-the-Week honor came after he rushed for a career high 243 yards and four touchdowns in a 27-13 win over South Carolina State in 1996.

✓ **PALADIN "D" COMES UP BIG AGAIN...**With its defensive front hit hard by career ending injuries to two starters, its two projected starting cornerbacks on the shelf since the start of pre-season, and one of the Southern Conference's premier defensive performers sidelined for virtually all of the last two games, Furman's defense, it appeared, was on the ropes heading into Saturday's game against Western Carolina. Instead of folding, the Furman defense, which now sports only one active starter off last year's team (linebacker Orlando Ruff), came up big, holding

the Catamounts to only seven points and 235 total yards, while forcing three turnovers.

The performance turned in by the Paladin defensive unit so far this season, and especially in Saturday's win over Western Carolina, is significant when considering Furman was only projected to return three starters this fall and none on the defensive front.

Along the defensive line the Paladins have been forced to deal with the retirement of junior nose guard **Luke Kosman (Cincinnati, Ohio)** and redshirt freshman defensive tackle **Faamata Fonoimoana (Jonesboro, Ga.)** after both players were diagnosed with congenital neck conditions. Kosman, who had logged 321 plays as a backup in his first two seasons, started in the Paladins' season opener against Clemson before exiting the lineup, and last week Fonoimoana, a starter in the first four games (18 tackles), retired after tests showed he possessed a threatening neck condition.

In the secondary, projected starting cornerbacks **Bryant Huguley (Valley, Ala.)** and **Andre Stroman (Plantation, Fla.)** did not participate in pre-season and have yet to play a down this year. Junior All-Southern Conference strong safety **John Keith (Newnan, Ga.)**, meanwhile, did not even dress for the VMI game (51-14 win) after sustaining a sprained foot late in the Samford contest (34-24 win), a game that saw him post eight tackles, a sack, a caused fumble, a fumble recovery, and a pass deflection. Returning to action on Saturday against Western Carolina, Keith intercepted a pass in the first quarter that helped set up the Paladins' second touchdown, but soon thereafter re-injured his foot. He is listed as doubtful for the this Saturday's Appalachian State game and may miss the next two weeks.

✓ **KING AND PERKINS OUT, TOO...**This season's plague of injuries on the defensive side of the football follows a couple of noteworthy setbacks the Paladins were already dealing with prior to the start of the season. Late last year sophomore linebacker **Jeff King** was forced to give up football after being diagnosed with, you probably guessed it, a congenital neck condition. A two-year letterman, King was a projected starting linebacker this fall. In addition, this spring the Paladins also lost rising senior cornerback **Rico Perkins (Somerset, Ky.)**, who torn a pectoral muscle while working out in the weight room. Perkins, a three-year letterwinner who sports 461 plays of experience and spot starting duty, is out for the entire 1998 season.

✓ **MAKING 'EM PAY BIG TIME...**For the third straight week Furman made an opponent pay dearly for turning the ball over. In forcing three Western Carolina interceptions, Furman converted the turnovers into 21 points en route to the 31-7 Paladin win. In its last three games against VMI, Samford, and Western Carolina, Furman has been the recipient of 12 turnovers, which it has converted into 66 points. The Paladins, meanwhile, went turnover free in the Western Carolina game and have suffered only two turnovers (inter-

#### FURMAN ON INFO CONNECTION

Sport Systems Fax-On-Demand is an automated, 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week service that instantly sends the latest information and releases from the Southern Conference to your fax machine. To access Sports Systems Fax-On-Demand, call (201) 461-5726. You must call the system from the handset of your fax machine. Select the information you are interested in from the directory numbers listed below. Once you have made your selection(s), push the start button on your fax machine. Your information is on its way immediately.

File	Furman	SoCon
Directory	2400	3000
Football Stats	2401	3001
Football Facts & Game Notes	2402	3002
Football Previous Game Stats	2403	3003
Football Roster(s)	2404	3004
Football Breaking News	2405	3005
SoCon Football Standings		3006
SoCon Player-of-the-Week		3007
NCAA I-AA Football Statistics		3008
NCAA I-AA Football Polls		3009

#### SOUTHERN CONFERENCE COACHES' TELECONFERENCE

The Southern Conference will conduct a weekly teleconference throughout the 1997 season featuring the league's nine football coaches. The weekly teleconference is open to members of the media each Tuesday (September 1 - November 17) from 10:00 a.m. — 11:03 a.m. EST. Each coach will have seven minutes to make an opening statement and answer questions. The number to call is (913) 981-5508.

1998 SoCon Teleconference Schedule	
10:00 a.m. —	Jerry Moore, Appalachian State
10:07 a.m. —	Don Powers, The Citadel
10:15 a.m. —	Paul Hamilton, E. Tenn. St.
10:21 a.m. —	Bobby Johnson, Furman
10:28 a.m. —	Paul Johnson, Ga. Southern
10:35 a.m. —	Buddy Green, Chattanooga
10:42 a.m. —	Ted Cain, VMI
10:49 a.m. —	Bill Bleil, Western Carolina
10:56 a.m. —	Mike Ayers, Wofford



ceptions) over the last three contests. That's quite a turnaround from the Paladins' first two games, where four Furman turnovers led directly to 24 points for Clemson (33-0 loss) and South Carolina State (27-19 win). Furman heads into the Appalachian State game leading the Southern Conference and ranked eighth nationally in turnover margin (+1.60), having forced 14 opponent turnovers while suffering six miscues through five games.

✓ **PALADINS NOT SACKING THE QB...** A year ago Furman's veteran defense, led by All-America defensive end Bryan Dailer's 17.5 sacks, paced the Southern Conference with 32 quarterback takedowns. This year, with an all new defensive front, the Paladins have managed only three sacks through their first five games, and head into this Saturday's Western Carolina game ranked last in the league in that category.

✓ **FRESHMEN CORNERS CONTINUING TO DELIVER...** After starting redshirt freshman cornerback **Richie Jackson (Cincinnati, Ohio)** picked off a pair of passes in a 27-19 win over South Carolina State on Sept. 12, Furman's other starting redshirt freshman cornerback, **Daniel Roberson (Plant City, Fla.)** upped the ante the next week by earning league freshman-of-the-week honors after totaling three tackles and two interceptions, including one he returned 40 yards for a touchdown, in the Paladins' 34-24 win over Samford.

Not to be overshadowed, Richie Jackson picked up his third interception of the year in the win over Samford (to set up Furman's first touchdown of the second half), and he also made perhaps the biggest defensive play of the game when, early in the fourth quarter and with Samford driving (trailing 27-17), he stripped the ball from Bulldog receiver Jon Pointer at the Furman 22 after a 17-yard gain and it was recovered by John Keith.

"The turnover on the first drive of the fourth quarter really hurt," said Samford head coach Pete Hurt. I thought if we could have taken that on in the game could have gone down to the wire. But, that fumble took the wind out of us."

The next week, in the Paladins' 51-14 win over VMI, Jackson and Roberson continued their surprising seasons with another strong outing, where they combined for five tackles, a fumble recovery, and a pass deflection.

And in this past Saturday's 31-7 win over Western Carolina, Furman's young cornerback tandem added to their string of impact performances by combining for 13 tackles, an interception, and a pass deflection, with Jackson's Southern Conference leading fourth interception setting up Furman's first touchdown of the afternoon as part of a 17-point Paladin first quarter.

*In five games, Furman's two starting redshirt freshmen cornerbacks have accounted for 36 tackles, six of the Paladins' nine interceptions, four pass deflections, a fumble recovery, and two forced fumbles.*

Jackson and Roberson were not even listed

as probable starters in Furman's pre-season depth chart, but injuries to projected starters **Andre Stroman (Plantation, Fla.)** and **Bryant Huguley (Valley, Ala.)** prior to the start of pre-season practice forced the freshman duo into the starting lineup.

✓ **DEFENSIVE TID BITS...** Redshirt freshman **Ryan Spencer (Clover, S.C.)** gained the first start of his career Saturday in the 31-7 win over Western Carolina. Spencer, who logged 45 plays, took over for fellow redshirt freshman **Faamata Fonoimoana (Jonesboro, Ga.)**, who retired from football last week after being diagnosed with a congenital neck condition. Also gaining his first career start at nose guard was **Kenya Fouch (Hartwell, Ga.)**, who stepped in ahead of a banged up **B.J. Pate (Inman, S.C.)**. Pate did register 23 plays in a backup role. Freshman linebacker Will Bouton's 24-yard interception return for a touchdown against Western Carolina was the second Paladin interception return for a score this season. Redshirt freshman cornerback **Daniel Roberson (Plant City, Fla.)** ran back a pickoff 40 yards for a score in a 34-24 win over Samford on Sept. 19.

✓ **RENTZ DELIVERS...** When **Stuart Rentz (Pickens, S.C.)** joined Furman's football program two years ago as a walk-on, the coaching staff didn't even ask him to have a mug shot taken for TV games, believing he had little, if any, chance to play. A little over two years later, Rentz once again demonstrated that early assumptions are often times wrong. Stepping in ahead of senior tailback **Ernest Crosby (Greenville, S.C.)** in the Samford game, Rentz rushed 22 times for 133 yards in helping the Paladins to the 34-24 win over the Bulldogs. The 100-yard rushing performance was the third of his career, which now covers five starts. In a 51-14 win over VMI two weeks ago, Rentz led Furman's nine-man rushing effort, running eight times for 61 yards and a touchdown, which covered 20 yards. He also scored the Paladins' second touchdown of the game on an 8-yard pass from quarterback Justin Hill. In Saturday's 31-7 win over Western Carolina, Rentz gained his third straight start and ran five times for 32 yards.

One of Furman's finest students, Rentz, a double major in business and Spanish who sports a 3.92 GPA, burst on the scene as a freshman two years ago when, in his first career start, he rushed for a Furman freshman record 166 yards and a touchdown in a 31-14 win over VMI in Lexington. The following week he ran 18 times for a 125 yards in a 45-30 win over Western Carolina. Not blessed with great speed, the 5-foot-8, 185-pound Rentz does, however, run with impressive desire. He is averaging 6.5 yards per rush in his career (105 att., 683 yds., 5 TDs).

✓ **IVORY'S RETURN SUCCESSFUL...** After rushing 23 times for 161 yards and two touchdowns in Furman's 27-19 win over South Carolina State on Sept. 12, freshman fullback **Louis Ivory (Fort Valley, Ga.)** sustained a sprained ankle

early in the Paladins' 34-24 win over Samford the next week. After sitting out the VMI game, Ivory returned to action on Saturday against Western Carolina and rushed 10 times for 53 yards and a touchdown (17-yard TD run). Although sophomore **Derek Russell (Austell, Ga.)** replaced him in the starting lineup the past two weeks, Ivory is still tied for the team rushing lead with tailback **Stuart Rentz (Pickens, S.C.)** with 258 yards and is averaging a healthy 6.4 yards per carry). His performance against South Carolina State earned him Southern Conference Freshman-of-the-Week honors and represented the finest rushing performance by a Furman fullback since the 1989 season when Dwight Sterling ran for 166 yards in a 42-7 win over Wofford. Ivory rushed for 3,100 yards and 37 touchdowns at Peach County High School and was a participant in the Georgia-Florida All-Star Game this past summer.

✓ **KITCHINGS, BERRIAN MAKING THE "BIG" PLAYS...** Furman's two starting receivers, junior flanker **Desmond Kitchings (Wagener, S.C.)** and junior split end **Tyron Berrian (Tallahassee, Fla.)**, don't have an abundance of catches through Furman's first five games, but they do have some that have gone for big yardage. In Furman's 51-14 win over VMI two weeks ago, Kitchings caught five passes for 102 yards, including one that went for a career long 87 yards and a touchdown. Kitchings, a pre-season All-Southern Conference pick, leads Furman in receiving with 15 catches for 244 yards (16.3 yards/catch) and a touchdown, and is the Paladins' leader in all-purpose yardage with 472, including 175 yards in kickoff returns (21.9/return) and 53 yards rushing (7.6/rush). Berrian, meanwhile, turned in the best performance of his career after totaling four receptions for 136 yards and a touchdown against VMI. Berrian, who three weeks ago caught a 55-yard touchdown pass in a 34-24 win over Samford, hooked up with backup quarterback Brent Rickman for a 60-yard scoring strike against VMI. He has seven catches for 205 yards (29.3 yards/catch) and two touchdowns through five games.

✓ **RUFF ON THE CHARTS...** Furman senior linebacker **Orlando Ruff (Winnsboro, S.C.)**, who entered the 1998 season ranked seventh on the Paladins' career tackles chart with 391 stops, moved from seventh to fifth following his 10-tackle performance in the Paladins' 31-7 win over Western Carolina.

#### FURMAN CAREER TACKLES LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Tackles
1)	Jeff Blankenship	1985-88	580
2)	Kevin Kendrick	1987-90	574
3)	Kota Suttle	1989-92	556
4)	Jay Thier	1994-97	452
5)	<b>Orlando Ruff</b>	<b>1995-</b>	<b>448</b>
6)	Bernard Scott	1993-97	447
7)	Milan Sterling	1990-93	445
8)	Steve O'Neill	1978-81	389
9)	Bruce Gheesling	1978-81	387
10)	Rock Hurst	1981-84	364
11)	Frank Moses	1974-77	360

	Darryl Gardner	1984-87	360
12)	Jerry Scott	1977-80	348

✓ **CROSBY MOVING CLOSER TO 2,000...** Senior tailback **Ernest Crosby (Greenville, S.C.)** came into the 1998 season bidding to become only the ninth player in Furman history to rush for 2,000 yards in a career. Crosby, a product of Greenville's Christ Church Episcopal School who has totaled 1,786 yards and 14 touchdowns in his career, rushed for 41 yards on 12 carries and scored a pair of touchdowns in the Paladins' 31-7 win over Western Carolina on Saturday.

#### FURMAN CAREER RUSHING LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Yards
1)	Carl Tremble	1982-85	4,746
2)	Stanford Jennings	1980-83	4,016
3)	Robbie Gardner	1982-86	3,213
4)	Larry Robinson	1973-76	3,038
5)	Mike Glenn	1978-80	2,446
6)	John Bagwell	1984-88	2,183
7)	Dinky Williams	1981-84	2,110
8)	Mark Moore	1994-97	2,061
9)	Dwight Sterling	1986-89	1,983
10)	Steve Crislip	1969-71	1,938
12)	<b>Ernest Crosby</b>	<b>1995-</b>	<b>1,786</b>
11)	Brothel Cole	1969-71	1,752
13)	Kennet Goldsmith	1985-88	1,713
14)	Leonardo McClarty	1991-95	1,712
15)	Tom Campbell	1958-61	1,699
16)	Steve Bishop	1977-80	1,692

✓ **WELLS MAKING HIS MARK...** Junior placekicker **Jason Wells (Lawton, Okla.)** heads into the Appalachian State game ranked fifth on Furman's all-time kick scoring chart with 153 points. A pre-season first team All-Southern Conference selection, Wells, Furman's leading scorer on the year with 29 points, connected on a 36-yard field goal and all four PATs Saturday in the Paladins' 31-7 win over Western Carolina. After misfiring on his first three field goals this season, Wells has connected on his last four attempts and is now 4-for-7 on the season. He is coming off a strong 1997 campaign that saw him convert 11-of-14 field goals (.785%) and 30-of-32 PATs. Wells has made 22-of-38 field goal attempts and 87-of-91 PATs in three seasons of action.

#### FURMAN CAREER KICK SCORING LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Points
1)	Mike Wood	1986-89	225
2)	Keven Esval	1982-85	214
	Jim Richter	1992-95	214
3)	Glen Connally	1988-90	188
4)	Tim Tanguay	1980-82	177
5)	<b>Jason Wells</b>	<b>1996-</b>	<b>153</b>
6)	Andy Goss	1974-76	125

✓ **BOBBY JOHNSON: YEAR FIVE...** The 1998 season marks Furman head coach Bobby Johnson's fifth year at the helm of a Paladin program and 21st season of service to the university. After suffering through a 3-8 season in 1994 (the program's first losing season since 1979 and

worst record since 1972), Furman rebounded in 1995 to finish 6-5. A year later Johnson directed the Paladins to a 9-4 record and into the NCAA I-AA playoffs — the program's first playoff appearance since 1990. Furman went 7-4 last year and finished third in the Southern Conference for the third consecutive year. Johnson's four-year head coaching record is 29-22 (.568), and his last three teams have combined to post a 26-14 slate (.650). Johnson's 21-year tenure at Furman includes work as defensive backs coach, assistant head coach, defensive coordinator, and head coach. The Paladins' record during that span (1976-80; 82-92; 94-present) is 161-75-7 and includes 17 winning seasons, eight Southern Conference championships and one NCAA I-AA title.

✓ **SOUTHERN CONFERENCE PRE-SEASON POLLS...** Furman was a consensus fourth place pick in a pair of Southern Conference pre-season polls conducted by league head coaches and media.

#### SOCON HEAD COACHES

Pos.	Team	Points
1)	Georgia Southern (6.5)	71.5
2)	East Tennessee State (1.5)	65.5
3)	Appalachian State	65
4)	Furman	55
5)	Chattanooga (1)	50
6)	The Citadel	36
7)	Western Carolina	29
8)	Wofford	19
9)	VMI	14

#### SOCON MEDIA

Pos.	Team	Points
1)	Georgia Southern (17)	161
2)	Appalachian State	130
3)	East Tennessee State	125
4)	Furman (1)	115
5)	Chattanooga	92
6)	The Citadel	62
7)	Western Carolina	58
8)	Wofford	44
9)	VMI	19

(#) — first place votes

✓ **SEVEN PALADINS NAMED PRE-SEASON ALL-SOCON...** In balloting by Southern Conference head coaches, seven Paladins were selected to the pre-season all-league team. They include senior center **Mark Foster (Williamston, S.C.)**, junior offensive guard **Ben Hall (Royston, Ga.)**, junior placekicker **Jason Wells (Lawton, Okla.)**, senior linebacker **Orlando Ruff (Winnsboro, S.C.)**, and junior strong safety **John Keith (Newnan, Ga.)**, who were named to the first team. Named to the second team were junior flanker **Desmond Kitchings (Wagener, S.C.)** and senior defensive tackle **B.J. Pate (Inman, S.C.)**.

✓ **RUFF PRE-SEASON DEFENSIVE POY PICK...** Senior linebacker **Orlando Ruff (Winnsboro, S.C.)** was selected by Southern Conference head coaches as the league's defen-

sive player-of-the-year. If he captures the honor, Ruff, a two-time all-conference selection, will become the second straight Paladin and sixth Furman player to earn Southern Conference Defensive Player-of-the-Year honors since the conference initiated the award in 1986 (prior to 1986 only one "player-of-the-year" award was accorded). Furman's five previous Southern Conference Defensive Player-of-the-Year honorees include: LB Jeff Blankenship (1988), DE Kelly Fletcher (1989), LB Kevin Kendrick (1990), NG Allen Edwards (1991), DE Bryan Dailer (1997).

✓ **FOSTER PRE-SEASON ALL-AMERICA...** Furman senior center **Mark Foster (Williamston, S.C.)** was selected to the Sports Network Pre-Season All-America team. A second team All-Southern Conference pick a year ago and pre-season all-league pick this year, Foster earned winning grades in 10 of the Paladins' 11 games a year ago and earned the highest blocking percentage (.841) of any Paladin offensive lineman in 1997. Foster has also served as Furman's long snapper the last three years.

#### FURMAN STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

☛ Furman leads the Southern Conference and ranks eighth nationally in turnover margin with a +1.60 rating.

☛ Furman ranks second in the Southern Conference and ninth nationally in punt returns, averaging 17.7 yards per return.

☛ Furman leads the Southern Conference and ranks 13th nationally in passing efficiency defense with a rating of 93.9.

☛ Furman freshman cornerback Richie Jackson leads the Southern Conference and is tied for third nationally in interceptions with four (0.80 interceptions/game).

#### TRAVEL PLANS

Furman will depart via chartered bus at approximately 1:00 p.m. Friday and will workout at Kidd Brewer Stadium at approximately 4:30 p.m. Furman will headquarter at the Holiday Inn-Select in Hickory, N.C. (704) 323-1000.

#### INJURY REPORT (for ASU game)

OG Mark Batluck, knee (out for season)  
 OT Ryan Kineard, ankle (probable)  
 NG Luke Kosman, neck (retired)  
 DT Faamata Fonoimoana, neck (retired)  
 CB Tarick Khadra, knee (doubtful)  
 CB Bryant Huguley, leg (doubtful)  
 CB Andre Stroman, hamstring strain (doubtful)  
 SS John Keith, foot (doubtful)

## FURMAN PALADINS DEPTH CHART

### FURMAN OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.
FLK	4	DESMOND KITCHINGS	5-9	180	Jr.
	87	Kevin Stewart	6-2	198	Gr.
LT	71	DONNIE LITTLEJOHN	6-3	265	R-Fr.
	60	Ryan Kineard	6-3	258	Jr.
LG	75	MARTY PRIORE	6-0	278	R-Fr.
	54	Chris Stewart	6-0	271	R-Fr.
C	73	MARK FOSTER	6-2	290	Sr.
	54	Chris Stewart	6-0	271	R-Fr.
RG	59	BEN HALL	6-4	274	Jr.
	65	Tye Crews	6-2	282	R-Fr.
RT	77	JOSH MOORE	6-4	290	So.
	74	Tim Pouyer	6-4	265	So.
TE	85	MICHAEL OWINGS	6-3	248	Jr.
	89	Trent Sansbury	6-3	234	R-Fr.
SE	2	TYRON BERRIAN	5-7	147	Jr.
	33	Zach Smerdzinski	5-10	182	So.
QB	15	JUSTIN HILL	6-0	190	So.
	17	Brent Rickman	6-4	182	So.
FB	34	LOUIS IVORY (or)	5-8	194	Fr.
	23	Derek Russell	6-0	233	So.
TB	21	STUART RENTZ (or)	5-8	186	Jr.
	22	Ernest Crosby	6-1	201	Sr.

### FURMAN DEFENSE

RUE	55	BOBBY HUBBARD	6-3	226	Jr.
	99	Hershal Pleasant	6-2	230	So.
ST	78	RYAN SPENCER	6-3	290	R-Fr.
	48	Brian Conner	6-2	257	Jr.
NG	90	B.J. PATE (or)	6-5	287	Sr.
	18	Kenya Fouch	6-5	296	Sr.
WT	48	BRIAN CONNER	6-2	257	Jr.
	97	Steve Kupchinsky	6-4	246	So.
OLB	46	COLIN ROGERS	6-2	228	Sr.
	11	Brad Redmond	6-0	207	R-Fr.
SLB	47	ORLANDO RUFF	6-3	262	Sr.
	9	John Thrift	6-1	217	R-Fr.
WLB	20	WILL BOUTON	6-2	219	R-Fr.
	9	John Thrift	6-1	217	R-Fr.
LCB	8	RICHIE JACKSON	6-0	175	R-Fr.
	32	Rodney Johnson	5-9	171	Fr.
RCB	28	DANIEL ROBERSON	5-9	171	R-Fr.
	32	Rodney Johnson	5-9	171	Fr.
SS	29	ROCCO ADRIAN	6-2	202	Sr.
	38	Shelvis Smith	6-1	193	Fr.
FS	29	ROCCO ADRIAN	6-2	202	Sr.
	24	Walter Booth	5-11	184	Jr.

### FURMAN SPECIALISTS

P	80	LEE WILLIS	5-10	154	R-Fr.
PK	16	JASON WELLS	6-2	200	Jr.
HO	21	STUART RENTZ	5-8	186	Jr.
SSN	73	MARK FOSTER	6-2	290	Sr.
LSN	73	MARK FOSTER	6-2	290	Sr.
KO	16	JASON WELLS	6-2	200	Jr.
KOR	4	DESMOND KITCHINGS	5-9	180	Jr.
PR	33	ZACH SMERDZINSKI	5-10	182	So.

### PROBABLE FURMAN STARTERS BY CLASS

	Offense	Defense	Total
Seniors	1	5	6
Juniors	5	2	7
Sophomores	2	0	2
Freshmen	3	4	7