



Game 7 — October 17, 1998
Furman Paladins (4-2; 2-1 SoCon) vs. The Citadel Bulldogs (2-4; 2-2 SoCon)
Greenville, South Carolina, Paladin Stadium (16,000) — Natural Surface
1:30 P.M. Kickoff (EDT) — Homecoming



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

The Citadel Football SID: Art Chase (843) 953-5120
The Citadel Football Web Site: www.citadel.edu

THE GAME

Saturday's Furman-The Citadel game will highlight Homecoming Weekend at Furman University and mark the renewal of the oldest rivalry among current Southern Conference member schools. Furman and The Citadel first met on the football field in 1913 and, in all, have squared off 77 times over the years.

Furman, which dropped a 26-13 verdict to nationally third-ranked Appalachian State last Saturday in Boone, heads into the game ranked 24th in the latest Sports Network and USA Today/ESPN NCAA I-AA national polls. The Citadel enters Saturday's clash fresh from an impressive 31-20 win over East Tennessee State in Charleston.

THE SERIES

In a series that got its start in 1913 with a 75-0 Citadel win in Charleston, Furman holds a 47-27-3 series lead over The Citadel and enters Saturday's game having claimed three straight wins over the Bulldogs, including a 21-7 decision last year in Charleston.

Furman owns a 26-11 record against The Citadel in Greenville, and the Paladins defeated the Bulldogs, 35-25, the last time the two schools squared off in Paladin Stadium two years ago. In all games played in Charleston, Furman stands 19-16-2 against The Citadel. The Paladins are 2-0-1 versus the Bulldogs in three neutral site meetings.

1913	L	0-75	Charleston
1919	W	21-6	GREENVILLE
1920	W	21-6	Charleston
1921	W	42-0	GREENVILLE
1922	W	28-0	Florence
1923	W	30-14	GREENVILLE
1924	L	0-6	Charleston
1925	W	7-0	GREENVILLE
1926	W	7-0	Charleston
1927	W	6-0	Charleston
1928	W	13-0	GREENVILLE
1929	T	0-0	Charleston
1930	W	31-6	GREENVILLE
1931	W	33-7	Charleston
1932	W	20-0	Orangeburg
1933	W	14-0	GREENVILLE
1934	W	6-0	Charleston
1935	W	35-0	GREENVILLE
1936	W	13-7	GREENVILLE
1937	L	0-8	Charleston
1938	L	6-9	GREENVILLE
1939	W	7-0	Charleston
1940	W	36-7	GREENVILLE

1941	T	13-13	Charleston
1942	W	20-0	GREENVILLE
1946	W	14-0	Charleston
1947	W	7-0	GREENVILLE
1948	W	9-0	GREENVILLE
1949	W	19-7	Charleston
1950	W	21-7	GREENVILLE
1951	W	35-14	Orangeburg
1952	T	7-7	Orangeburg
1953	W	27-0	Charleston
1954	W	31-20	GREENVILLE
1955	L	19-25	Charleston
1956	W	7-0	GREENVILLE
1957	L	14-18	Charleston
1958	L	6-24	GREENVILLE
1959	L	14-18	Charleston
1960	L	6-7	GREENVILLE
1961	L	8-9	Charleston
1962	W	33-25	GREENVILLE
1963	W	34-25	Charleston
1964	L	0-17	GREENVILLE
1965	L	0-28	Charleston
1966	L	6-10	GREENVILLE
1967	W	14-6	Charleston
1968	L	12-31	GREENVILLE
1969	L	21-37	Charleston
1970	W	28-21	GREENVILLE
1971	L	33-35	Charleston
1972	L	13-19	GREENVILLE
1973	L	21-26	Charleston
1974	L	0-24	GREENVILLE
1975	L	9-13	Charleston
1976	L	16-17	GREENVILLE
1977	L	3-10	Charleston
1978	W	17-13	GREENVILLE
1979	W	45-44	Charleston
1980	W	28-15	GREENVILLE
1981	L	18-35	Charleston
1982	W	27-0	GREENVILLE
1983	W	49-21	Charleston
1984	W	42-14	GREENVILLE
1985	W	42-0	Charleston
1986	W	37-14	GREENVILLE
1987	W	58-13	Charleston
1988	W	30-17	GREENVILLE
1989	W	44-9	Charleston
1990	W	30-17	GREENVILLE
1991	L	6-10	Charleston
1992	L	14-20	GREENVILLE
1993	L	10-20	Charleston
1994	L	44-52	GREENVILLE
1995	W	24-3	Charleston
1996	W	35-25	GREENVILLE
1997	W	21-7	Charleston

In Greenville: Furman leads 26-11-0
In Charleston: Furman leads 19-16-2
Neutral Sites: Furman leads 2-0-1

1998 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Team	SoCon	Overall
Georgia Southern	4 0	6 0
Appalachian State	3 0	5 0
FURMAN	2 1	4 2
Western Carolina	2 2	2 3
The Citadel	2 2	2 4
Chattanooga	1 1	2 3
East Tennessee State	1 3	1 4
Wofford	1 3	2 3
VMI	0 4	1 5

October 10

Appalachian State 26, Furman 13
 The Citadel 31, East Tennessee State 20
 Georgia Southern 28, Western Carolina 21
 Wofford 42, VMI 20

October 17

Appalachian State @ Georgia Southern, 1:00
 The Citadel @ Furman, 1:30
 East Tennessee State @ Mississippi State, 1:30
 Western Carolina @ Wofford, 2:00
 VMI @ Chattanooga, 7:00

**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)

**1998 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE
 REGULAR SEASON HONORS**

Players-of-the-Week
 FB Louis Ivory (Fr.) vs. S.C. State
 CB Daniel Roberson (Fr.) vs. Samford
 CB Richie Jackson (Def.) vs. W. Carolina
 LB Will Bouton (Fr.) vs. W. Carolina

THE COACHES

Furman: Bobby Johnson (Clemson '73)
29-23-0 (.557), 5th Year at Furman
29-23-0 (.557), 5th Year Overall
Johnson vs. The Citadel (3-1)

The Citadel: Don Powers (Western Carolina '68)
12-16 (.428), 3rd Year at The Citadel
12-16 (.428), 3rd Year Overall
Powers vs. Furman (0-1)

THE OFFENSES

Furman: Multiple I
'98 Points/Game — 26.0
'98 Yards/Game — 303.2
196.3 Rushing
106.8 Passing

The Citadel: Multiple I
'98 Points/Game — 14.3
'98 Yards/Game — 249.2
132.8 Rushing
116.3 Passing

THE DEFENSES

Furman: 43
'98 Points/Game — 20.5
'98 Yards/Game — 313.0
170.3 Rushing
142.7 Passing

The Citadel: 43
'98 Points/Game — 28.0
'98 Yards/Game — 368.7
185.2 Rushing
183.5 Passing

1998 RESULTS AND SCHEDULE

Furman (4-2, 2-1 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 26, Furman 13
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

The Citadel (2-4; 2-2 SoCon)
Sept. 5 Florida 49, The Citadel 10
Sept. 12 The Citadel 20, Wofford 14
Sept. 19 Western Carolina 14, The Citadel 8
Sept. 26 Appalachian State 26, The Citadel 11
Oct. 3 South Florida 45, The Citadel 6
Oct. 10 The Citadel 31, E. Tennessee St. 20
Oct. 17 @ Furman, 1:30
Oct. 24 GEORGIA SOUTHERN
Oct. 31 HOFSTRA
Nov. 7 CHATTANOOGA
Nov. 14 @ VMI

FURMAN LAST WEEK

BOONE, N.C. — Appalachian State quarterback Daniel Jeremiah passed for 145 yards and connected with wide receiver Daryl Skinner on scoring strikes covering 36 and 59 yards to lift nationally third-ranked Appalachian State to a 26-13 win over Furman at Kidd Brewer Stadium.

Appalachian State took a 10-0 first quarter lead following a Stuart Jones 31-yard field goal and a 36-yard touchdown pass from Jeremiah to Skinner, who made a superb catch in the end zone despite being heavily defended.

The Mountaineers made it 13-0 with 2:02 left in the first half on Jones' second field goal, which covered 22 yards.

Held in check for much of the first half, Furman's offense got untracked by covering 80 yards in five plays to cut Appalachian State's lead to 13-7 following a 39-yard scoring run by quarterback Justin Hill with only 0:40 left in the second period.

Appalachian State, however, seized control of the game on the opening possession of the second half by covering 69 yards in 15 plays to go ahead 19-7 on a Neil Cornatzer 2-yard run at the 7:24 mark of the third quarter.

The Mountaineers increased their lead to 26-7 when Skinner took an inside screen from Jeremiah and outran the Paladin secondary to complete a 59-yard scoring play early in the fourth period.

Furman accounted for the game's final points when reserve tailback Quinton Burton scored on a 5-yard run following an option pitch from Justin Hill with 1:46 left in the game.

Appalachian State outgained Furman 377-287 and whipped the Paladins in the punting game, averaging 45.5 yards per punt and returning three kicks for 50 yards. The Mountaineers also sacked Furman quarterback Justin Hill five times on the evening en route to claiming only their second win over the Paladins in the last six meetings in Boone.

THE CITADEL LAST WEEK

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The Citadel snapped a three-game losing streak as tailback Antonio Smith rushed for 174 yards and a touchdown to lift the Bulldogs to a 31-20 Parents' Day win over East Tennessee State.

The Citadel's defense, which accounted for four East Tennessee State turnovers, received outstanding play from strong safety Marcus Johnson, who returned a fumble for a touchdown, in addition to intercepting a pass, blocking a field goal, and making three tackles.

Ahead 14-13 at intermission, The Citadel scored 10 third quarter points to take a 24-13 lead, and Deon Jackson then put the game away when he scored on a 3-yard run with 2:15 left in the game.

LAST MEETING

CHARLESTON, S.C. (Oct. 18, 1997) — Jody Wade caught a pair of touchdown passes and successfully handled all seven punts on a rain-

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 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 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>.



soaked field to lift Furman to a 21-7 win over The Citadel in front of 11,245 fans at Johnson Hagood Stadium.

Furman's special teams set the tone early when Orlando Ruff pounced on a blocked punt by Bernard Scott at the 1-yard line. One play later fullback Marq Cerqua scored on a 1-yard run to give the Paladins a 7-0 lead at the 14:11 mark of the second period.

On its next possession, the Paladins used a 30-yard Zach Smerdzinski punt return to set up another score on a 36-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Brent Rickman to Wade for a 14-0 halftime lead.

The Paladins stretched their margin to 21-0 late in the third period when Rickman again hit Wade on a 9-yard toss at the 0:58 juncture.

The Citadel avoided the shutout when Norbert Akas gathered in a deflected 14-yard pass by a quarterback Stanley Myers with 7:07 left in the game, but the Bulldogs could do little else in the face of Furman defense, which was paced by linebacker Jay Thier's career high 24 tackles.

NOTING THE PALADINS

✓ **HOT AT HOME...**Furman's 31-7 win over Western Carolina in Greenville on Oct. 3 extended the Paladins' home winning streak to five games. The Paladins, who take on The Citadel in Paladin Stadium this Saturday, have now claimed wins in 13 of their last 14 home contests dating back to the 1996 season and are now 86-23-1 in Paladin Stadium (.786) since moving into the facility in 1981. Furman owns a 6-2 record against The Citadel in Paladin Stadium.

(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
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

✓ **HIGH PRICE FOR MISTAKES...**Although Furman and Appalachian State did not commit a single turnover in Saturday's game, the Paladins still lead the league in turnover margin (+1.33) and have displayed an ability to make opponents pay dearly for their misdeeds this season. In its last four games against VMI, Samford, and Western Carolina, and Appalachian State, Furman has been the recipient of 12 turnovers, which it has converted into 66 points. 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). This week's opponent, The Citadel, ranks second in the Southern Conference in turnover margin ((+0.67).

✓ **HOLDING ON TO THE FOOTBALL...**While Furman has made the opposition pay dearly for turnovers this year, the Paladins have been very stingy with the football, particularly of late. Furman has suffered only two turnovers in its last four contests and has now gone nine quarters without a turnover, its last being an interception in the third quarter of a 51-14 win over VMI on Sept. 26. The last time Furman was charged with a fumble (recovered or lost) was in the first quarter of its 27-19 win over South Carolina State on Sept. 12. That's 19 consecutive quarters without a fumble.

✓ **HOMECOMING SUCCESS??...**Although Furman has posted a 42-23-4 record (64.6%) in homecoming games over the years, the Paladins have are only 2-4 in their last six homecoming contests. A year ago Furman dropped its homecoming game to East Tennessee State, 58-28, despite holding a 28-24 lead with a little less than nine minutes to go in the game. Furman's last homecoming victory was a 35-25 decision over The Citadel in 1996. Over the years The Citadel has provided the opposition in 10 Furman homecoming games, and the Paladins are 8-2 against the Bulldogs in those 10 contests.

✓ **INJURIES MOUNTING ON "D"...**Heading into the 1998 season, Furman had to find replacements for eight departed regulars on defense. If that wasn't enough of challenge, a slew of injuries this year, particularly on the defensive side of the football, has made the task even tougher for head coach Bobby Johnson's squad.

In last Saturday's 26-13 loss to Appalachian State, senior linebacker **Orlando Ruff (Winnsboro, S.C.)** was the only player in the starting lineup with starting experience from last season.

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 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 dress for the Appalachian State game after re-injuring a sprained foot two weeks ago in the Paladins' 31-7 win over Western Carolina. Keith, who originally was sidelined late in Furman's 34-24 win over Samford, missed the VMI game (Sept. 26). He is listed as doubtful for the this Saturday's Citadel game.

Against Appalachian State, Furman lost the

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



✓ **KING AND PERKINS OUT, TOO...** This season's rash 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, who would have been Furman's second most experienced linebacker behind Orlando Ruff had he not retired, and would have almost surely been a starter on this year's squad.

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.

✓ **ANYBODY SEEN A 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 six games, and head into this Saturday's Citadel 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.

In the Paladins 31-7 win over Western Carolina two weeks ago, Furman's young cornerback tandem added to their string of impact perfor-

mances 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. For that performance against the Catamounts, Jackson earned Southern Conference Defensive Player-of-the-Week honors.

In six games, Furman's two starting redshirt freshmen cornerbacks have accounted for 46 tackles, six of the Paladins' nine interceptions, six 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.

✓ **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 fifth to fourth following his 13-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)	Orlando Ruff	1995-	462
5)	Jay Thier	1994-97	452
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

✓ **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 1,848 yards and 14 touchdowns in his career, rushed for 62 yards on 11 carries in the Paladins' 26-13 loss to Appalachian State 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)	Ernest Crosby	1995-	1,848
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 Citadel game ranked fifth on Furman's all-time kick scoring chart with 154 points. A pre-season first team All-Southern Conference selection, Wells is Furman's leading scorer on the season with 30 points and has made his last four field goal attempts. 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 88-of-92 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)	Jason Wells	1996-	154
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 29-23 (.557), and his last three teams have combined to post a 26-15 slate (.634). 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 161-76-7 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 defensive 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 +1.33 rating.
- ☛ Furman ranks third in the Southern Conference and 13th nationally in punt returns, averag-

ing 14.9 yards per return.

- ☛ Furman leads the Southern Conference and ranks 19th nationally in passing efficiency defense with a rating of 102.8.
- ☛ Furman freshman cornerback **Richie Jackson** leads the Southern Conference and is tied for 12th nationally in interceptions with four (0.67 interceptions/game).

INJURY REPORT (for Citadel game)

- OG Mark Batluck, knee (out for season)
- NG Luke Kosman, neck (retired)
- DT Faamata Fonoimoana, neck (retired)
- LB Colin Rogers, neck (questionable)
- CB Tarick Khadra, knee (doubtful)
- CB Bryant Huguley, leg (doubtful)
- CB Andre Stroman, hamstring strain (doubtful)
- SS John Keith, foot (doubtful)

FURMAN PALADINS VS. THE CITADEL BULLDOGS 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	23	DEREK RUSSELL (or)	6-0	233	So.
	34	Louis Ivory	5-8	194	Fr.
TB	21	STUART RENTZ (or)	5-8	186	Jr.
	5	Quinton Burton	5-10	188	So.

FURMAN DEFENSE

RUE	55	BOBBY HUBBARD	6-3	226	Jr.
	99	Hershal Pleasant	6-2	230	So.
ST	90	B.J. PATE	6-5	287	Sr.
	78	Ryan Spencer	6-3	290	R-Fr.
NG	18	KENYA FOUCH	6-5	296	Sr.
	90	B.J. Pate	6-5	287	Sr.
WT	48	BRIAN CONNER	6-2	257	Jr.
	97	Steve Kupchinsky	6-4	246	So.
OLB	46	COLIN ROGERS (or)	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.
	1	Bryant Huguley	5-8	153	So.
SS	29	ROCCO ADRIAN	6-2	202	Sr.
	38	Shelvis Smith	6-1	193	Fr.
FS	24	WALTER BOOTH	5-11	184	Jr.
	25	Joey Espinosa	5-10	173	Gr.

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	35	DAVID BURTON	6-0	208	Sr.
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	2	5	7
Juniors	4	2	6
Sophomores	2	0	2
Freshmen	3	4	7

THE CITADEL OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.
WR	6	CARLOS FRANK	5-9	165	Jr.
	7	Dendrick Gamble	5-10	165	So.
LT	63	DAVID JACOBS	6-4	275	Sr.
	79	Quentin Armstrong	6-2	300	Fr.
LG	77	DEREN WILCOX	6-2	269	Jr.
	62	Corey White	6-2	250	Fr.
C	52	CHIP SIMMONS	6-0	250	Jr.
	77	Deren Wilcox	6-2	269	Jr.
RG	66	OMAR NESBIT	6-1	300	Fr.
	75	Will Rinker	6-2	267	So.
RT	74	RICHIE MARKUSON (or)	6-3	292	Jr.
	69	Harry Miles	6-3	271	So.
TE	88	JASON BARLEY	6-3	233	So.
	87	Benton Ballenger	6-1	229	So.
WR	11	REUBEN GRESHAM	5-9	172	Sr.
	19	Robert Akas	5-8	164	So.
QB	16	STANLEY MYERS	5-11	183	Sr.
	3	Chris Eckert	6-0	195	Fr.
FB	49	THOMAS GIBBS	5-11	215	So.
	41	Johbe King	6-0	213	Sr.
TB	32	ANTONIO SMITH	5-10	185	Sr.
	9	Deon Jackson	5-10	195	Jr.

THE CITADEL DEFENSE

DE	83	LANCE GRAY	6-3	225	Sr.
	93	Robert Hoskins	6-2	225	So.
DT	56	DARY MYRICKS	6-3	270	Sr.
	59	Travis Cunningham	6-1	265	Fr.
DT	78	MARIO RICHARDSON	6-1	285	So.
	92	Pete Waechter	6-5	240	So.
DE	90	JEFF JOHNSON	6-2	225	So.
	96	Michael Fennelly	6-3	228	Jr.
LB	43	BRITT GARDNER	6-0	216	So.
	45	Joe Renwick	6-1	225	Fr.
LB	44	CHRIS HUFF (or)	6-3	233	Sr.
	40	Denny Haywood	6-2	215	So.
LB	58	DEAN KELLEY	6-1	225	Jr.
	42	Quinn Ferrall	6-0	215	Fr.
LC	4	ROB NICHOLS	5-9	165	So.
	1	Jay Ingram	5-7	155	So.
SS	27	MARCUS JOHNSON	6-1	185	Sr.
	20	Kevin Howard	5-10	175	Fr.
FS	25	DEEDRICK REESE	5-11	192	Sr.
	10	Matt Dean	6-0	190	Fr.
RC	33	MAURICE DRAYTON	5-9	178	Sr.
	1	Jay Ingram	5-7	155	So.

THE CITADEL SPECIALISTS

P	13	STAN MCGILL	5-10	165	Jr.
PK	30	NICK HAAS	5-9	165	Fr.
HO	13	STAN MCGILL	5-10	165	Jr.
SSN	57	BART PARSON	6-1	233	Jr.
LSN	57	BART PARSON	6-1	233	Jr.
KO	30	NICK HAAS	5-9	165	Fr.
KOR	6	CARLOS FRANK	5-9	165	Jr.
	4	ROB NICHOLS	5-9	165	So.
PR	6	CARLOS FRANK	5-9	165	Jr.

PROBABLE THE CITADEL STARTERS BY CLASS

	Offense	Defense	Total
Seniors	4	6	10
Juniors	4	1	5
Sophomores	2	4	6
Freshmen	1	0	1