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FURMAN'S RUFF NAMED AFCA-BURGER KING NCAA I-AA FOOTBALL ALL-AMERICA

GREENVILLE -- Furman University senior linebacker Orlando Ruff has been named to the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA)-Burger King NCAA I-AA All-America team, it was announced today.

Ruff, a three-time All-Southern Conference selection and Winnsboro, S.C., native, was one of only two Southern Conference players named to the All-America squad. Western Carolina junior free safety Eric Johnson was the other league representative.

Ruff, a three-year starter who played in 44 consecutive games before missing the final two games of the 1998 season with a knee injury, finished his career as Furman's fourth all-time leading tackler with 488 stops. He recorded 97 tackles in nine games this past season.

He is the first Furman player since 1992 but the 10th Paladin overall to garner AFCA All-America honors. Five of Furman's 10 All-America selections have been linebackers.

Ruff is scheduled to participate in the annual Blue-Gray All-Star Classic in Montgomery, Ala., on Dec. 24, and the Hula Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii, on Jan. 24.

(For More Information, Contact: Hunter Reid)