



**Game 1 — September 4, 1999**  
**Furman Paladins (0-0; 0-0 SoCon) vs. Elon Fightin' Christians (0-0)**  
**Greenville, South Carolina, Paladin Stadium (16,000) — Natural Surface**  
**7:00 P.M. Kickoff (EDT)**  
**WPEK-FM 98.1 (Live), Broadcast.com (Live)**



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

**Elon Football SID: David Hibbard (336) 584-2316**  
**Elon Web Site: [www.elon.edu](http://www.elon.edu)**

**THE GAME**

Saturday's Furman-Elon game is the 1999 season opener for the Paladins and Fightin' Christians. It will also mark the first of two home night games for Furman, which will also take on Sept. 25 opponent VMI under the lights of Paladin Stadium.

**PROMOTION**

The first 1,000 fans to enter Paladin Stadium will receive Furman's 1999 Football Poster, and after the contest fans will be treated to a fireworks show.

**THE SERIES**

Furman and Elon have met only twice in football, with the Paladins winning both contests. Furman claimed a 33-0 win in 1920, and two years ago the Paladins turned back Elon's upset bid, 38-20.

1920 W 33-0 GREENVILLE  
 1997 W 38-20 GREENVILLE

**THE COACHES**

Furman: Bobby Johnson (Clemson '73)  
 30-27-0 (.518), 5th Year at Furman  
 30-27-0 (.518), 5th Year Overall  
 Johnson vs. Elon (1-0)

Elon: Al Seagraves (Shippensburg State '75)  
 16-17 (.485), 4th Year at Elon  
 16-17 (.485), 4th Year Overall  
 Seagraves vs. Furman (0-1)

**THE OFFENSES**

Furman: Multiple I  
 '98 Points/Game — 24.3  
 '98 Yards/Game — 311.1  
                                   185.0 Rushing  
                                   126.1 Passing

Elon: Wishbone  
 '98 Points/Game — 26.3  
 '98 Yards/Game — 328.0  
                                   271.5 Rushing  
                                   56.6 Passing

**THE DEFENSES**

Furman: 43  
 '98 Points/Game — 25.7  
 '98 Yards/Game — 372.2  
                                   209.8 Rushing  
                                   162.4 Passing

Elon: 43  
 '98 Points/Game — 19.5  
 '98 Yards/Game — 291.9  
                                   146.2 Rushing  
                                   145.7 Passing

**1998 RESULTS**

Furman (5-6, 3-5 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 25, Furman 24  
 Oct. 24 E. Tenn. St. 22, Furman 19 (2ot)  
 Nov. 7 Ga. Southern 45, Furman 17  
 Nov. 14 Wofford 40, Furman 20  
 Nov. 21 Furman 31, Chattanooga 28

Elon (5-6)  
 Sept. 5 Georgia Southern 31, Elon 17  
 Sept. 12 Elon 37, Delaware State 15  
 Sept. 19 Western Illinois 17, Elon 7  
 Sept. 26 James Madison 19, Elon 12  
 Oct. 3 Elon 59, Morehead State 0  
 Oct. 10 South Florida 35, Elon 7  
 Oct. 17 Elon 33, Presbyterian 32  
 Oct. 24 Western Kentucky 41, Elon 38  
 Oct. 31 Elon 36, Liberty 14  
 Nov. 7 Western Carolina 10, Elon 7  
 Nov. 14 Elon 36, Samford 0

**1999 SCHEDULE & RESULTS**

Furman (0-0, 0-0 Southern)  
 Sept. 4 ELON, 7:00  
 Sept. 18 @ William & Mary, 1:00  
 Sept. 25 VMI, 7:00  
 Oct. 2 @ Western Carolina, 6:00  
 Oct. 9 APPALACHIAN STATE, 2:00  
 Oct. 16 @ The Citadel, 2:00  
 Oct. 23 E. TENNESSEE ST., 2:00  
 Oct. 30 @ North Carolina, 1:30  
 Nov. 6 @ Georgia Southern, 1:00  
 Nov. 13 WOFFORD, 2:00  
 Nov. 20 @ Chattanooga, 12:00

Elon (0-0)  
 Sept. 4 @ Furman, 7:00  
 Sept. 11 @ Delaware State  
 Sept. 18 NORTH ALABAMA  
 Sept. 25 NORTH CAROLINA A&T  
 Oct. 2 NEW HAVEN  
 Oct. 9 @ Western Illinois  
 Oct. 16 @ Samford  
 Oct. 23 HOFSTRA  
 Oct. 30 CHARLESTON SOUTHERN  
 Nov. 6 @ Liberty  
 Nov. 13 MOREHEAD STATE

**1998 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE  
 FINAL STANDINGS**

Team	SoCon	Overall
Georgia Southern	8 0	14 1
Appalachian State	6 2	9 2
Western Carolina	5 3	6 5
Chattanooga	4 4	5 6
The Citadel	4 4	5 6
Furman	3 5	5 6
Wofford	3 5	4 7
East Tennessee State	3 5	4 7
VMI	0 8	1 10

**1999 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE  
 STANDINGS**

Team	SoCon	Overall
Appalachian State	0 0	0 0
Chattanooga	0 0	0 0
East Tennessee State	0 0	0 0
Furman	0 0	0 0
Georgia Southern	0 0	0 0
The Citadel	0 0	0 0
Western Carolina	0 0	0 0
Wofford	0 0	0 0
VMI	0 0	0 0

**September 2**

The Citadel at East Tennessee State, 7:00  
 Chattanooga at Samford, 8:00  
 Mars Hill at Western Carolina, 7:00

**September 4**

Appalachian State at Auburn, 6:00  
 Elon at Furman, 7:00  
 Fayetteville State at Georgia Southern, 7:00  
 VMI at Richmond, 7:00

**September 11**

Eastern Kentucky at Appalachian State, 7:00  
 Delaware at The Citadel, 7:00  
 W. Va. Tech at East Tennessee State, 6:00  
 Georgia Southern at Wofford, 7:00  
 Chattanooga at Louisville, 7:00  
 Concord at VMI, 1:00  
 Western Carolina at Maryland, 6:00

**1999 FURMAN PALADINS  
 PRE-SEASON HONORS**

Coaches All-Southern Conference  
 OG Ben Hall (1st Team)  
 FS John Keith (1st Team)  
 LB Will Bouton (2nd Team)  
 PK Jason Wells (2nd Team)

Southern Conference Polls  
 Southern Conference SIDs (4th)  
 Southern Conference Head Coaches (5th)  
 Southern Conference Media (5th)

## LAST MEETING

GREENVILLE (Nov. 1, 1997)—Derek Russell and Stuart Rentz combined for a pair of fourth quarter touchdowns to spark a 17-point rally and lift Furman past upset minded Elon 38-20 in front of 7,817 fans at Paladin Stadium.

Trailing 17-14 at the half, Furman took the lead for good early in the third quarter when Mark Moore scored on a 13-yard run. After Elon cut Furman's lead to 21-20 with a 42-yard field goal on the final play of the period, the Paladins answered with a 26-yard Jason Wells field goal, a 20-yard touchdown run by Derek Russell, and a 38-yard scoring dash by Stuart Rentz for the game's final margin.

Paced by the rushing of Ernest Crosby (114 yards) and Mark Moore (103 yards), Furman rolled a season high 365 yards on the ground and outgained the Fightin' Christians 432-192 in total offense.

<b>FURMAN</b>	7	7	7	17	—	38
<b>ELON</b>	0	17	3	0	—	20

- F — Derek Russell 3 run (Jason Wells kick) 1:13-1Q
- F — Desmond Kitchings 33 run (Jason Wells kick) 9:20-2Q
- E — Daren Bethea 4 run (kick failed) 6:13-2Q
- E — DeWayne Thomas 80 run (Daren Bethea run) 4:04-2Q
- E — Austin Boone 31 FG )0:22-2Q
- F — Mark Moore 13 run (Jason Wells kick) 10:37-3Q
- E — Austin Boone 42 FG 0:00-3Q
- F — Jason Wells 26 FG 6:36-4Q
- F — Derek Russell 20 run (Jason Wells kick) 3:26-4Q
- F — Stuart Rentz 38 run (Jason Wells kick) 0:025-4Q

**Rushing:** F — Crosby 22-114, Moore 13-103, Rentz 2-55, Kitchings 2-52, Russell 5-37, Hill 9-14, Rickman (1-(-10)). E — Thomas 12-111, Moore 16-40, Gannaway 10-21, Bethea 7-18, Hall 1-1(-13).

**Passing:** F — Hill 4-10-2-67. E — Moore 2-7-1-15, Hall 0-1-0-0.

**Receiving:** F — Kitchings 3-56, Owings 1-11. E — Broadie 1-12, Bethea 1-3.

**Defense:** F — Thier 12, Scott 11, Dailer 8. E — Solomon 9, Ignash 8, Stevenson 8.

	F	E
First Downs	22	8
Rushing	54-365	46-177
Passing	67	15
C/A/I	4-10-2	2-8-1
Total Offense	432	192
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties	7-73	7-65
Punts	2-41.5	7-36.9
Possession Time	31:46	28:14
Third Down Conversions	8-13	3-14
Sacks By	1	3

## NOTING THE PALADINS

✓ **FURMAN TO OPEN 94TH SEASON...**The 1999 season opener against Elon will mark the

beginning of the 94th season of football at Furman University. The first school in South Carolina (along with Wofford) to begin playing football, Furman since 1889 has rolled up a 470-278-38 record. A member of the Southern Conference since 1936, Furman has captured nine league championships (1978-80-81-82-83-85-88-89-90) — the most of any current Southern Conference member school. Furman was also the first conference school to win an NCAA I-AA national championship when it captured the title in 1988 by defeating Georgia Southern (at the time an NCAA I-AA independent) 17-12 to culminate a school best 13-2 season.

✓ **BOBBY JOHNSON: YEAR SIX...**The 1999 season will be Furman head coach Bobby Johnson's sixth year at the helm of the Paladin program and 22nd 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, a Columbia native and 1973 Clemson graduate, 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 in 1997 and 5-6 a year ago. Johnson's four-year head coaching record is 30-27 (.526), and his last four teams have combined to post a 27-19 slate (.587). Against NCAA I-AA competition, Furman teams under Johnson's direction have gone 30-23 (.567). Johnson's 21-year tenure 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 162-80-7 (.664).

✓ **FURMAN LOOKING TO IMPROVE RECORD IN SEASON OPENERS...**Furman hasn't had much success in recent season openers, having posted a 1-4 mark in its last five lid lifters. Furman's season inaugural opponents, however, have had a lot to do with that lack of success, as the Paladins' last five season opening foes have included Clemson (1994, '96, & '98), Georgia Tech (1995), and Samford (1997). Saturday's game against Elon will mark the first time Furman has played a season opener in Paladin Stadium since 1993, when Furman knocked off Connecticut 26-17. Overall Furman is 5-4 in season openers in the 1990s.

## FURMAN IN LAST FIVE SEASON OPENERS (1-4)

Year	Opponent	Score	Result
1994	at Clemson	6-27	L
1995	at Georgia Tech	7-51	L
1996	at Clemson	3-19	L
1997	at Samford	29-10	W
1998	at Clemson	0-33	L

✓ **THE NIGHT TIME IS THE RIGHT TIME -- TO WIN...**Furman's 1999 season opener against Elon will mark only the eighth night game in Paladin Stadium's 19-year, 113-game history. Opened in 1981, Paladin Stadium did not host a night game until the 1991 season, when Furman knocked off Liberty 31-7 in the Paladins' home opener. In the seven games contested under the lights of Paladin Stadium, Furman has posted an impressive 6-1 record (.857) and enters the Elon contest having

## FURMAN RADIO

Furman football can be heard over the Paladins' radio network, headed up by Greenville flagship station WPEK-FM (98.1).

Chuck Hussion, the "Voice of the Furman Paladins", will call the play-by-play, and joining him with color commentary will be John Ingles.

David Hubbard joins Furman's broadcast team this fall as host of the tailgate, halftime, and post-game shows, and working alongside Hubbard as co-host of the tailgate show will be Ron Smith, Furman's head baseball coach. Gordon Higgins returns as sideline reporter, and Robbie Ross will serve as spotter and scoreboard reporter for the Furman broadcast team. Jimmy Fellers is the executive producer of all Furman football broadcasts.



## FURMAN ON BROADCAST.COM

Furman football broadcasts can now be accessed live and on-demand by fans around the world over the internet through broadcast.com., Furman University's official Internet Broadcast Partner and leading aggregator and broadcaster of streaming media programming on the Web.

Fans can access live game play-by-play broadcasts of Furman football directly through broadcast.com at [www.broadcast.com/sports/ncaa/furman/football](http://www.broadcast.com/sports/ncaa/furman/football) or through the university's web site at [www.furman.edu/athletics/football](http://www.furman.edu/athletics/football).

To listen to live action, users will need streaming software, which is available to download free-of-charge through broadcast.com. Specific instructions on how to download and install the software on a personal computer are also available through broadcast.com.



## 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 FOOTBALL WEB SITE

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

captured the last three night games within its home confines, including a 34-24 verdict over Samford last year. The Paladins' only loss at night in Paladin Stadium came to William & Mary in 1994 by a 28-26 score. Since assuming the head coaching reins in 1994, Bobby Johnson has directed the Paladins to a 4-1 record (.800) in home night games, and his first career win as the Paladins' head coach was a 26-21 night verdict over South Carolina State in 1994. Furman is 87-25-1 (.774) overall in Paladin Stadium.

### FURMAN IN PALADIN STADIUM NIGHT GAMES (6-1)

Year	Opponent	Score	Result
1991	Liberty	31-7	W
1992	Liberty	31-13	W
1994	South Carolina State	26-21	W
	William & Mary	26-28	L
1995	Wofford	38-0	W
	VMI	55-24	W
1998	Samford	34-24	W

✓ **KEITH BACK AND HEALTHY...**After an injury plagued 1998 season, senior All-Southern Conference free safety John Keith (Newnan, Ga.) appears ready to assume the much needed role of leader of Furman's defense in 1999. Selected by Southern Conference head coaches and the league's pre-season defensive player-of-the-year, Keith fashioned a solid pre-season, making what appears to be a successful move from strong safety to free safety, where Furman's coaching staff believes he will be more effective in disrupting opposing offenses. An outstanding tackler, Keith began the 1998 campaign by recording a career high 19 tackles in a loss to Clemson, but late in the Paladins' third game (34-24 win over Samford), he sustained a deep sprain in his right foot, which effectively sidelined him for the next three games and limited his effectiveness the rest of the season. Still, he tallied 56 tackles and earned Furman's Best Defensive Back Award. Forced to sit out spring practice after undergoing post-season surgery, Keith will serve as a team co-captain this fall along with strong safety Walter Booth, offensive guard Ben Hall, and tailback Stuart Rentz. Despite the injury plagued 1998 campaign, Keith has totaled 1,481 plays, 188 tackles, and eight interceptions in his career. One of those eight pickoffs was returned a school record 99 yards in a 43-21 Furman win over Chattanooga during the 1997 season.

✓ **WELLS TAKING AIM...**Furman senior placekicker Jason Wells (Lawton, Okla.), a pre-season All-Southern Conference selection, is poised to leave his mark on the school's kick scoring and overall scoring charts. For Wells, who initially came to Furman to play soccer, the 1999 campaign should afford him an opportunity to bounce back from a 1998 season that saw him hampered with a bone spur in his left (plant) foot. Despite the injury, he still converted 11x18 FGs and 30x30 PATs, led Furman in scoring (63 points) for a second straight season and, in the process, moved onto the school's career kick scoring and scoring ledgers. Successful post-season surgery and plenty of work this summer, including some with Atlanta Falcons' kicker Morten Anderson, appears to have paid off for Wells, who

converted 4x4 FGs, including a 48-yarder into the wind, in Furman's biggest scrimmage of the pre-season. Wells' career numbers include 29x49 FGs (.591) and 100x104 PATs (.961).

### FURMAN CAREER KICK SCORING LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Points
1)	Mike Wood	1986-89	225
2)	Keven Esva	1982-85	214
	Jim Richter	1992-95	214
3)	Glen Connally	1988-90	188
4)	<b>Jason Wells</b>	<b>1996-</b>	<b>187</b>
5)	Tim Tanguay	1980-82	177
6)	Andy Goss	1974-76	125

### FURMAN CAREER SCORING LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Points
1)	Carl Tremble	1989-92	300
2)	Stanford Jennings	1980-83	268
3)	Robbie Gardner	1982-86	258
4)	Mike Wood	1986-89	225
5)	Kevan Esva	1982-85	214
	Jim Richer	1992-95	214
6)	Chas Fox	1982-85	198
7)	Mike Glenn	1978-80	192
8)	Glenn Connally	1088-90	188
9)	<b>Jason Wells</b>	<b>1996-</b>	<b>187</b>

✓ **KITCHINGS CATCHING UP...**Senior flanker Des Kitchings (Wagener, S.C.), Furman's most experienced receiver and explosive offensive performer, is another veteran the Paladins will count on heavily in 1999. The squad's fastest player (4.36 40-yard dash), Kitchings heads into the fall poised to crack the school's all-time receptions and receiving yards charts following a 1998 campaign that saw him register 35 catches for 560 yards and three touchdowns. Kitchings also ranks among the Southern Conference's top kick return specialists, having averaged 25.1 yards on 21 returns in his career.

### FURMAN CAREER RECEPTIONS LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Rec.
1)	Luther Broughton	1993-96	135
2)	Josh Cole	1993-96	119
3)	Chas Fox	1982-85	113
4)	Adrick Harrison	1992-95	111
5)	Tommy Southard	1974-77	103
6)	Byron Trotter	1968-70	98
7)	Donald Lipscomb	1988-91	95
8)	Billy Risher	1979-83	87
9)	Jimmy Jordan	1966-68	85
10)	Brette Simmons	1974-78	82
	Damon Bradley	1989-93	82
	Robbie Hahn	1966-67	79
12)	Kirk Burnett	1983-86	77
	Stanford Jennings	1989-83	77
	Paul Siffri	1988-91	77
13)	Mike Bartik	1971-73	73
	<b>Des Kitchings</b>	<b>1996-</b>	<b>70</b>

### FURMAN CAREER RECEIVING YARDS LEADERS

Rank	Player	Years	Yds.
1)	Chas Fox	1982-85	2,158
2)	Donald Lipscomb	1988-91	2,148
3)	Luther Broughton	1993-96	1,659
4)	Josh Cole	1993-96	1,606
5)	Billy Risher	1979-83	1,561
6)	Tommy Southard	1974-77	1,443
7)	Kirk Burnett	1983-86	1,396

### 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. This service is for media only!

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 1999 season featuring the league's nine football coaches. The weekly teleconference is open to members of the media each Tuesday (August 31 - November 24) 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 (312) 470-7625. The password is SoCon.

1999 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. —	Cal McCombs, VMI
10:49 a.m. —	Bill Bleil, Western Carolina
10:56 a.m. —	Mike Ayers, Wofford



8)	Robbie Hahn	1966-67	1,375
9)	Adrick Harrison	1992-95	1,342
10)	Damon Bradley	1989-93	1,204
11)	Brette Simmons	1974-78	1,197
12)	Jimmy Jordan	1966-68	1,188
13)	Paul Siffri	1988-91	1,160
14)	Jody Wade	1988-91	1,124
15)	Byron Trotter	1968-70	1,112

**Des Kitchings 1996- 1,050**

✓ **BACK INTO THE FOLD...**Furman's coaching staff has always sported a "home grown" flavor, and that tradition grew earlier this year when former Paladin player and assistant coach Ted Cain '74 returned to head up the squad's tight ends and wide receivers. Cain, who in 1997 and '98 served as head coach at Southern Conference rival VMI, worked 11 seasons as receivers coach and offensive coordinator at North Carolina State (1986-96) before going to VMI. Cain began his coaching career at Furman in 1977, and from 1978-85 served as passing game coordinator and tight ends/receivers coach under former Paladin mentor Dick Sheridan. During that span, Furman captured six Southern Conference championships.

✓ **MAKING THE MOVE...**Sophomore Louis Ivory (Fort Valley, Ga.) has been penciled in as the Paladins' probable starting tailback in this Saturday's season opener against Elon. Ivory's move from fullback to tailback, which had been considered by the coaching staff since spring practice, is an attempt by Furman to jump start its option based ground game, which hasn't produced a 1,000-yard rusher since Carl Tremble ran for 1,555 yards in 1992. A year ago Ivory began the season in fine fashion, rushing for 202 yards and two touchdowns in the Paladins' first two games, before ankle injuries slowed his production. He finished the year with 406 yards and four touchdowns (5.1 ypa).

✓ **FURMAN YOUTH STILL EVIDENT...**Furman's probable starting 22 in Saturday's season opener against Elon will feature six seniors, six juniors, and 10 sophomores. The Fightin' Christians, on the other hand, are expected to trot out 10 seniors, eight juniors, one sophomore, and three freshmen.

✓ **IN SEARCH OF (A PASS RUSH)...**Two years ago Furman paced the Southern Conference with 32 quarterback sacks, but last year, following the graduation of All-America defensive end Bryan Dailer, the Paladins slipped all the way to eighth, with only nine takedowns. That figure will have to improve if Furman is to register notable improvement on defense this fall. On the defensive front, senior strong tackle Brian Conner (Knoxville, Tenn.) leads all returning defensive linemen with 5.5 career sacks. He should get some help from senior defensive end Bobby Hubbard (Charlotte, N.C.) who has three sacks in three seasons of play, and junior weak tackle Steve Kupchinsky (Kingsport, Tenn.), who has also registered three sacks in his career.

✓ **FRESHMAN IMPACT...**Furman will not likely be depending on any true freshmen to start in the 1999 season opener against Elon, and that's

generally good news for Furman head coach Bobby Johnson, who last year counted four newcomers in the starting cast in the season opener against Clemson. Still, there are several newcomers who appear to be in line to receive notable playing time early this fall. They include defensive tackle LeBryan Sperling (College Park, Ga.), linebacker Keito Whetstone (Orangeburg, S.C.), and defensive end Eddie Overdyke (Lilburn, Ga.).

✓ **NOTING ELON...**Two years ago a very young Elon team came into Paladin Stadium and gave Furman a very tough game, building a 17-14 halftime lead before falling 38-20. This year, with many of the same cast of players two years older and more experienced, Elon will attempt to make an early season statement against the Paladins.

The Fightin' Christians, a former NCAA Division II power as a member of the rugged South Atlantic Conference, made the move to NCAA I-AA in 1997, and last year finished 5-6 against a tough schedule that included a 36-0 blowout of Samford in the season finale. This year Elon is thinking NCAA I-AA playoffs, and with all 22 starters returning, there are more than a few I-AA football observers who believe the Fightin' Christians' post-season playoff designs deserve serious merit.

Under the direction of Al Seagraves the past four seasons, Elon has methodically implemented and perfected the wishbone offense, which last year generated 271.5 rushing yards per game. Junior quarterback Derrick Moore, the Fightin' Christians' leading rusher a year ago (834 yards), returns and has a choice of experienced backs behind him, including seniors Steven Ferguson (743 yards in '98) and Daren Bethea (465 yards in '98). Up front, tackle Tim Holliday and center Chip Brogden were in the starting lineup two years ago against Furman.

After yielding 365 rushing yards to the loss to the Paladins in 1997, Elon has made dramatic improvement on defense, surrendering only 291.0 yards per game to opponents in 1998. That type of performance should continue this year with the return of a host of veterans, including a talented linebacking corps headed up by junior Roger Allen, the squad's leading tackler (77 stops, 11 tackles-for-loss) a year ago, and senior Kyle Hinshaw (43 tackles in '98). Three of the Fightin' Christians' probable starters on the defensive line, ends Philip Solomon and Jerome Nelson (team high 10 sacks in '98), and nose guard Mark Boseman, were regulars the last time Elon paid a visit to Paladin Stadium, as were all four defensive backs.

✓ **START TIME REMINDER...**Other than the 7:00 p.m. start times in its first two home games (Sept. 4 vs. Elon and Sept. 25 vs. VMI), all Furman home games will kickoff at 2:00 p.m. instead of the traditional 1:30 p.m. start time.

#### INJURY REPORT

OG Mark Batluck (knee)-- out  
DT Ryan Bussard (shoulder) -- out  
NG Jarrod Holmes (hamstring) -- out

## FURMAN PALADINS VS. ELON FIGHTIN' CHRISTIANS DEPTH CHART

### FURMAN OFFENSE (Multiple I)

FLK	4	DESMOND KITCHINGS	(5-10, 177, Sr.)
	1	Bryant Huguley	(5-7, 151, Jr.)
LT	71	DONNIE LITTLEJOHN	(6-3, 266, So.)
	74	Steven Cain	(6-5, 278, R-Fr.)
LG	75	MARTY PRIORE	(6-1, 272, So.)
	56	Trevor Kruger	(6-2, 289, R-Fr.)
C	54	CHRIS STEWART	(5-11, 280, So.)
	65	Tye Crews	(6-2, 265, So.)
RG	59	BEN HALL	(6-4, 285, Sr.)
	62	Justin Price	(6-5, 275, R-Fr.)
RT	77	JOSH MOORE	(6-5, 293, Jr.)
	60	Ryan Kineard	(6-3, 265, Sr.)
TE	89	TRENT SANSBURY	(6-2, 236, So.)
or	84	GRAHAM HUNTER	(6-3, 252, So.)
SE	33	ZACH SMERDZINSKI	(5-9, 183, Jr.)
	3	James Thomas	(5-10, 180, R-Fr.)
QB	15	JUSTIN HILL	(5-11, 191, Jr.)
	19	Billy Napier	(6-3, 200, R-Fr.)
FB	23	DEREK RUSSELL	(5-11, 222, Jr.)
	40	Adam Sanders	(5-10, 212, Jr.)
TB	34	LOUIS IVORY	(5-8, 193, So.)
	21	Stuart Rentz	(5-8, 190, Sr.)

### FURMAN DEFENSE (43)

RUE	55	BOBBY HUBBARD	(6-3, 229, Sr.)
	99	Hershal Pleasant	(6-2, 234, Jr.)
ST	48	BRIAN CONNER	(6-2, 245, Sr.)
	98	LeBryan Sperling	(6-3, 252, Fr.)
NG	78	RYAN SPENCER	(6-3, 291, So.)
	64	Steve DeBeer	(6-5, 281, So.)
WT	97	STEVE KUPCHINSKY	(6-4, 269, Jr.)
	91	Clay O'Daniel	(6-2, 275, So.)
SLB	9	JOHN THRIFT	(6-0, 214, So.)
or	43	STERLING FRIERSON	(5-10, 186, So.)
MLB	20	WILL BOUTON	(6-2, 225, So.)
	46	Steve Wall	(5-10, 231, So.)
WLB	12	MARION MARTIN	(5-9, 217, Jr.)
or	11	Brad Redmond	(6-0, 202, So.)
LCB	8	RICHIE JACKSON	(6-0, 178, So.)
	17	Chris Lowery	(5-9, 175, R-Fr.)
RCB	25	RODNEY JOHNSON	(5-9, 170, So.)
	31	Andre Stroman	(5-8, 180, Jr.)
SS	24	WALTER BOOTH	(5-10, 190, Sr.)
	38	Shelvis Smith	(6-1, 202, So.)
FS	10	JOHN KEITH	(6-0, 204, Sr.)
	2	Josh Cooper	(5-11, 184, So.)

### FURMAN SPECIALISTS

PK	16	JASON WELLS	(6-2, 210, Sr.)
KO	16	JASON WELLS	(6-2, 210, Sr.)
P	80	LEE WILLIS	(5-11, 157, So.)
SN	65	TYE CREWS	(6-2, 265, So.)
LSN	65	TYE CREWS	(6-2, 265, So.)
H	13	BRENT SCOGGINS	(6-0, 201, So.)
KOR	4	DESMOND KITCHINGS	(5-10, 177, Sr.)
PR	33	ZACH SMERDZINSKI	(5-9, 183, Jr.)

### ELON OFFENSE (Wishbone)

TE	95	RAE BROWN	(6-3, 238, Jr.)
	80	Lorento Neequaye	(5-11, 234, Jr.)
LT	66	TIM HOLLIDAY	(6-1, 274, Sr.)
	65	Josh Rowan	(6-1, 260, Fr.)
LG	74	SCOTT McLAIN	(6-4, 287, So.)
	61	Zane Chamra	(6-2, 265, R-Fr.)
C	77	CHIP BROGDEN	(6-2, 272, Jr.)
	69	Donald Stakes	(6-1, 290, Jr.)
RG	67	DARRIN RAINEY	(6-0, 240, R-Fr.)
	75	Steve Campbell	(6-3, 246, Jr.)
RT	76	AHMAD ZAGHAL	(6-1, 250, Sr.)
	79	Ross Gravely	(6-4, 255, R-Fr.)
LHB	6	STEVEN FERGUSON	(5-6, 173, Sr.)
	26	Willie Gilchrist	(5-7, 187, Jr.)
FB	35	MARTIN SWINDELL	(6-2, 225, R-Fr.)
	9	Raschard Buie	(5-11, 200, Fr.)
RHB	28	DAREN BETHEA	(5-9, 185, Sr.)
	5	Eric Jones	(6-0, 180, So.)
QB	10	DERRICK MOORE	(5-10, 175, Jr.)
	12	Larrey Burney	(5-11, 175, R-Fr.)
WR	4	BRIAN BROADIE	(5-11, 160, Sr.)
	19	Cecil Mitchell	(6-0, 180, R-Fr.)

### ELON DEFENSE (43)

LE	98	PHILLIP SOLOMON	(6-3, 216, Jr.)
	52	Ike Herndon	(6-2, 200, So.)
DT	59	BARRY COLLINS	(6-4, 250, R-Fr.)
or	94	BRIAN FORTSON	(6-3, 267, Sr.)
NG	91	MARK BOSEMAN	(6-5, 272, Jr.)
	63	C.J. Habersham	(6-1, 251, So.)
RE	81	JEROME NELSON	(6-2, 237, Sr.)
	93	Mak Dogbatse	(6-2, 236, Jr.)
SLB	3	KYLE HINSHAW	(6-3, 245, Sr.)
	33	Tosin Adebayeku	(5-11, 217, Jr.)
MLB	41	ROGER ALLEN	(6-2, 223, Jr.)
	53	Jamall Scott	(6-0, 215, R-Fr.)
WLB	7	STEPHEN BLOODWORTH	(5-11, 207, Sr.)
	34	Kelsie Langston	(6-0, 170, So.)
LCB	2	MARIO THOMPSON	(5-7, 165, Sr.)
	8	Armeka Ware	(5-11, 185, So.)
SS	16	ANTWON STEVENSON	(6-1, 201, Jr.)
	22	Jamie Mitchell	(5-10, 185, Fr.)
FS	24	SHANARD SMITH	(5-10, 172, Jr.)
	11	Sam Ames	(6-0, 180, So.)
RCB	21	ANTHONY LEACH	(5-7, 161, Sr.)
	17	Chris Geter	(5-8, 165, Fr.)

### ELON SPECIALISTS

PK	39	JIM WILLIS	(5-11, 173, Sr.)
KO	39	JIM WILLIS	(5-11, 173, Sr.)
P	42	MARK GOULD	(6-0, 174, Sr.)
SN	77	CHIP BROGDEN	(6-2, 272, Jr.)
LSN	57	GREG RAINES	(6-0, 270, Sr.)
H	4	BRIAN BROADIE	(5-11, 160, Sr.)
KOR	6	STEVEN FERGUSON	(5-6, 173, Sr.)
	26	WILLIE GILCHRIST	(5-7, 187, Jr.)
PR	2	MARIO THOMPSON	(5-7, 165, Sr.)