



Furman Men's Soccer Release
NCAA Tournament First Round
No. 8 Furman Paladins (18-2-1) at No. 22 Virginia Commonwealth Rams (15-4-1)
November 27, 2002, 7:00 p.m.
Richmond, Va., Sports Backers Stadium



THE GAME

Furman will travel to face eighth-seeded Virginia Commonwealth in the second round of the NCAA Men's Soccer Tournament on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., at VCU's Sports Backers Stadium. The winner of the Furman-VCU match will face the winner of the Stanford/Portland match on Saturday, November 30 or Sunday, December 1.

Furman, ranked eighth by Soccer America, is 18-2-1 and riding a ten match winning streak in which it has not been scored on. VCU, ranked 22nd by Soccer America, is 15-4-1 and is currently on a five match winning streak. Furman claimed the Southern Conference Championship, while VCU claimed the Colonial Athletic Association Title.

HEAD COACH

Furman: Doug Allison (South Carolina '89)
 130-32-10 (.785), 8th Year at Furman
 130-32-10 (.785), 8th Year Overall

VCU: Tim O'Sullivan (Eckerd '79)
 87-59-21 (.583), 8th Year at VCU
 202-167-46 (.542), 20th Year Overall

THE SERIES

Furman and Loyola have met only once before, as Furman earned a 3-0 victory on September 28, 2001. The match was part of the Clemson/Nike Soccer Invitational. In that game, Sergei Raad scored a pair of goals to lead Furman to the victory.

2002 SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Furman (18-2-1, 8-0 SoCon)
 Sept. 2 Furman 3, @ The Citadel 0
 Sept. 6 @ Furman 4, Butler 0
 Sept. 8 @ Furman 4, Creighton 2
 Sept. 13 Furman 0, Bradley 0 (2OT @ ND)
 Sept. 15 @ Notre Dame 2, Furman 1 (2OT)
 Sept. 21 @ Furman 4, UNCG 3 (OT)
 Sept. 24 Furman 3, @ Wofford 0
 Sept. 27 Furman 4, Fairfield 3 (@ Clemson)
 Sept. 29 Furman 2, Gonzaga 0 (@ Clemson)
 Oct. 2 @ Furman 3, App. St. 2 (2OT)
 Oct. 6 @ St. Louis 2, Furman 0
 Oct. 9 @ Furman 2, UNC-Asheville 0
 Oct. 19 @ Furman 1, Coll. of Charleston 0
 Oct. 21 @ Furman 3, Lipscomb 0
 Oct. 27 Furman 1, @ South Carolina 0
 Oct. 30 Furman 1, @ Georgia Southern 0
 Nov. 2 Furman 2, @ VMI 0
 Nov. 10 @ Furman 3, Davidson 0
 Nov. 14 Furman 3, Wofford 0 (@ SoCon)
 Nov. 16 Furman 3, UNCG 0 (@ SoCon)
 Nov. 23 @ Furman 2, Loyola 0

Virginia Commonwealth (15-4-1, 7-1-1 CAA)

Aug. 30 @ VCU 1, Syracuse 0
 Sept. 1 @ VCU 4, Hartwick 0
 Sept. 6 Virginia 4, VCU 1 (@ Maryland)
 Sept. 8 @ Maryland 4, VCU 1
 Sept. 13 VCU 3, Howard 0 (@ Richmond)
 Sept. 14 VCU 2, Lehigh 1 (OT @ Richmond)
 Sept. 21 @ American 4, VCU 2
 Sept. 28 @ VCU 2, Richmond 0
 Oct. 5 @ VCU 4, UNC-Wilmington 1
 Oct. 12 @ VCU 1, North Carolina 0
 Oct. 18 @ VCU 3, Drexel 1
 Oct. 20 @ VCU 3, Hofstra 0
 Oct. 25 VCU 0, @ George Mason 0 (2OT)
 Oct. 27 VCU 2, @ James Madison 1
 Nov. 1 Old Dominion 1, @VCU 0 (2OT)
 Nov. 2 @ VCU 3, William and Mary 2 (OT)
 Nov. 8 VCU 3, @ Towson 0
 Nov. 10 VCU 3, @ Delaware 0
 Nov. 15 VCU 4, Towson 0 (@ CAA)
 Nov. 17 VCU 2, William and Mary 1 (@ CAA)

SCOUTING THE RAMS

Virginia Commonwealth enters the match with a 15-4-1 overall record after claiming the Colonial Athletic Conference (CAA) regular season title with an 7-1-1 record and the CAA Tournament Championship with a 2-1 victory over William and Mary on November 17. VCU has won five straight matches, including two wins over NCAA Tournament participant William and Mary. VCU opened the season with a 4-3 record with losses to Virginia (4-1), Maryland (4-1), and American (4-2).

VCU is led offensively by Matthew Delicate, who has 12 goals and two assists on the year. McColm Cephas has six goals and six assists on the year. Defender Gonzalo Segares was named CAA Defensive Player-of-the-Year. Saul Montero anchors the Ram defense in goal as he sports a 1.00 goals against average. Montero has recorded five shutouts this season.

NOTING THE PALADINS

✓ **THE BIG DANCE**...Furman is making its fourth straight NCAA Tournament appearance and its sixth overall. Furman advanced to the round of 16 in 1991 with a win over Wake Forest and lost in the first round of the NCAA Tournament in 1993 to South Carolina. The 1999 Paladins advanced to the quarterfinals with wins over North Carolina and Wake Forest before falling to Connecticut in the final minutes in the quarterfinals. Furman had lost in the first round each of the last two seasons - a 3-2 defeat at Clemson in 2000 and a 1-0 overtime loss to UAB last season, before defeating Loyola (Md.) 2-0 in a first round match this season. Overall, Furman's record in the NCAA Tournament is 4-5.

2002 SOCON STANDINGS

| Team | SoCon | Overall |
|---------------------|-------|---------|
| Furman | 8-0 | 17-2-1 |
| Appalachian State | 6-2 | 13-5-1 |
| Davidson | 5-2-1 | 10-6-4 |
| Coll. of Charleston | 5-3 | 11-7-2 |
| UNCG | 5-3 | 14-8 |
| Georgia Southern | 1-5-2 | 2-16-2 |
| VMI | 2-6 | 3-10-4 |
| Wofford | 1-6-1 | 3-15-2 |
| The Citadel | 1-7 | 4-13 |

2002 SOCON TOURNAMENT

@ Patriots Point, Charleston, S.C.

Thursday, November 14

Furman 3, Wofford 0
 VMI 2, Appalachian State 0

Friday, November 15

UNCG 2, College of Charleston 1
 Davidson 1, Georgia Southern 0

Saturday, November 16

Furman 3, UNCG 0
 Davidson-VMI Match Cancelled (field conditions)

Sunday, November 17

Championship Cancelled (field conditions)

2002 REGULAR SEASON HONORS

Southern Conference Player-of-the-Week
 Week 1: Scott Hoch
 Week 9: Ricardo Clark
 Week 11: Scott Hoch

Soccer America Team-of-the-Week
 September 11: Scott Hoch
 October 29: Ricardo Clark

College Soccer News Team-of-the-Week
 September 11: Scott Hoch
 September 30: McNeil Cronin
 October 29: Ricardo Clark
 November 11: Scott Hoch

Land Rover/Spinx Furman Invitational
All-Tournament Team
 Scott Hoch (O-MVP) Clint Dempsey
 Drew Moor Chefik Simo

Clemson/Nike All Tournament Team
 Matt Foxhall (D-MVP) Anthony Esquivel
 McNeil Cronin

Mike Berticelli Invitational (Notre Dame)
All Tournament Team
 Gray Griffin Kenneth Penn

All-Southern Conference First Team
 Anthony Esquivel McNeil Cronin
 Ricardo Clark Andy Kidd
 Clint Dempsey

All-Southern Conference Second Team
 Drew Moor

Southern Conference Freshman-of-the-Year
 Drew Moor

Southern Conference Coach-of-the-Year
 Doug Allison

✓ **SHUTOUT STREAKS...**Furman has not been scored upon in ten matches, a streak that dates back to October 5 against St. Louis. Furman's current ten match unbeaten streak shatters the previous school record of five set in 1983 and 1991. The Paladins have put together 942 minutes of shutout soccer, also a school record. Furman's ten match unbeaten streak is tied for the longest in NCAA Division I history. Furman is currently ranked first in the nation in shutout percentage at 0.71 shutouts per match. The Paladins have recorded 15 shutouts in 21 total matches.

Consecutive Shutouts (NCAA D-I History)

| | | |
|----|---------------|-------------|
| 10 | Furman | 2002 |
| 10 | Wisconsin-GB | 1992 |
| 10 | Virginia | 1987 |
| 10 | SMU | 1980 |
| 9 | Penn State | 1987-1988 |
| 9 | George Mason | 1980-1981 |

✓ **NCAA RECORD BOOKS...**Furman has now joined the NCAA record books twice this season as it also owns the NCAA Division I record for conference unbeaten streaks at 43. In fact, Furman has either tied or broken an NCAA Division I record in each of its last three matches. When Furman defeated Wofford on November 14, it tied the NCAA record for conference unbeaten streaks at 42 and the Paladins set the record two days later with a 3-0 victory over UNCG. In Furman's last outing, it tied the NCAA record for consecutive shutout streaks at ten. Furman's unbeaten streak in the Southern Conference dates back to the beginning of the 1999 season. No current Paladin has ever lost a conference regular season or tournament match.

✓ **A WELCOMED SITE...**The Furman men's soccer team received a welcomed surprise prior to Furman's first round match against Loyola (Md.) on Saturday. Freshman Chefik Simo was brought into the locker room in a wheelchair where he was able to address the team. Simo was able to attend the match and watch his teammates play for the first time since he was injured in an automobile accident on October 11 that claimed the life of freshman Gray Griffin. Simo, who has been at Greenville Memorial Hospital for the past six weeks was transferred to his hometown of Dallas, Texas, on Sunday where he will begin his rehabilitation.

✓ **NCAA FOES...**Counting its win over Loyola (Md.), Furman has played six NCAA Tournament teams this season, sporting a 3-2-1 overall mark. Furman defeated South Carolina 1-0, Creighton 4-2, and Loyola (Md.) 2-0 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The Paladins lost to St. Louis 2-0 and to Notre Dame 2-1 in overtime, while Furman tied Bradley 0-0. Furman was scheduled to play Clemson, but that match was cancelled after the death of Furman freshman defender Gray Griffin. Virginia Commonwealth has played seven NCAA Tournament teams and sports a 4-4 record against those seven schools, including two wins over William and Mary, one over Richmond, and one over North Carolina.

✓ **RACKING UP THE WINS...**Furman is currently riding a ten match winning streak. The Paladins are 18-2-1 on the year and its winning percentage of .880 ranks as the second best in the nation.

Top Winning Percentages
2002 Season

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Wis.-Milwaukee | 19-1-1 | .928 |
| 2. Furman | 18-2-1 | .880 |
| 2. UCSB | 18-2-1 | .880 |
| 4. Coastal Carolina | 17-2-2 | .857 |
| 4. New Mexico | 18-3-0 | .857 |

✓ **STINGY DEFENSE...**Furman has been incredibly stingy on defense this season allowing only 0.65 goals per match, which ranks tenth best in the nation.

✓ **STEADY TOP 25...**Furman has been a consistent member of the Soccer America top 25 poll this season. The Paladins have been ranked as high as seventh in the poll. The Paladins are currently ranked eighth.

✓ **ALLISON AMONG THE NATION'S BEST...**Furman head coach Doug Allison is currently in his eighth season at Furman and has posted a 130-32-10 overall record. Allison's winning percentage of .785 is third-best among active Division I head coaches. He trails Indiana's Jerry Yeagley and Connecticut's Ray Reid. On September 28, 2001, Allison earned his 100th career win with a 4-0 victory at the College of Charleston. Allison, who earned his 100th win in only 134 career matches, is believed to be one of the fastest coaches to 100 wins in college soccer history.

Top Winning Percentage
Active Head Coaches

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. Jerry Yeagley, Indiana | 526-97-40 | .824 |
| 2. Ray Reid, Connecticut | 243-46-21 | .818 |
| 3. Doug Allison, Furman | 130-32-10 | .785 |
| 3. Schellas Hyndman, SMU | 391-98-36 | .779 |
| 5. Dave Masur, St. John's | 241-67-37 | .752 |

✓ **A SUCCESS AT ALL LEVELS...**Furman is not the first place that Doug Allison has found success in the collegiate ranks. Allison, a native of Bath, England, came to the United States in 1984 to play soccer at the University of South Carolina. At USC, he led the Gamecocks to a combined 67-14-6 record and is still South Carolina's all-time leading scorer with 63 goals and 32 assists. Prior to taking the Furman job, Allison served as an assistant coach at both North Carolina and South Carolina. In seven seasons as an assistant, Allison's teams compiled a 95-38-12 record. Allison's combined college soccer record as a player, assistant coach, and head coach is 292-83-28 for a .759 winning percentage.

✓ **NATIONAL POWER...**Since Allison's arrival at Furman, the Paladins have posted a 130-32-10 record, the third best record in the nation over that time span.

Best Winning Percentage Since 1995

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. Indiana | 144-28-8 | .822 |
| 2. SMU | 135-28-10 | .809 |
| 3. Furman | 130-32-10 | .785 |
| 3. UCLA | 129-33-7 | .781 |
| 5. Virginia | 135-35-14 | .772 |

✓ **TALENTED COACHES...**While Furman has lots of talent on the field, it also has accumulated a good bit of talent on the sideline with the coaching staff. Head coach Doug Allison is the all-time leading scorer in South Carolina history and is one of the greatest soccer player in USC history. Assistant coach Daniel Alvarez was a 1999 NSCAA First Team All-American and Southern Conference Player-of-the-Year. Alvarez led the 1999 squad to a 21-2-1 record, the best in school history, and an NCAA Tournament Quarterfinal match. Alvarez still owns several school records including season assists (16) and career assists (41). Volunteer assistant coach Charlie Arndt played at South Carolina with Allison and is arguably the greatest goalkeeper in USC history as he was the 1988 national goalkeeper of the year.

✓ **FURMAN ALUM WITH RAMS...** Current VCU assistant coach Ronnie Pascale has playing and coaching ties with Furman. From 1995-98, Pascale was Furman's starting goalkeeper. Pascale was an All South Region selection in 1997 and 1998 and was the Furman University Male Athlete-of-the-Year. In 1995, Pascale was selected as the Southern Conference Freshman-of-the-Year. Pascale still holds claim to several Furman goalkeeping records, including career shutouts (34) and season shutouts (11). Pascale served as a volunteer goalkeeper coach in 2000 and 2001, and is currently in his first season on the VCU coaching staff. Pascale is the starting goalkeeper for the Richmond Kickers professional soccer team (A-League). He helped lead the Kickers to the A-League Championship Match.

✓ **PALADINS MOURN LOSS...**The 2002 season has been a difficult one for the Paladins with the tragic death of freshman Gray Griffin on October 11. Griffin, along with freshmen Chefik Simo, Josh Villalobos, and Sean Murray were in an automobile accident on Interstate-85 near Spartanburg, S.C. Griffin was killed in the accident, while Simo sustained numerous injuries. Simo remains hospitalized at Greenville Memorial Hospital and has undergone numerous surgeries on his pelvis, stomach, and leg. Villalobos and Murray were released from the hospital within three days of the accident and are back in school. Villalobos returned to action in the quarterfinals of the Southern Conference Tournament on November 14. Murray has not returned to action because of a concussion.

✓ **A DEDICATED SEASON...**The Furman men's soccer team dedicated the rest of the 2002 season to Gray Griffin and is wearing a black armband with the initials "GG" and the number "12" on the armband.

✓ **FRESHMEN IMPACT**...Furman lost five starters to graduation last season, but members of Furman's talented freshman class have worked their way into the lineup for the Paladins. This year's freshman class was ranked third in the nation by College Soccer News, and featured three members of the United States U-17 National Team and a member of the Trinidad and Tobago U-20 National Team. Drew Moor has started every game for Furman this season, and has helped solidify the Paladin defense. Moor was named SoCon Freshman-of-the-Year. Chefik Simo ranked second on the team with 15 total points before being injured in an automobile accident on October 11. The late Gray Griffin started all 12 matches of his college career before his tragic death in an automobile accident on October 11.

✓ **GOALKEEPER SWAP**... Furman has used two goalkeepers extensively this season and they have very similar statistics. Alex Maslow has started 12 matches, while John Hanley has started nine and played in 10. Each has allowed seven goals on the season. Maslow has played in 1054 minutes and has a 0.60 GAA, while Hanley has played in 877 minutes and has a 0.72 goals against average. Maslow has recorded eight shutouts, while Hanley has six and they have combined for one.

Alex Maslow

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----|
| 9/2 | The Citadel (1/2) | W | 3-0 |
| 9/8 | Creighton | W | 4-2 |
| 9/21 | UNCG | W | 4-3 |
| 9/29 | Gonzaga | W | 2-0 |
| 10/2 | Appalachian State | W | 3-2 |
| 10/9 | UNCA | W | 2-0 |
| 10/19 | Charleston | W | 1-0 |
| 10/27 | South Carolina | W | 1-0 |
| 10/30 | Georgia Southern | W | 1-0 |
| 11/10 | Davidson | W | 3-0 |
| 11/16 | UNCG | W | 3-0 |
| 11/23 | Loyola (Md.) | W | 2-0 |

John Hanley

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----|
| 9/2 | The Citadel (1/2) | W | 3-0 |
| 9/6 | Butler | W | 4-0 |
| 9/14 | Bradley | T | 0-0 |
| 9/15 | Notre Dame | L | 1-2 |
| 9/24 | Wofford | W | 3-0 |
| 9/27 | Fairfield | W | 4-3 |
| 10/6 | St. Louis | L | 0-2 |
| 10/21 | Lipscomb | W | 3-0 |
| 11/2 | VMI | W | 2-0 |
| 11/14 | Wofford | W | 3-0 |

✓ **RUSSIAN CONNECTION**... Though his hometown is listed as Chuluota, Florida, Sergei Raad is a native of St. Petersburg, Russia. Raad was born Sergei Kolomeits and was adopted by the Raad family after coming to Florida with a Russian soccer team. Raad, a junior forward, is currently leading the team with eight assists on the season.

✓ **RICARDO LEADS USA**... Furman sophomore Ricardo Clark helped lead the United States

Under-20 National Team to two wins in the CONCACAF Group B qualifying Nov. 13-17 in Charleston, S.C. With those two victories (2-0 over Haiti and 1-0 over El Salvador), the US qualified for the FIFA World Youth Championships, to be held in the United Arab Emirates this spring. The qualifying tournament was held in Charleston, SC, at the same time as the Southern Conference Men's Soccer Championships. The Furman men's soccer team was able to attend the first two rounds of qualifying on its off days in Charleston.

✓ **NATIONAL TEAM**...Furman has nine players on its team with some sort of national team experience. Sophomore Ricardo Clark is currently a member of the United States Under-20 National Team. Clark has been a member of the Youth National Team since 1999 and competed with the Under-20 squad last week in Charleston. Freshman Chefik Simo was also a member of the Under-20 National Team before sustaining injuries in an automobile accident on October 11. Sophomore Clint Dempsey, along with freshmen Drew Moor and the late Gray Griffin were included in the Under-20 National Pool and attended team training camps. Rhett Abraham, a freshman from Trinidad and Tobago, is a member of the Under-20 National Team for his home country. Sophomore goalkeeper John Hanley was a member of the United States Under-18 National Team prior to coming to Furman. Freshman Josh Villalobos is currently competing on the United States Under-18 National Team. Three years ago, current junior McNeil Cronin was a member of the United States Under-17 National Team. Griffin, Simo, and Villalobos were all members of the 2001 Under-17 National Team and were residents in Bradenton, Florida, which is the home of the national team training center.

✓ **DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS**...Furman currently has seven players from Texas, including five from Dallas and the surrounding area. These players hope to make a trip home on December 13-15 as the 2002 NCAA Men's College Cup will be held in Dallas on the campus of SMU. The seven players from Texas are listed below:

| | | |
|------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Luke Barbour | So. | Mesquite, Texas |
| Clint Dempsey | So. | Nacogdoches, Texas |
| Anthony Esquivel | Sr. | San Antonio, Texas |
| Matt Foxhall | Sr. | San Antonio, Texas |
| Drew Moor | Fr. | Dallas, Texas |
| Kenneth Penn | Jr. | Dallas, Texas |
| Chefik Simo | Fr. | Frisco, Texas |

✓ **SOCON DOMINANCE**...Furman's dominance of the Southern Conference over the last two decades is remarkable. A few key points:
 • Furman has won the last five SoCon regular season titles, 12 of the last 13, and 17 of the last 20. The Paladins have also won the last three SoCon tournament titles, five of the last six, and seven of the last nine.
 • Since 1986, the Paladins have won either the regular season or the tournament every season.
 • Furman has posted a 116-8 Southern Confer-

ence regular season record since 1983.
 • Furman has finished the regular season a perfect 8-0 over the last three seasons and the Paladins have a 43 match conference unbeaten streak, which sets an NCAA Division I record.

✓ **ALL SOCON**... Five Paladins were named to the All-Southern Conference first team, while one was a second team selection. Anthony Esquivel, Ricardo Clark, Clint Dempsey, McNeil Cronin, and Andy Kidd were all first team picks, while Drew Moor was a second team selection. Moor was also named the Southern Conference Freshman-of-the-Year, while head coach Doug Allison was named Southern Conference Coach-of-the-Year for the fifth time.

✓ **COMBINED SUCCESS**...Once again this season, the combined records of the Furman men's and women's soccer teams is one of the best in the nation. The Paladins boast a 18-2-1 overall mark while the Lady Paladins finished the season with a 16-6-1 record after advancing to the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Combined, their record of 34-8-2 is third best in the nation.

| | Women | Men | Comb. | .Pct |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Stanford | 21-1-0 | 14-4-2 | 35-5-2 | .857 |
| 2. UConn | 21-2-1 | 14-5-1 | 35-7-2 | .819 |
| 3. Furman | 16-6-1 | 18-2-1 | 34-8-2 | .795 |
| 4. N. Carolina | 20-1-4 | 14-6-1 | 34-7-5 | .794 |
| 5. UCLA | 18-4 | 13-3-3 | 31-7-3 | .793 |
| 5. UC SB | 13-5-2 | 18-2-1 | 31-7-3 | .793 |

✓ **SOUTHERN CONNECTION**...The Furman men's soccer team is comprised of an array of talent from throughout the Southeast and abroad...

Home States (24 man roster)

- Texas: 7
- Florida: 4
- North Carolina: 4
- Georgia: 3
- Indiana: 1
- Oklahoma: 1
- South Carolina: 1
- Utah: 1
- Wisconsin: 1
- Trinidad and Tobago: 1

NCAA TOURNAMENT SUMMARIES

November 17, 1991

Furman 1, Wake Forest 0 (2OT)

Winston-Salem, N.C. -- Furman sophomore Ray Colado scored his first goal in almost two months as Furman defeated Wake Forest 1-0 in double overtime in the Paladins' first-ever NCAA Tournament match. With the win, the Paladins, ranked 13th nationally knocked off the South Region's number one seed and the seventh ranked team in the country. Colado's goal was scored at the 95:38 mark in the first overtime period. The Deacs outshot Furman 21-10 but could not capitalize on any of those chances. Furman improved its record to 15-4-1 overall.

FU - Ray Colado (unassisted) 95:38

November 24, 1991

N.C. State 4, Furman 1

Raleigh, N.C. -- Furman's run in the NCAA Tournament was halted as the eighth ranked North Carolina State Wolfpack downed Furman 4-1 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. After holding only a 1-0 halftime lead, the Wolfpack trounced Furman in the second half as they opened a 4-0 lead. The Paladins were able to get on the board at the 88:05 mark as Chris Hass connected on an Andrew Zorovich, Robert Dee double assist. Furman concluded its best season to date, finishing 15-5-1 on the year.

NCSU - Kevin Scott (Riegler) 36:36

NCSU - Henry Gutierrez (Bader) 69:30

NCSU - Dario Brose (unassisted) 79:45

NCSU - Roy Lassiter (Gutierrez) 80:23

FU - Chris Haas (Zorovich, Dee) 88:00

November 14, 1993

South Carolina 1, Furman 0

Columbia, S.C. -- After 87 minutes of scoreless soccer, South Carolina's Stever Pier found the back of the net to give South Carolina a 1-0 victory in the first round of the NCAA Tournament in front of 2,679 fans at the Graveyard in Columbia. The Paladins ended their season with a 12-6-1 record and saw their three game winning streak over South Carolina come to a halt. Current Furman head coach Doug Allison was an assistant coach on the Gamecock sideline.

USC - Steve Pier (Crawford) 87:42

November 21, 1999

Furman 2, North Carolina 1 (2OT)

Carl Junot's goal at the 108:50 mark in the second overtime vaulted the third ranked Paladins to a 2-1 victory over North Carolina in the first round of the NCAA Men's College Cup at Eugene Stone Soccer Stadium.

The game-winner was set up as John Bradford sent a corner kick to the near post. The ball was low, thus Junot was forced to duck down and headed the ball off the side of his head and off the chest of North Carolina keeper William Woodruff and into the goal.

The first half of the match was dominated by the Tar Heels as North Carolina outshot Furman 9-1, but was unable to score as the Furman defense led by goalkeeper Scott Blount played remarkably. Furman settled down in the second half and took the 1-0 lead at the 70:12 mark. SoCon player-of-the-year Daniel Alvarez tossed one of his trademark 35-foot throw-ins to Carl Junot, who tapped the ball to John Barry Nusum. Nusum then knocked in his team leading 15th goal of the season.

Furman held the 1-0 lead for seven minutes before the Tar Heels evened the score. The equalizing play started as Joey DiSalva knocked a free kick to Jon Wean, who passed again to Chris Leitch, who rifled the ball to lower corner of the goal. The goal was Leitch's first career goal.

The remainder of regulation and the first overtime period remained scoreless until Junot's game-winner. UNC senior goalkeeper William Woodruff saw his first action of the season as he checked into the match in the 76 minute mark for starter Michael Ueltschey and played in the goal for the remaining of the match.

FU - John Barry Nusum (Junot, Alvarez) 70:12

UNC - Chris Leitch (Wean, DiSalva) 77:23

FU - Carl Junot (Bradford) 108:50

November 28, 1999

Furman 4, Wake Forest 0

Winston-Salem, N.C. - The Furman men's soccer team moved one match closer to an appearance at the Men's College Cup at Charlotte's Ericsson Stadium with a convincing 4-0 win over Wake Forest in the second round of the NCAA Tournament at Spry Soccer Stadium on the campus of Wake Forest.

Furman took it to the Deacons from the start as the Paladins won their second straight tournament match over an ACC team. Furman took the 1-0 lead at the 1:50 mark in the first half as the Paladins scored on a set piece as they have done many times this season. Paul Leese scored his first goal of the season as he knocked a loose ball in the box off a corner kick. Carl Junot and Daniel Alvarez each got touches on the ball before Leese put it in the back of the net.

The Paladins wasted little time taking the 2-0 lead as Carl Junot knocked in a rebound of his own shot at the 6:03 mark. Furman kept the 2-0 lead through halftime until Nusum put the match away with his team leading 16th goal of the season. Jack Handy sent a ball down the left sideline where Daniel Alvarez crossed to Nusum for the goal. Furman scored its final goal at the 69:48 mark as freshman John Michael Waite knocked in a rebound off a shot from roommate and high school teammate Clint Hill.

Wake Forest, the tournament's fifth seed,

finishes the season 13-3-5.

FU - Paul Leese (Junot, Alvarez) 1:50

FU - Carl Junot (Nusum) 6:03

FU - John Barry Nusum (Alvarez, Handy) 52:25

FU - John Michael Waite (Hill) 69:48

December 5, 1999

Connecticut 3, Furman 2

Furman's NCAA Tournament run was halted as the Paladins saw a 2-1 lead with ten minutes to play evaporate in just over two minutes as fourth-seeded Connecticut rallied to defeat Furman 3-2 in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Tournament.

Furman jumped off to a 1-0 lead with a John Bradford goal at the 32:06 mark in the first half. Bradford collected a loose ball in the box a connected on his second goal of the season to the far side of the goal. The Huskies rallied to tie the score nine minutes later with a Brent Rahim goal off a double assist from Rui Fernandez and Darin Lewis. The score remained tied through halftime.

Furman gained the 2-1 lead at the 59:19 mark as John Barry Nusum collected a loose ball, dribbled to the top of the box and rifled a shot to the lower corner of the goal. Furman held the 2-1 lead through the next 21 minutes.

UConn tied the score at the 80:14 mark as Darin Lewis scored off a Donny Mark, Michael Mordocco double assist. Two minutes later, Connecticut scored the game-winner on a controversial header off a corner kick. Brent Rahim took the corner kick, which crossed the far post where Max Zeiky headed it in. While the ball was in the air, a UConn attacking player appeared to touch the ball with his hands, prompting many of the Furman defenders to look for the "hand ball" call. Neither the linesman or the head official saw the apparent hand ball and Furman was unable to mount a late comeback. It marked only the third time all season that Furman trailed in a match. Over the entire year, the Paladins trailed in only 45 minutes.

Scoring:

FU - John Bradford (unassisted) 32:06

UC - Brent Rahim (Fernandez, Lewis) 41:23

FU - John Barry Nusum (unassisted) 59:19

UC - Darin Lewis (Mark, Mordocco) 80:14

UC - Max Zeiky (Rahim) 82:29

November 19, 2000

Clemson 3, Furman 2

The 11th ranked Furman men's soccer team fell 3-2 to the 4th ranked Clemson Tigers in an NCAA Tournament First Round match marked by freezing temperatures and snow flurries that covered the field for the entire first half.

The flow of play was slowed down considerably due to the inclement weather as ice sticking to the ball became a factor and the players soon found the ball skidding along instead of bouncing.

Clemson had the first opportunity to open the scoring as an apparent offside midfielder Mark Lisi broke free past the Furman defense

and touched the ball past goalkeeper Scott Blount. Lisi had the open Paladin goal ahead of him but his shot sailed wide of the target.

Furman finally broke the scoreless tie at the 22:44 mark on a goal by junior midfielder Matt Goldsmith. Patrick Tanner drew a foul just outside the Clemson penalty box and Furman set up for an indirect free kick. McNeil Cronin fired a shot into the Clemson wall on the set play but the Tigers could not clear it. Goldsmith collected the ball 20 yards out and chipped a shot over Clemson goalkeeper Doug Warren that hit the crossbar but bounced into the net to give the Paladins a 1-0 lead.

The snow subsided as the second half began and Clemson quickly began an offensive attack. After spending most of the first 11 minutes of the half on Furman's defensive end of the field, the Tigers found the equalizing goal. On a direct kick from almost exactly where Goldsmith scored, Mark Lisi knocked the free kick past Blount to tie the score.

The Tigers took their first lead of the match just seven and a half minutes later when Ian Fuller found Steven Rhyne with a ball around the Furman defense. Rhyne slotted a shot past Blount to give Clemson a 2-1 lead.

Furman tied the score less than two minutes later when the Paladins set up a familiar play. McNeil Cronin sent a corner kick into the middle of the penalty box and Patrick Tanner headed it over the goal line to tie the score 2-2. For Cronin, it was his team-leading 15th assist on the season and the seventh time he had connected with Tanner for a goal.

Clemson prevented the impending overtime period with less than four minutes to go in the match. Pablo Webster made a long throw-in into the penalty box that was flicked on goal by Oguchi Onyewu and finally knocked in by Eric Lewis. The goal gave the Tigers the 3-2 win and ended Furman's chances of matching or improving on last season's remarkable NCAA Tournament run.

FU - Goldsmith (Cronin) 22:44

CU - Lisi (unassisted) 56:12

CU - Rhyne (Fuller, Lewis assist) 63:44

FU - Tanner (Cronin assist) 65:38

CU - Lewis (Onyewu, Webster assists) 86:21

November 23, 2001

UAB 1, Furman 0 (OT)

The No. 17 Furman men's soccer team was eliminated in the first round of the NCAA Tournament by UAB 1-0 in overtime on a rainy Friday night in Columbia.

UAB's Jose Rayo dribbled through the Furman defense and Furman's Moffat Oduor was whistled for a foul in the penalty box with 2:21 remaining in the first overtime period. UAB's Martin Rey converted the ensuing penalty kick to give the Blazers the 1-0 win.

Despite out-shooting UAB 15-9 in regulation, the Paladins, the nation's leader in goals per game, could not find a goal in the first 90 minutes.

UAB - Martin Rey (penalty kick) 102:39

November 23, 2002

Furman 2, Loyola (Md.) 0

Wes Windsor scored his first career goal as Furman defeated Loyola (Md.) 2-0 in the first round of the NCAA Men's Soccer Tournament. With the win, Furman advances to the second round next Wednesday night against Virginia Commonwealth. The shut-out is the tenth in a row for Furman, tying the NCAA Division I record.

Windsor opened the scoring for the Paladins at the 11:17 mark. The play was set up as Ricardo Clark and Sergei Raad played a one-two combination. Clark's shot from 18 yards out was saved by Loyola goalkeeper Reb Beatty, but the rebound came straight to Windsor who one-touched the ball past Beatty to the near post.

Furman's second goal came at the 37:57 mark in almost the same fashion. Raad played a through ball to Drew Moor who ripped a shot from 18 yards out. Beatty again made the save, but the rebound was collected at the penalty spot by Anthony Esquivel who buried his 13th goal of the season.

Loyola had several chances to score in the second half. At the 47:16 mark, Vinnie Piscopo's shot deflected off his own player and a Furman defender. The shot then banked off the near post and across the goal, where it bounced off the far post. The shot looked to be headed for the back of the net until Furman goalkeeper Alex Maslow snagged the ball off the goal line.

Later in the 58th minute, Nate Lyden received a through ball behind the Furman defense. Lyden touched the ball around Maslow, as the goalkeeper came off his line, but Lyden's shot to the empty net sailed just over the crossbar.

With the shutout, Furman extends its consecutive shutout streak to ten matches, tying the NCAA record. Wisconsin-Green Bay, Virginia, and SMU each own streaks of ten consecutive shutouts. Furman also improved on another school record as it has put together 942 consecutive shutout minutes. Furman has not allowed a goal since the first half of its match against St. Louis on October 5.

NCAA Tournament Record: 4-5

Home: 2-0

Road: 2-4

Neutral: 0-1

vs. Wake Forest: 2-0

vs. Loyola (Md.): 1-0

vs. North Carolina: 1-0

vs. UAB 0-1

vs. Clemson 0-1

vs. Connecticut 0-1

vs. N.C. State: 0-1

vs. South Carolina: 0-1

vs. MAAC: 1-0

vs. ACC: 3-2

vs. Big East: 0-1

vs. C-USA: 0-1

vs. Independents: 0-1

In Overtime: 2-1

Goals Scored: 14

Goals Allowed: 13

Scoring Leaders:

| Player | Year | G | A | P |
|--------------------|------|---|---|---|
| John Barry Nusum | '99 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Carl Junot | '99 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| John Bradford | '99 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Daniel Alvarez | '99 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Anthony Esquivel | '02 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Wes Windsor | '02 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Matt Goldsmith | '00 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Patrick Tanner | '00 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Paul Lesse | '99 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| John Michael Waite | '99 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Ray Colado | '91 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Chris Haas | '91 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| McNeil Cronin | '00 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Ricardo Clark | '02 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Drew Moor | '02 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Clint Hill | '99 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Jack Handy | '99 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Robert Dee | '91 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Andrew Zorovich | '91 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

Furman University

43 Match Southern Conference Unbeaten Streak

September 23, 1999 - current

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Opponent</u> | <u>Site</u> | <u>Score</u> | Goal Differential During Streak: 146-21 |
|------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| 1 | 9-23-99 | College of Charleston | A | 2-1 | Goals allowed: |
| 2 | 10-6-99 | Wofford | H | 7-1 | 0 goals: 26 matches |
| 3 | 10-8-99 | The Citadel | H | 4-0 | 1 goal: 13 matches |
| 4 | 10-12-99 | Appalachian State | A | 1-0 | 2 goals: 3 matches |
| 5 | 10-17-99 | UNC Greensboro | A | 3-1 | 3 goals: 1 match |
| 6 | 10-22-99 | Davidson | A | 1-0 | |
| 7 | 10-24-99 | VMI | H | 3-0 | Goals scored: |
| 8 | 10-31-99 | Georgia Southern | H | 3-1 | 1 goal: 8 matches |
| 9 | 11-5-99 | The Citadel | N | 3-0 | 2 goals: 5 matches |
| 10 | 11-6-99 | College of Charleston | A | 1-0 | 3 goals: 16 matches |
| 11 | 11-7-99 | UNC Greensboro | N | 3-2 | 4 goals: 5 matches |
| 12 | 9-12-00 | UNC Greensboro | H | 3-1 | 5+ goals: 9 matches |
| 13 | 9-20-00 | Appalachian State | H | 5-0 | |
| 14 | 9-25-00 | College of Charleston | H | 6-1 | Opponent Breakdown: |
| 15 | 10-5-00 | The Citadel | A | 8-0 | vs. UNC Greensboro 6-0 |
| 16 | 10-11-00 | Wofford | A | 2-1 | vs. Wofford 5-0 |
| 17 | 10-18-00 | Georgia Southern | A | 3-0 | vs. The Citadel 5-0 |
| 18 | 10-21-00 | Davidson | H | 2-0 | vs. College of Charleston 5-0-1 |
| 19 | 10-29-00 | VMI | A | 7-1 | vs. Appalachian State 4-0 |
| 20 | 11-2-00 | The Citadel | N | 8-0 | vs. Davidson 3-0 |
| 21 | 11-4-00 | College of Charleston | A | 1-1 | vs. VMI 3-0 |
| | | (Furman advanced on penalty kicks) | | | vs. Georgia Southern 3-0 |
| 22 | 11-5-00 | Appalachian State | N | 4-1 | |
| 23 | 9-22-01 | The Citadel | H | 5-0 | Longest Conference Unbeaten Steaks |
| 24 | 9-25-01 | College of Charleston | A | 4-0 | (Includes Conference Tournaments) |
| 25 | 10-6-01 | Appalachian State | A | 4-1 | NCAA Division I History |
| 26 | 10-10-01 | Georgia Southern | H | 3-0 | 1. Furman 43 1999-current |
| 27 | 10-19-01 | VMI | H | 7-2 | 2. Clemson 42 1972-1980 |
| 28 | 10-31-01 | Wofford | H | 7-0 | 3. Indiana 38 1995-2000 |
| 29 | 11-3-01 | Davidson | A | 1-0 | 4. Appalachian St. 35 1977-1982 |
| 30 | 11-10-01 | UNC Greensboro | A | 3-1 | 5. James Madison 32 1992-1995 |
| 31 | 11-15-01 | Wofford | N | 3-0 | |
| 32 | 11-17-01 | College of Charleston | A | 1-0 | |
| 33 | 11-18-01 | UNC Greensboro | N | 2-1 | |
| 34 | 8-30-02 | The Citadel | A | 3-0 | |
| 35 | 9-21-02 | UNC Greensboro | H | 4-3 | |
| 36 | 9-24-02 | Wofford | A | 3-0 | |
| 37 | 10-2-02 | Appalachian State | H | 3-2 | |
| 38 | 10-19-02 | College of Charleston | H | 1-0 | |
| 39 | 10-30-02 | Georgia Southern | A | 1-0 | |
| 40 | 11-2-02 | VMI | A | 2-0 | |
| 41 | 11-10-02 | Davidson | H | 3-0 | |
| 42 | 11-14-02 | Wofford | N | 3-0 | |
| 43 | 11-16-02 | UNCG | N | 3-0 | |