

Furman Men's Soccer Release Southern Conference Tournament November 14-17, 2002 Mt. Pleasant, S.C. - Patriots Point



THE GAME

Furman won the Southern Conference regular season title for the fifth straight year with a perfect 8-0 league mark. Furman is looking to earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament for the fourth straight year. Furman will face Wofford in the first round of the SoCon Tournament on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. Furman would then face the winner of the UNCG and College of Charles-tap match at 2:00 an Saturday. The taurnament ton match at 2:00 on Saturday. The tournament championship will be on Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

HEAD COACH

Furman: Doug Allison (South Carolina '89) 127-31-10 (.786), 8th Year at Furman 127-31-10 (.786), 8th Year Overall

THE SERIES

Furman's series record against teams in the SoCon Tournament are as follows:

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Davidson	FU leads 23-15-1
Appalachian State	FU leads 21-17-1
College of Charleston	FU leads 10-5-3
UNCĞ	FU leads 7-4
VMI	FU leads 22-1-1
Georgia Southern Wofford	FU leads 12-1-1
Wofford	FU leads 21-3-1

2002 SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Eurona (16-2-1, 8-0 SoCon)Sept. 2Furman 3, @ The Citadel 0Sept. 3Furman 4, Butler 0Sept. 4@ Furman 4, Creighton 2Sept. 5@ Notre Dame 2, Furman 1 (20T)Sept. 13Furman 4, UNCG 3 (OT)Sept. 21@ Furman 4, Liftield 3 (@ Clemson)Sept. 27Furman 4, Fairfield 3 (@ Clemson)Sept. 29Furman 3, App. St. 2 (20T)Oct. 2@ Furman 2, UNC-Asheville 0Oct. 19@ Furman 3, Lipscomb 0Oct. 27Furman 1, @ Georgia Southern 0Nov. 2Furman 2, @ VMI 0Nov. 10Furman 3, Davidson 0 Furman 3, Davidson 0 Nov. 10

NOTING THE PALADINS

✓ 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 Conference regular season record since 1983.

• Furman has finished the regular season a per-fect 8-0 over the last three seasons and the Paladins have a 41 match conference unbeaten streak. The 41 match conference unbeaten streak is the second longest in NCAA Division I history, trailing only Clemson (1972-1980, 42 matches).

✓ RACKING UP THE WINS...Furman is currently riding a seven match winning streak. The Paladins are 15-2-1 on the year and its winning percentage of .861 ranks as the fifth best in the nation.

Top Winning Percentages			
200	2 Season		
1. WisMilwaukee	16-1-1	.917	
2. Coastal Carolina	16-1-2	.895	
3. Wake Forest	14-0-4	.889	
4. SMU	15-1-3	.868	
5. Furman	15-2-1	.861	
5. UCSB	15-2-1	.861	

✓ STINGY DEFENSE...Furman has been incredibly stingy on defense this season allowing only 0.75 goals per match, which ranks as 12th best in the nation. Furman has been especially hard on the offenses of Southern Conference opponents. The Paladins are holding conference foes to only 0.61 goals per match.

✔ SHUTOUT STREAKS...Furman has had an impressive consecutive shutout streak this season. The Paladins have set a school record by posting seven consecutive shutouts, topping the previous record of five set in 1983 and 1991. The Paladins set another school record as they have put together 688 minutes of shutout soccer in matches since October 5th. Furman is currently ranked second in the nation in shutout percentage at 0.67 shutouts per match. The Paladins have recorded 12 shutouts in 18 total matches.

0	Consecutive	Shutouts	(NCAA D-I History))

0011	Socario Charoaro	The state strates in the states of the state
10	Wisconsin-GB	1992
10	Virginia	1987
10	SMU	1980
9	Penn State	1987-1988
9	George Mason	1980-1981
8	Virginia	1988
9 8 8 8 8 8	UNĽV	1984
8	George Mason	1982
8	Washington	1981
8	Boston College	1979
8	UCLA	1977

✓ TWO TOURNAMENTS...There are actually two soccer tournaments being held in Charles-ton, S.C. this weekend. In addition to the South-ern Conference Championships, the U.S. Under-20 National Team is competing in CONCACAF Group B qualifying for the FIFA World Youth Championships. Furman sophomore Ricardo Clark is a starter on the Under-20 squad and will be competing this weekend with them. There is a chance he could see some action for Furman, but that will be determined later.

✓ ALLISON AMONG THE NATION'S BEST...Furman head coach Doug Allison is currently in his eighth season at Furman and has posted a 127-32-10 overall record. Allison's win-ning_percentage of .786 is third-best among active Division I head coaches. He trails Indiana's

2002 SOCON STANDINGS					
Team	SoCon	Overall			
Furman	8-0	15-2-1			
Appalachian State	6-2	13-4-1			
Davidson	5-2-1	9-6-4			
Coll. of Charleston	5-3	11-6-2			
UNCG	5-3	13-7			
Georgia Southern	1-5-2	2-15-2			
	2-6	2-10-4			
Wofford	1-6-1	3-14-2 4-13			
The Citadel	1-1	4-13			

2002 SOCON TOURNAMENT

Patriots Point, Charleston, S.C. <u>Thursday, November 14</u>
4:30 p.m. #1 Furman vs. #8 Wofford
7:00 p.m. #2 Appalachian St. vs. #7 VMI

Friday, November 15 4:30 p.m. #4 Coll.of Charleston vs. #5 UNCG 7:00 p.m. #3 Davidson vs. #6 Ga. Southern

Saturday, November 16 2:00 p.m. Semifinal #1 4:30 p.m. Semifinal #2

Sunday, November 6 1:00 p.m. Championship Match

2002 REGULAR SEASON HONORS

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

<u>Soccer America Team-of-the-Week</u> 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

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

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

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.

<u>Top Winning Percentage</u> <u>Active Head Coaches</u>

1. Jerry Yeagley, Indiana	526-96-40	.825
1. Jerry Yeagley, Indiana 2. Ray Reid, Connecticut	242-45-21	.820
3. Doug Allison, Furman	127-32-10	.781
	391-97-36	.781
5. Dave Masur, St. John's	241-66-37	.754

✓ 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 289-83-28 for a .758 winning percentage.

✓ NATIONAL POWER...Since Allison's arrival at Furman, the Paladins have posted a 127-32-10 record, the fourth best record in the nation over that time span.

Best	Winning	Percentag	e Since 1995
11		44.07.0	007

144-27-8	.827
135-27-10	.813
128-33-7	.783
127-32-10	.781
133-34-14	.773
	135-27-10 128-33-7 127-32-10

✓ 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 alltime 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.

✓ 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. Neither has been able to return to the soccer field this season. ✓ 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. 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.

✓ 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.

✓ GOALKEEPER SWAP... Furman has used two goalkeepers extensively this season and they have very similar statistics. Alex Maslow has started ten matches, while John Hanley has started eight and played in nine. Each has allowed seven goals on the season. Maslow has played in 890 minutes and has a 0.71 GAA, while Hanley has played in 785 minutes and has a 0.80 goals against average. Maslow has recorded six shutouts, while Hanley has five.

Alex Mas	low		
9/2 9/8 9/21 9/29 10/2 10/9 10/19 10/27 10/30 11/10	The Citadel (1/2) Creighton UNCG Gonzaga Appalachian State UNCA Charleston South Carolina Georgia Southern Davidson	W W W W W W W W W	3-0 4-2 2-0 3-2 2-0 1-0 1-0 1-0 3-0
John Har 9/2 9/6 9/14 9/15 9/24 9/27 10/6 10/21 11/2	hley The Citadel (1/2) Butler Bradley Notre Dame Wofford Fairfield St. Louis Lipscomb VMI	W W T L W W L W W	3-0 4-0 1-2 3-0 4-3 0-2 3-0 2-0

✓ 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 seventh.

✓ 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 is competing with the Under-20 squad this weekend 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 Triňidad 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	Jr. Fr.	Frisco, Texas

✓ 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 14-2-1 overall mark while the Lady Paladins sport s 13-5-1 record. Combined, their record of 27-7-2 is sixth best in the nation.

	Women	Men	Comb.	.Pct
1. Stanford	18-1-0	12-4-2	30-5-2	.838
2. UConn	18-2-1	14-4	32-6-1	.833
3. UCLA	15-3	12-3-2	28-6-2	.806
4. Furman	16-5-1	15-2-1	31-7-2	.800
5. N. Carolina	17-1-4	13-5-1	30-6-5	.793

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

<u>Home States (24 man roster)</u> Texas: 7 Florida: 4 North Carolina: 4 Georgia: 3 Indiana: 1 Oklahoma: 1 South Carolina: 1 Utah: 1 Wisconsin: 1 Trinidad and Tobago: 1

Furman University 41 Match Southern Conference Unbeaten Streak September 23, 1999 - current

<u>No.</u>	Date	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	9-23-99	College of Charleston	А	2-1
2	10-6-99	Wofford	Н	7-1
3	10-8-99	The Citadel	Η	4-0
4	10-12-99	Appalachian State	А	1-0
5	10-17-99	UNC Greensboro	А	3-1
6	10-22-99	Davidson	А	1-0
7	10-24-99	VMI	Η	3-0
8	10-31-99	Georgia Southern	Η	3-1
9	11-5-99	The Citadel	Ν	3-0
10	11-6-99	College of Charleston	А	1-0
11	11-7-99	UNC Greensboro	Ν	3-2
12	9-12-00	UNC Greensboro	Н	3-1
13	9-20-00	Appalachian State	Н	5-0
14	9-25-00	College of Charleston	Н	6-1
15	10-5-00	The Citadel	А	8-0
16	10-11-00	Wofford	А	2-1
17	10-18-00	Georgia Southern	А	3-0
18	10-21-00	Davidson	Н	2-0
19	10-29-00	VMI	А	7-1
20	11-2-00	The Citadel	Ν	8-0
21	11-4-00	College of Charleston	А	1-1
		(Furman advanced on p	enalty k	ticks)
22	11-5-00	Appalachian State	N	4-1
23	9-22-01	The Citadel	Н	5-0
24	9-25-01	College of Charleston	А	4-0
25	10-6-01	Appalachian State	А	4-1
26	10-10-01	Georgia Southern	Н	3-0
27	10-19-01	VMI	Н	7-2
28	10-31-01	Wofford	Н	7-0
29	11-3-01	Davidson	А	1-0
30	11-10-01	UNC Greensboro	А	3-1
31	11-15-01	Wofford	Ν	3-0
32	11-17-01	College of Charleston	А	1-0
33	11-18-01	UNC Greensboro	Ν	2-1
34	8-30-02	The Citadel	А	3-0
35	9-21-02	UNC Greensboro	Н	4-3
36	9-24-02	Wofford	А	3-0
37	10-2-02	Appalachian State	Н	3-2
38	10-19-02	College of Charleston	Н	1-0
39	10-30-02	Georgia Southern	А	1-0
40	11-2-02	VMI	А	2-0
41	11-10-02	Davidson	Η	3-0

Goal Differential During Streak: Goals allowed:	140-21
0 goals: 24 matches	
1 goal: 13 matches	
2 goals: 3 matches	
3 goals: 1 match	
Goals scored:	
1 goal: 8 matches	
2 goals: 5 matches	
3 goals: 14 matches	
4 goals: 5 matches	
5+ goals: 9 matches	
Opponent Breakdown:	
vs. UNC Greensboro	5-0
vs. The Citadel	5-0
vs. College of Charleston	5-0-1
vs. Wofford	4-0
vs. Appalachian State	4-0
vs. Davidson	3-0

vs. Davidson	3-0
vs. VMI	3-0
vs. Georgia Southern	3-0

Longest Conference Unbeaten Steaks NCAA Division I History

1. Clemson	42	1972-1980
2. Furman	41	1999-current
3. Indiana	38	1995-2000
4. Appalachian St.	35	1977-1982
5. James Madison	32	1992-1995