

# F U R M A N

# F L A S H



The official source for information on Furman University athletics

SUMMER 2007

Dear Paladins,

Can you believe another school year is over? It seems like only yesterday we were in the middle of our fall sports schedule. Even during the summer months, Furman's student-athletes will be hard at work preparing their minds and bodies for another year of competition. Our young men and women continue to be champions in the classroom, as evidenced by five student-athletes who were recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and three who received post-graduate scholarships. You should feel proud to support such fine Paladins. Our student-athletes are most appreciative of your financial and moral support, and on their behalf, I say a huge "thank you."

Go Paladins,

Ken Pettus  
Director of Athletic Development

### Fiscal Year Ends June 30

The Paladin Club's current fiscal year (July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007) will soon be coming to an end. Have you renewed your Paladin Club membership? Have you been contemplating joining for the first time but just haven't gotten around to it yet? You only have a few short days to mail in your Paladin Club donation for this year. Remember, your 2007 football tickets and parking passes are based on your giving during the 2006-07 fiscal year. Your gift must be postmarked no later than June 30 in order for you to receive credit. If you choose to pay by check, please keep in mind that the check must also be dated June 30 or prior. Don't delay! If you have any questions about your membership status, please contact Carolyn Heaton in the Paladin Club at 864.294.3469.

### Furman Gears Up for Clemson Game



Save the Date!  
Friday, September 14  
Tailgate party & concert  
5:30 p.m.  
Paladin Stadium

Come out, wear your purple and support Furman football as we gear up for the "Battle in the Valley." Furman will play Clemson on Saturday, September 15 at Clemson's Death Valley Stadium. You will not want to miss this exciting event on the evening before the big game. Details will be announced at a later date. Music, food, games and much more! For more information, please call Jane Dungan in the alumni office at 864.294.2972.

### Sports Recaps Baseball

Furman's season ended on May 22 with a tough 5-3 loss to eventual 2007 Southern Conference Tournament Champion Wofford. Furman faced Wofford in first round action at Joseph P. Riley Park in Charleston. Jay Jackson led Furman for the day with a 3-for-4 performance. Furman ended the season with a 19-36 record but had a spectacular win on the road against Clemson (ranked 16th nationally at the time) on May 9.

Furman pitcher Matt Klinker was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 15th round of the 2007 Major League Draft on June 8. Klinker, a 6-foot-5, 210-pound right hander, was the 15th pick of the 15th round and 469th overall draft selection. The West Chester, Ohio, product graduated from Furman on June 2nd with a bachelor of arts degree in business administration. He was a 2007 selection to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities and was twice named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll. In 2007, he posted a 5-6 record and 4.57 earned run average. He posted a 16-15 career record and 4.53 ERA. His 16 victories rank eighth in school history, and his 223 career strikeouts is the fifth highest total by a Paladin. Klinker is the third Furman player to be drafted since 2005 and fifth Paladin draftee since 2002.

### Men's Golf

The Furman men's golf team recorded a final round 303 at the Southern Conference Championships at the Country Club of South Carolina and slipped to a 10th place finish to conclude their season. Senior Robert Jamieson, eighth entering play on the final day, registered a four-over 76 to finish in a tie for 17th. Chattanooga (293-280-291=864) claimed the tournament title at even.

## Softball

The Lady Paladins finished the season as champions. On May 12, Amber Kiser's two-out double in the bottom of the ninth plated Danielle Franklin to give Furman a 3-2 victory over Georgia Southern and its first Southern Conference Tournament Championship since 1994. The SoCon tournament championship is the second for Furman, which won the inaugural tournament in 1994 after defeating Georgia Southern, 7-0. The team title is the first under fourth-year head coach Dana Jenkins. The Lady Paladins got revenge after falling to the Eagles last season in the championship game. Kiser earned tournament most valuable player honors while Brythe Blankenship, Stephanie Cushing and Blake Murray earned all-tournament team honors.

The win earned the Lady Paladins the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Regionals held May 18-20. The team, making their first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance, began play in the NCAA's Knoxville Regional where they faced the top-ranked Tennessee Lady Vols. After losing the game to the Lady Vols and the NCAA's career strikeouts leader, the Lady Paladins faced Big South Champion Winthrop, a game that ended in Furman's elimination. Furman finished the season 21-36-1.

## Men's Tennis

The Paladins' season came to an end with an overall record of 17-11. A three-set College of Charleston victory at number two singles pushed the Cougars to a 4-3 win over the Furman men's tennis team in the semifinals of the 2007 SoCon Tournament.

Andy Juc was selected to the field of 64 singles players that competed in the 2007 NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championships. Juc suffered a 6-2, 6-2 loss to the nation's top-ranked player John Isner in the opening round. Juc ended his sophomore season with a record of 18-8. Juc, a sophomore from Chisinau, Moldova, earned automatic qualification into the singles championship as the lone Southern Conference player to rank in the ITA Top 125 for singles. Juc was the youngest Furman player ever to earn a spot in the NCAA field of 64 and the first Paladin since John Chesworth in 2002. He was only the eighth Furman player to compete in the individual championships.

## Track & Field

Junior Chibuzo Aguocha's school-record breaking performance in the triple jump highlighted the final day of competition for the Furman men's and women's track and field teams at the 2007 Southern Conference Championships. Aguocha was one of three Paladins to turn in second-place finishes. Senior McKenzie Sharpe closed out her Furman career with a second-place showing in the 800m run. Sharpe posted a time of 2:16.47. Lindsey Barker also picked up points in the 800m, crossing the finish line seventh in 2:20.50. Aguocha's mark of 12.74m in the triple jump bettered her own school record of 11.99m set earlier this season.

On the men's side, it was literally a race to the finish in the 800m run as sophomore Patrick Morgan crossed the finish line just behind Davidson's Douglas Noreen (1:53.05) with a time of 1:53.20. Senior David Moseley came in third in the javelin with a mark of 54.00m. Steve Adams earned four points with a fifth-place showing in the discus with a mark of 43.95m. Freshman Dustin Gourdin also scored for the Paladins with an eighth-place showing in the triple jump. Gourdin posted a mark of 13.07m. The Georgia Southern women and the Western Carolina men won the team championships, with the Furman women coming in eighth and the Furman men sixth.

Furman triple jumper Chibuzo Aguocha qualified for the 2007 NCAA Division I East Regional Track & Field Championships with a mark of 12.74m at the Southern Conference Championships. Aguocha's mark of 12.24m was the 21st best among the 40 athletes competing in the triple jump. An all-conference performer in both track & field and volleyball, Aguocha holds the Furman indoor and outdoor records in the long jump and triple jump.

## Women's Golf

The Furman Lady Paladins ended the season strong. Blaire Lamb shot a final round one-under par 71 and posted par on the first two playoff holes to claim the Southern Conference individual title. The sophomore became Furman's 11th Southern Conference individual champion. Western Carolina (312-292=604) edged Furman (314-294=608) and College of Charleston (307-301=608) for team honors. Lamb and Kathleen Ekey both earned All-Southern Conference honors.

The team earned an at-large bid to compete in the NCAA East Regional. The Lady Paladins were one of 21 teams vying for a top eight finish, which would qualify them for a berth in the NCAA Championships. They struggled to an 11th place finish with a final round 301. Their 13-over-par final round left the squad three spots out of the top eight and an NCAA Championship bid. By competing in the 2007 NCAA East Regional, Furman continued its streak of never having missed the Division I women's golf postseason since the regional format began in 1993 (15 straight years).

## Women's Tennis

In the final match of the day against the Cougars, Furman junior Lauren Osborne pulled out a three-set victory over College of Charleston's Link Leskosky to secure the Lady Paladin tennis team's fourth consecutive Southern Conference Tournament title with a 4-3 win. With the win, Furman (16-9) earned a fourth straight trip to the NCAA Tournament and its 15th league tournament crown. It also marked Furman's eighth NCAA Tournament appearance in the last nine years. Osborne was named the tournament MVP after pulling out the thrilling championship-clinching victory and winning other singles matches in the competition in shutout fashion. A Lady Paladin has been named tournament MVP in each of the last four seasons. The Lady Paladins also went undefeated in the league's regular season, winning their ninth straight regular-season title. Furman has won 79 consecutive regular-season SoCon matches, dating back to the 1998-99 season. Three Furman seniors, Bonnie Baird, Lisa Bornt-Davis and Jacqueline Eckert, left the women's tennis program as the first class to never lose a match to a league opponent in four years of competition.

The Lady Paladins headed to Atlanta for a rematch of a regular-season match-up with the third-ranked Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets (23-4) in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament where they saw their season come to an end with a 4-0 loss in the 2007 NCAA Atlanta Regional.

## 2007 Football Schedule

DATE	OPONENT	TIME
9/1	Presbyterian	7 p.m.
9/8	@ Hofstra	7 p.m.
9/15	@ Clemson	1 p.m.
9/29	Wofford	6 p.m.
10/6	Coastal Carolina	2 p.m.
10/13	@ The Citadel	TBA
10/20	@ Chattanooga	TBA
10/27	Appalachian State	3 p.m.
11/3	Elon	2 p.m.
11/10	@ Georgia Southern	TBA
11/17	@ Western Carolina	noon

Please note that all game times are subject to change.

The Paladin Club will once again take bus trips to select away games. A flyer will be included with your football season tickets. Once the trips are finalized, details will be posted on the Paladin Club web page at <[www.furmanpaladins.com](http://www.furmanpaladins.com)> as well as in the fall edition of the "Flash." Questions? Please contact Rebekah Gregory in the Paladin Club at 864.294.3467.

## Blue Shoes Races On



The Paladin Club wishes to thank  
Sitton Buick  
for their continuing support  
of the Paladin Club  
and Furman University.

The smartest golfers  
play our course.



FURMAN GOLF CLUB

Furman's track and field and cross country programs are building on the momentum generated by the Blue Shoes scholarship fund drive. Chris Borch '78 is accustomed to rapid progress, and the Blue Shoes Track Scholarship program that he and his wife Andrea founded a little over a year ago is accelerating. Last year's inaugural Blue Shoes weekend raised \$200,000 and was the single biggest athletic fundraising event in Furman history. This year's Blue Shoes Track Extravaganza weekend in April raised another \$575,000, bringing the scholarship fund's total to \$1.8 million.

Perhaps even more significantly, the weekend included a surprise announcement for plans to construct a \$2.5 million, 6,000-square-foot track house at Furman's Irwin Belk Complex for Track and Field. The additions will include track and cross country locker rooms for the men's and women's teams, coaches' offices and a warm-up area for athletes. The facility will also include a 2,000-square-foot laboratory for the internationally-recognized F.I.R.S.T. program (Furman Institute of Running and Scientific Training). Because of its innovative approach to training, F.I.R.S.T. has been featured in *Runner's World* and the *Wall Street Journal*, among other major publications.

The 2007 Blue Shoes weekend kicked off with a Friday night dinner that attracted 420 people to hear Dave Wottle, the 1972 Olympic gold medalist in the 800 meters. The evening also included a panel discussion on distance running featuring Wottle, several members of the F.I.R.S.T. faculty, and Amby Burfoot, a former Boston Marathon winner and editor of *Runner's World*.

On Saturday, more than 3,000 people came to the campus to watch premier U.S. miler Alan Webb and 11 other top runners compete in the ASICS Blue Shoes Elite Mile. Webb's remarkable time of 3:57.83 in cold and windy conditions was the first sub-four-minute mile ever run on a South Carolina track. Other events included a five-kilometer run that drew more than 550 participants, as well as Furman Invitational meets for both high school and collegiate teams.



# FURMAN

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### Save the Date!

### Furman Recognizes Exemplary Student-Athletes



*Published for the*

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3300 Poinsett Highway  
Greenville, SC 29613  
864.294.3469

For up-to-date information on Furman  
athletics, please check out  
<[www.furmanpaladins.com](http://www.furmanpaladins.com)>.

Borch named the Blue Shoes scholarship program for the blue ASICS “Onitsuka Tiger” running shoes he and his teammates were given after he arrived at Furman his freshman year. While it is difficult to imagine what the Blue Shoes event can do for an encore in 2008, Borch is already thinking about what might come next. The possibilities include Elite Mile races both for men and women as well as a few events featuring top sprinters. Borch would also like to enhance the Furman Invitational meet by including some of the nation’s top-ranked college programs.

Make plans now to attend the Blue Shoes 5K on Saturday, October 13, 2007 held in conjunction with the Furman Invitational Cross Country meet. Details are still being finalized, but go ahead and save this date on your calendar. All money raised from this race will go to the Blue Shoes scholarship program.

The 2007 Furman University Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony and dinner will take place on Saturday, September 29. The festivities will begin at 4 p.m. in the Younts Conference Center and will be followed by the 6 p.m. football game against Wofford. This year’s inductees are truly worthy of this high honor, and we hope you will join us for this exciting evening. Details and reservation forms will be mailed to all Paladin Club members in mid-August.

**2007 Inductees:** Melvin Bell ’50, Men’s Basketball; Will Bouton ’02, Football; Megan Dunigan ’02, Women’s Tennis; Louis Ivory ’02, Football; Kim Currier McAdams ’94, Softball; George Pruitt ’50, Football/Basketball/Golf

Two-sport standout Chibuzo Aguocha received the Edna Hartness Female Athlete-of-the-Year Award at Furman’s annual Women’s Athletics Awards Banquet. Aguocha, a native of Houston, Texas, garnered first team All-Southern Conference honors in volleyball, indoor track and outdoor track to earn this year’s top honor.

Furman women’s basketball standout Jessica Lange was named the 2007 recipient of the Elizabeth Blackwell Academic Achievement Award. Lange, a senior health and exercise science major, sports a 3.94 GPA. A native of Knoxville, Tennessee, Lange is on the Dean’s List at Furman, the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll and was recently named the 2007 recipient of the SoCon’s David Knight Graduate Scholarship.

Team MVP’s were named in the following sports: Women’s Basketball—Chrissy Phelps; Women’s Tennis—Lisa Bornt-Davis; Women’s Golf—Kathleen Ekey and Blair Lamb; Women’s Soccer—Anna Betton; Women’s Cross Country—Brittany Johnson; Women’s Track—McKenzie Sharpe; Women’s Field—Chibuzo Aguocha; and Softball—Megan Jaudon.

Furman Paladins soccer standout Jon Leathers was named the university’s Male Athlete-of-the-Year at Furman’s annual Men’s Athletics Awards Banquet. Leathers, a junior defender from Athens, Georgia, and team most valuable player selection, was named 2006 Southern Conference Player-of-the-Year and first team NSCAA All-South Region. Joining Leathers in taking home major honors were cross country/track & field star Sam Robinson, who garnered Furman’s Academic Achievement Award, and football player Adi Filipovic, who received Furman’s Student-Athlete Achievement Award.

Most valuable player awards were presented to standouts from the following teams: Men’s Tennis—Andy Juc; Men’s Golf—Robert Jamieson; Men’s Cross Country—Eric Albrecht; Men’s Track—Patrick Morgan; and Men’s Field—David Moseley.