

6-1-2002

Time to step up and be counted as campaign enters final months

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Recommended Citation

Lineback, Don (2002) "Time to step up and be counted as campaign enters final months," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 45 : Iss. 2 , Article 18.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol45/iss2/18>

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Furman campaign

Time to step up and be counted as campaign enters final months

The Furman faithful should be proud of the lasting improvements they have made in the university through the Forever Furman campaign. These improvements include:

- More than 70 new, endowed scholarships, plus hundreds of enhanced scholarships, all of which add up to more than \$14.5 million in gifts. These scholarships are providing more and more deserving students the opportunity to benefit from a Furman education.

- Seven new endowed faculty chairs, which help to ensure that today's students and tomorrow's will continue to have the opportunity to work, study and conduct research with outstanding teachers and scholars.

- Construction or renovation of six buildings — including Herman N. Hipp Hall, the James B. Duke Library, John E. Johns Hall and, in the near future, James C. Furman Hall — which will bring Furman facilities closer to fully meeting the needs of the university's first-rate faculty and students.

- Substantial growth in endowment

and planned gifts, which will support the university's future development.

- Engaged learning opportunities, provided through such programs as the Francis Hipp internships, the Christian A. Johnson Center for Engaged Learning, the Lilly Center for the Theological Exploration of Vocation, and the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership, among others. These programs enhance Furman's academic mission while providing expanded opportunities for involvement in university activities among members of the local community and beyond.

Now, as the campaign heads toward its conclusion on December 31, what more is needed?

Gordon Herring '66, chair of the campaign executive committee, says, "We have several projects that still require funding. Once completed, they will bring Furman into the forefront of American higher education."

Those projects, and the funds needed, include:

- \$1.8 million to complete the \$25

million expansion and renovation of the James B. Duke Library.

- \$900,000 to provide offices and classrooms in Herman N. Hipp Hall.

- \$2 million to complete funding for construction, furnishing and endowment of the Younts Conference Center, to be built on the south end of the campus near Cherrydale and Timmons Arena.

- \$380,000 to name classrooms and other spaces in the Bryan Center for Military Science.

H. Neel Hipp '73, chair of the national campaign committee, points out that all pledges made by December 31 count toward the campaign, although pledge payments may go on for five years.

"We are calling on every person who believes in Furman's mission to step up this fall," he says. "There remain many creative ways for alumni and friends to participate."

— Don Lineback

Vice President for Development

To contribute to the Forever Furman campaign, call (864) 294-2475 or e-mail campaign@furman.edu.

Paladin Club launches 'Mission for a Million'

The Paladin Club, the fund-raising arm for athletic scholarships at Furman, enjoyed a banner year in 2001-02.

The organization's theme for the year was "Join Us and Be Counted," and the response was impressive. Membership rose from 1,205 to 1,440, and contributions jumped 10.5 percent to more than \$971,000.

"It is heartwarming to see our loyal donors continue to invest in the greatest product Furman has to offer — its students," says Ken Pettus, director of the Paladin Club. "I think they realize the character these young men and women display, and because of that, they are willing to give generously."

Aside from the growth in membership, Pettus points out that a number of new, endowed scholarships were established and that attendance at Paladin Club-sponsored events continues to rise. For those reasons, he is optimistic about the possibilities for the new year.

The theme for 2002-03 is "Mission for a Million," as the organization strives to reach its goal of \$1 million for the athletic program. Based on last year's results, Pettus says he is "confident that loyal Paladin alumni and friends will meet the challenge during the 2002-03 campaign."

To help kick off the new year, the Paladin Club sponsored a special program August 10 — for women only. "Breakfast with Bobby," held in Timmons Arena, featured football coach Bobby Lamb and his staff. The coaches offered a chalk talk, demonstrated plays, showed game footage and took the crowd on a backstage tour of the university's athletic facilities, including the weight room and locker room.

"Breakfast with Bobby" is just one example of the entertaining and innovative programs available to those associated with the Paladin Club. Members enjoy many other perks, including priority parking and reserved seating for home football and basketball games (based on their donor levels). They may take part in club-sponsored trips to away games and are invited to halftime drop-ins during football home games and special pre-game festivities before most home basketball games. Members also receive the *FLASH*, a quarterly newsletter that bills itself as the inside source for Furman athletics.

Those interested in joining the Paladin Club should call Pettus at 1-800-787-7535 or (864) 294-3469, or contact the office by e-mail at paladin.club@furman.edu.