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Homecoming 2006: A weekend for floats, fans and fun galore

Furman University

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Homecoming highlights, this page: Major award winners were Peggy Ellison Good ’67, a Greenville community and civic leader, Gordon L. Blackwell Alumni Service Award; John Ludwig ’94, Greenville entrepreneur, Outstanding Young Alumni Award; and Chuck Ambrose ’83, president of Pfeiffer University, Distinguished Alumni Award. Students worked through three nights on Furman Mall to create their “floats;” fans exult after a late Paladin interception.

Opposite: Folks turned out to pack the home side of Paladin Stadium and enjoy the festivities. And who’s that behind those Foster Grants? It’s former Paladin football coach and athletic director Dick Sheridan, with son Jonathan ’90 and granddaughter Isabella. Photos by Charlie and Mona Register.
John Glenn, the first American to orbit the Earth, called for the United States to launch a “Manhattan Project for storing energy” during his appearance at Furman September 25.


In his talk before a packed house in Younts Conference Center, Glenn referenced the massive government effort to develop nuclear weapons as he proposed that the nation investigate the possibility of large-scale storage of electrical energy to help avert a future energy crisis. “We can convert the forces of nature to electrical energy, but we can’t store it,” he said, adding that the individual who succeeds in developing such a process would “change the energy patterns of the world.”

As he pointed out, “Societies basically succeed or fail based on how they use energy.”

Although he acknowledged that the United States is the largest polluter and consumer of energy of any nation, he reminded the audience that the environmental crisis is not strictly an American problem. Solutions, he said, require cooperation and collaboration.

“Water and air blow and flow across our boundaries, and we need to all work together to respond to the recent unprecedented changes in climate,” Glenn said.

The three-day conference featured a variety of lectures and panel presentations by politicians, journalists, activists and pundits on topics ranging from the state of the environment in South Carolina to global issues such as biodiversity and the oil crisis. For a video of Glenn’s talk, visit the newly established Furman Channel at www.furmanchannel.com.