9-1-2000

Calling the action

Vince Moore
Furman University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine

Recommended Citation
Moore, Vince (2000) "Calling the action," Furman Magazine: Vol. 43 : Iss. 3 , Article 64.
Available at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol43/iss3/64

This Regular Feature is made available online by Journals, part of the Furman University Scholar Exchange (FUSE). It has been accepted for inclusion in Furman Magazine by an authorized FUSE administrator. For terms of use, please refer to the FUSE Institutional Repository Guidelines. For more information, please contact scholarexchange@furman.edu.
Six alumni who enjoyed stellar athletic careers at Furman were inducted into the university's Athletic Hall of Fame September 16.

The new inductees are Caroline Peek Blaylock ‘95, women's golf; Scott Broderick ‘86, soccer; Mel Daniel ‘82, basketball; Allen Edwards ‘93, football; Jack Kay ‘86, men’s golf; and Brent Williams ‘91, baseball.

Blaylock, now a member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour, was a three-time winner of the National Golf Coaches Association Long Drive Championship and a three-time All-American. She was named Southern Conference Female Athlete of the Year in 1994 and league player of the year in 1995.

Broderick was a 1988 GTE Academic All-America selection and a three-time all-league performer. He is Furman’s second all-time leading scorer with 44 goals and 16 assists (104 points) and played on three conference champions.

A three-time all-conference pick and 1991 Associated Press All-American as a nose guard, Edwards started in 1988 on Furman’s I-AA national championship football team. He played on three conference champions and in 1991 was the league’s defensive player of the year.

Daniel, a three-time all-conference choice, paced the Paladins to a 23-7 record and the league title in 1980. In 1981 he led the conference in scoring (22 points per game) and later that year helped the United States capture a gold medal at the World University Games. He is seventh on Furman’s career scoring list with 1,707 points.

Kay was named second-team All-American in 1986, when the Furman men’s golf team last qualified for the NCAA tournament. Twice an all-conference choice, he is a former winner of the Furman Intercollegiate and is fourth in career stroke average (74.2).

Williams, a four-year starter at catcher and two-time all-league selection, propelled the Paladins to the 1991 conference tournament championship. Selected by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 1991 draft, he holds the school record for career home runs (35) and ranks second in RBI (123) and third in slugging percentage (.594).

Although John Ingles is not usually a big fan of heights, the Furman announcer wouldn’t trade his view from the press box with anyone.

Calling the action

Ingles’ commentary adds flair to Furman broadcasts

As the color commentator for Furman football and basketball radio telecasts, John Ingles learned right away that one man’s impartial observation is another man’s call to arms.

“Not long after I started doing the broadcasts, somebody told me they really liked the way I was totally objective and analyzed the game,” Ingles says. “Two days later, somebody else said they liked him because they could tell I was bleeding purple.”

Ingles took the second comment as a compliment. While he realizes that his listeners want an accurate and balanced description of what’s happening in a game, he also knows they want to hear it from someone who has more than a professional interest in their beloved Paladins.

“When you’re doing the radio broadcasts for a school, you can’t be expected to call the game as if you don’t care who wins,” Ingles says. “But at the same time you have to be honest about what you’re seeing. I heard somebody describe it as being an ‘objective partisan,’ and I have always thought that was a perfect way to put it.”

There is no denying that the 46-year-old Ingles is a Paladins fan. A 1976 Furman graduate, he has always maintained close ties with the school.

Still, he’s not likely to pull many punches on the air. If a Paladin quarterback is tackled for a loss when a timely pitch to the tailback might have picked up a first down, he’ll say so. And if a Furman coach suddenly switches to a zone defense when the opposing team hasn’t hit an outside shot all night, Ingles isn’t afraid to speculate about the wisdom of such a move.

Ingles’ incisive commentary has become such an integral part of the Furman broadcasts that it’s easy to forget that he has only been doing it since the early 1990s. He began his radio career in 1992, providing the color for the basketball games with play-by-play announcer Chris Allen. He added football to his duties two years later when Chuck Hussion took over for Allen.

A quirk of fate actually led Ingles into broadcasting. During his student days, he had served as a manager for the Paladin basketball teams under Joe Williams. When Williams returned to Greenville in the early 1990s as head coach and general manager of the Greenville Spinners, a semi-professional team, he asked Ingles to be his director of player personnel.

Allen, the play-by-play announcer for the Spinners, invited Ingles to be a color commentator for a couple of games. Allen was so impressed by his new colleague’s on-air style that he asked Ingles to join him when he began doing the Furman broadcasts the next season.

“I loved it from the beginning,” Ingles says. “From the first time I put on the headphones, I said this is a blast and this is what I’m supposed to be doing.”

So when his radio schedule made it difficult to maintain the demands of teaching and coaching at Eastside High School, the teaching job had to go. He left Eastside in 1996 and has managed his wife’s law practice in Greenville for the past four years.

“It was hard to get home from a basketball road game at 3 a.m. and then teach an economics class at 8 a.m.,” says Ingles, the father of three children, ages 5 through 11. “Besides, my wife had been asking me to manage her office for quite a while, and it seemed like it was the perfect time to do it.”

— Vince Moore