

9-1-2018

Do You Know This Paladin?

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Recommended Citation

Makala, Jeffrey (2018) "Do You Know This Paladin?," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 61 : Iss. 2 , Article 13.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol61/iss2/13>

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Special Collections and Archives recently received a donation of this handsome paladin statue from Greenville resident Mark Smith. It is cast iron and single-sided, with one hole for bolting it onto a vertical surface as a decorative element. It has since been welded onto a textile mill weight and painted gold so it can stand upright for display. Smith told us his father, **Wayne Floyd Smith '70** (1938-2017), retrieved the paladin from the downtown Furman campus, where it may have been mounted on the grounds as a plaque. We looked carefully at historic photos of the campus housed in the University Archives but could not find an image that shows the statue was part of campus's athletic facilities or decorations.

The paladin appeared as a nickname as early as 1927 for the Furman



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BY JEFFREY MAKALA

basketball team and was used officially as the team moniker in the mid-1940s, at the same time that the hornet was used for the baseball team and hurricane for the football team. All these names were merged, along with the campus, in 1961, into one unified mascot and symbol for all of our athletic teams. The Furman student newspaper The Hornet also changed its name to The Paladin in the fall of 1961.

So, please help us! Do you remember seeing paladin imagery on the downtown campus? If so, please let Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist Jeff Makala know (jeffrey.makala@furman.edu). In the meantime, you can have a look at this gold paladin, along with a host of other Furman imagery, in the Special Collections reading room on the second floor of the James B. Duke Library. ●

FUmerical

Fun facts and figures about the Furman class of 2022

Seven hundred and twenty students joined the Furman family this fall. In addition to the writer of a children's book series, five entrepreneurs and a United States Senate page, the group includes ...



322

National Honor Society members



51

Students who have lived outside the United States

230



Two-sport athletes



49

Theatre stars

131



Club presidents

V 169

Varsity captains



1

Minecraft designer