

4-1-2021

The Right Leader for Our Program'

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2021) "The Right Leader for Our Program'," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 64: Iss. 1, Article 17.

Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol64/iss1/17>

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SPORTS BRIEFS



'THE RIGHT LEADER FOR OUR PROGRAM' STAFF REPORT

The most successful three-year stretch in Furman men's basketball history has led to a contract extension for Coach Bob Richey.

"Bob Richey has done an outstanding job as our head coach, and we are thrilled that this extension will keep him in Greenville for the foreseeable future," says Furman Athletics Director Jason Donnelly. "Bob is the right leader for our program, on and off the court, as well as in the community, and his impact has been felt across all areas of our university."

Entering the 2019-20 campaign, the Paladins were 73-26 since Richey took over, matching or setting school records for victories all three seasons. Furman has won 23 or more games four straight years after accomplishing the feat just once in history prior to 2016-17.

"I am grateful and humbled by the commitment Furman and the Paladin basketball family have shown me, our staff, our players and our program through this extension," says Richey. "We are fortunate that our philosophy of enriching the lives of our players and winning on the court aligns with Furman's institutional values. Our staff will continue to work every day to grow our players, to prepare them for success in life after basketball, and to compete for championships."

2020-21 marks Richey's 10th year with Furman. He ranks 9th among all active NCAA Division I coaches with a .737 winning percentage and, at 38, is the youngest coach among the top 25 winningest coaches, with more than 50 games of experience at the D-I level. ♦

THE NEW CROWD

Jalen Slawson '22 dunks during a game against the University of South Carolina Upstate on Nov. 28, when Furman notched its 14th consecutive win at Timmons Arena after defeating the Spartans 91-63. Cutouts of fans look on from the stands, part of Furman Athletics' efforts to limit attendance at sporting events in order to control the spread of COVID-19. Fans were invited to purchase cutouts through the basketball season to place in the stands during men's and women's home games by submitting a picture of themselves, family members, friends or even pets. Proceeds benefitted Furman student-athletes, and fans could pick up their cutouts at the end of the season. Similar cutouts have been offered for springs sports. ♦

