



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER

2020-21

702 North Pine Street, Spartanburg, SC 29303 • 864-591-5100 • Fax: 864-591-3448

Hannah Bradley, Assistant Director for Media Relations (WSOC contact)

facebook.com/SouthernConference • twitter.com/SoConSports • instagram.com/SouthernConference

2020-21 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER STANDINGS

STANDINGS	W-L-T	Pts	CONFERENCE			OVERALL				
			GF	GA	ST	W-L-T	Pct	GF	GA	ST
Samford	7-0-2	23	20	2	W4	8-2-3	.731	28	7	L1
Furman	6-0-2	20	13	4	T1	8-0-2	.900	16	5	W2
Chattanooga	6-2-1	19	9	5	W1	7-3-1	.682	11	6	L1
Mercer	5-3-0	15	13	9	W1	8-10-1	.447	36	28	L1
UNCG	4-4-1	13	8	7	L1	4-5-2	.455	8	9	L1
Wofford	3-4-2	11	10	11	T1	3-4-2	.444	10	11	T1
Western Carolina	3-5-1	10	13	15	T1	4-7-1	.375	14	17	T1
ETSU	1-4-1	4	4	13	L4	1-6-1	.188	6	17	L4
The Citadel	1-6-0	4	6	13	L3	7-9-3	.447	23	23	T1
VMI	0-6-1	1	4	21	L5	1-8-2	.182	10	22	L7

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

(all times Eastern)

April 28 (Wednesday)

No. 29 Furman vs. No. 21 Rice (NCAA Tournament, Cary N.C.) ESPN+ 3 p.m.

The women's national semifinals will be May 13 the national championship will be May 17.

Other dates for the tournaments are:

- First round — Women, April 27-28
- Second round — Women, April 30-May 1
- Third round — Women, May 5
- Quarterfinals — Women, May 9

Currently, the campus venues that will host tournament games are at Campbell, East Carolina, University of North Carolina Wilmington, UNC Greensboro and Wake Forest.

Off-campus sites for tournament matches include:

- Bryan Park (Greensboro, North Carolina)
- J. Burt Gillette Athletic Complex (Wilson, North Carolina)
- Sportsplex (Matthews, North Carolina)
- WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, North Carolina)

NOTES

• Furman won its seventh SoCon Championship with a 2-1 double-overtime win over top-seed Samford on April 16 in Birmingham, Alabama. Jasmine Greene, a first-team all-conference forward, scored with 17 seconds left in double-overtime.

• The NCAA Tournament appearance is the Furman's eighth and first since 2015.

• Furman is 0-7-0 in its previous seven appearances in the NCAA Women's Soccer Championship and dropped a 3-0 decision at Clemson in its last postseason game during the opening round of the 2015 tournament.

• The meeting is the first between the undefeated Paladins and the Owls (12-2-1).

• Furman head coach Andrew Burr, already the winningest coach in women's soccer league history, earned his 100th conference win in a 2-0 win over Chattanooga on March 19 and pushed his total to 101 in the 3-1 win over Western Carolina on March 26. He's the first SoCon coach to surpass 100 conference wins.

• Nationally, Furman is ninth in corner kicks per game (7.20) and 17th in goals against average (.461).

• The Paladins' save percentage (.900) is ninth nationally, made that much more impressive by the fact Furman splits time in goal between freshman Addison Corn and sophomore Nora Sampson. Corn's save percentage of .897 is 11th-best in the country.

• Furman averages 16.00 shots per game, 27th nationally, and 7.90 shots on goal per game, 21st in the country.

• Furman is 10th in the latest women's soccer RPI (April 18), third in the southeast behind only Florida State (1) and North Carolina (3).

• Rice head coach Brian Lee served as the Furman head coach from 1994-2004, leading the Paladins to three SoCon Tournament titles and four NCAA appearances.

• UNCG is the only SoCon school to win an NCAA tournament game, winning four. The last came in the first round of the 2007 tournament (UNCG 1, Memphis 0).

• The Paladins have posted a 17-1-3 record in their last 20 regular season SoCon matches.

SoCON STATS



NCAA STATS



COACHING RECORDS

Coach, School	Career Record	School (Yrs.)	SoCon (Yrs.)
Ciaran Traquair, The Citadel	62-98-7 (8th)	32-56-5 (5th)	5-38-1 (5th)
Jay Yelton, ETSU	1-6-1 (1st)	Same	1-4-1 (1st)
Andrew Burr, Furman	209-83-26 (16th)	Same	101-37-19 (16th)
Tony Economopoulos, Mercer	109-107-17 (12th)	99-66-17 (9th)	35-18-6 (7th)
Michael Coll, UNCG	105-97-27 (12th)	64-54-16 (7th)	36-18-6 (7th)
Todd Yelton, Samford*	277-133-50 (22nd)	237-100-46 (18th)	98-12-18 (12th)
Gavin McKinney, Chattanooga	110-75-20 (10th)	37-50-17 (6th)	23-23-8 (6th)
Chris Haight-Thompson, VMI	2-24-3 (2nd)	Same	0-16-2 (2nd)
Chad Miller, Western Carolina	180-155-31 (19th)	87-99-20 (11th)	43-55-9 (11th)
Emily Grant, Wofford	10-16-2 (2nd)	Same	6-10-2 (2nd)

* later vacated 24 overall wins and four ties (13 wins and four ties in SoCon play) from 2012-13

NOTES

NCAA Championship record by school

School	Appearances	Won	Lost	Tie	Pct.	For	Opp.
UNCG*	10	4	10	0	.286	14	37
Furman	7	0	7	0	.000	1	21
Western Carolina	2	0	2	0	.000	0	7
Davidson	1	0	1	0	.000	0	4
Georgia Southern	1	0	1	0	.000	0	4
Mercer	1	0	1	0	.000	0	3
Samford	3	0	3	0	.000	0	9

* later vacated 2010 appearance

1997	First round	UNCG 3, Duke 1 (2OT)	2008	First round	North Carolina 5, Western Carolina 0
	Quarterfinals	Clemson 5, UNCG 0	2009	First round	South Carolina 4, Davidson 0
1998	First round	Vanderbilt 5, UNCG 1	2010	First round	South Carolina 2, UNCG 1*
1999	First round	Central Florida 1, Furman 0	2011	First round	Florida State 2, Samford 0
2000	First round	Duke 3, Furman 1	2012	First round	Wake Forest 4, Georgia Southern 0
	Quarterfinals	UNCG 3, William & Mary 2 (2 OT)	2013	First round	South Carolina 5, Furman 0
		Virginia 6, UNCG 1	2014	First round	Florida 3, Mercer 0
2001	First round	North Carolina 3, UNCG 0	2015	First round	Clemson 3, Furman 0
2002	First round	Tennessee 5, Furman 0	2016	First round	Florida State 4, Samford 0
2003	First round	UNCG 2, Wake Forest 1	2017	First round	Duke 1, UNCG 0
	Second round	North Carolina 5, UNCG 0	2018	First round	South Carolina 3, UNCG 1
2004	First round	Tennessee 2, Furman 0	2019	First round	South Carolina 3, Samford 0
2005	First round	North Carolina 2, Western Carolina 0	* later vacated appearance		
2006	First round	Oklahoma State 2, UNCG 0			
2007	First round	UNCG 1, Memphis 0			
		Tennessee 2, Furman 0			
	Second round	North Carolina 3, UNCG 1			

SoCon Champions

Year	Champion	Runner-up	Tournament site	Tournament MOP	Regular-season champion
1994	Davidson	Georgia Southern	Greensboro, N.C.	Shannon Lowrance, DAV	Davidson
1995	Davidson	Furman	Davidson, N.C.	Claudia Lombard, DAV	Furman
1996	Davidson	Georgia Southern	Davidson, N.C.	Katherine Cournelius, DAV	Davidson
1997	UNCG	Wofford	Davidson, N.C.	Kim Rosbenberg, UNCG	UNCG
1998	UNCG	Furman	Greenville, S.C.	Ali Lord, UNCG	UNCG
1999	Furman	Davidson	Greensboro, N.C.	Kaye Brownlee, FUR	Furman
2000	UNCG	Furman	Charleston, S.C.	Lynsey McLean, UNCG	Furman
2001	UNCG	Western Carolina	Greenville, S.C.	Kathryn Clewley, UNCG	UNCG/Furman/WCU
2002	Furman	College of Charleston	Greensboro, N.C.	Andre'a Morrison, FUR	Furman
2003	UNCG	Furman	Greensboro, N.C.	Rakel Logadottir, UNCG	Furman
2004	Furman	Davidson	Greensboro, N.C.	Andre'a Morrison, FUR	UNCG
2005	Western Carolina	Furman	Greenville, S.C.	Alesha Row, WCU	Davidson
2006	UNCG	Furman	Cullowhee, N.C.	Shannon Donovan, UNCG	UNCG
2007	Furman	UNCG	Davidson, N.C.	Rachel Fry, FUR	UNCG
2008	Western Carolina	UNCG	Charleston, S.C.	Caitlin Williams, WCU	UNCG
2009	Davidson	College of Charleston	Greensboro, N.C.	Amanda Flink, DAV	UNCG
2010	UNCG	Samford	Cullowhee, N.C.	Kelsey Kearney, UNCG	UNCG
2011	Samford	College of Charleston	Greensboro, N.C.	Shanika Thomas, SAM	Samford
2012	Georgia Southern	Furman	Birmingham, Ala.	Katie Merson, GSU	UNCG
2013	Furman	Elon	Spartanburg, S.C.	Stephanie DeVita, FUR	Furman
2014	Mercer	Samford	Cullowhee, N.C.	Maggie Cropp, MER	Samford
2015	Furman	Mercer	Greenville, S.C.	Stephanie DeVita, FUR	Samford
2016	Samford	ETSU	Johnson City, Tenn.	Anna Allen, SAM	Samford
2017	UNCG	Samford	Birmingham, Ala.	Regan Lehman, UNCG	Furman/Samford
2018	UNCG	Furman	Macon, Ga.	Heida Ragney Vidarsdottir, UNCG	Samford
2019	Samford	Furman	Greensboro, N.C.	Morgan McAslan, SAM	Samford/Furman
2020-21	Furman	Samford	Birmingham, Ala.	Jasmine Greene, FUR	Samford

SoCon Championship record by school

School	Appearances	Won	Lost	Tie	Pct.	For	Opp	Semis	Final	Titles
Furman	25	42	15	3	.725	110	48	23	16	7
UNCG*	22	30	12	5	.691	113	27	15	10	8
Samford^	12	16	7	3	.673	51	23	11	6	3
Mercer	6	6	5	1	.542	17	21	5	2	1
Western Carolina	17	9	14	3	.404	27	42	5	3	2
Wofford	16	8	15	2	.360	27	54	5	1	0
The Citadel	6	3	6	0	.333	12	23	1	0	0
VMI	5	2	5	1	.313	5	16	0	0	0
ETSU	9	4	9	0	.308	15	43	3	1	0
Chattanooga	10	1	9	2	.200	7	28	2	0	0

* later vacated a win and two ties from 2008 and one win and the title from 2010

^ later vacated win from 2013

Former members

Davidson	19	15	13	3	.532	53	33	10	6	4
Georgia Southern	12	10	11	1	.477	28	32	9	3	1
Elon	9	4	8	1	.346	8	25	3	1	0
College of Charleston	15	6	14	3	.326	24	32	6	2	0
Appalachian State	15	2	15	0	.118	17	56	4	0	0

**Furman wins 2020-21 Women's Soccer Championship
Jasmine Greene nets game-winner in 2OT thriller**

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. – The second-seeded Furman Paladins won their seventh Southern Conference Championship and first since 2015 with a 2-1 win over top-seeded Samford in double-overtime on Friday afternoon at the Samford Track and Soccer Stadium in Birmingham, Alabama. Sophomore forward Jasmine Greene netted the game-winner in the 110th minute to propel the Paladins past the Bulldogs in a rematch of the 2019 SoCon Championship in which Samford won 1-0.

The double-overtime final was the first since 2015 when the top-seeded Paladins downed No. 4 Mercer, 1-0.

Samford came out firing to begin the game and outshot Furman 3-1 in the first 10 minutes of play. The Bulldogs continued to attack offensively in the half and were outshooting the Paladins 9-3 before Furman's Julia Nicholas scored her first goal of the season in the 43rd minute off a pass from Faith Hauberg, giving Furman a 1-0 lead. Hauberg sent the ball into the box from a free kick at midfield, and after deflecting off the foot of a Samford defender, Nicholas, a sophomore forward, collected the ball and put it past Samford goalkeeper Morgan McAslan. Less than two minutes later, Samford's Ella Simpson, a senior defender, evened the score at one, netting a header off a pass from Morgan Greene. The 1-1 score held for the final minute of the half.

Both teams kept their foot on the gas out of the half, staying aggressive in the physical contest. However, neither team was able to find the back of the net, leading to a scoreless second half and forcing overtime.

In the 94th minute, Samford's Taylor Yount got off a shot but Furman goalkeeper Addison Corn corralled it. The shot by Yount was the only of the first overtime. In the second overtime period, Yount quickly got off another shot, but Corn saved it to maintain the tie. A shot by Samford's Nikki Barrio sailed wide left in the 108th minute and less than 30 seconds later Jasmine Greene fired off one of her own that sailed right of the goal. Greene got another chance in the final minute of the period when she collected the ball, spun past her defender and fired off a shot from the top of the six-foot box. McAslan made the save, but the ball ricocheted back to Greene who fired a low shot to the left of McAslan and scored the game-winner, 17 seconds before penalty kicks would have decided the outcome. The Bulldogs hadn't allowed more than one goal against any opponent this season.

Corn, a freshman, played a magnificent game in goal and totaled 12 saves, while McAslan, a first-team all-conference goalkeeper, finished with five.

Remarkably, Samford outshot Furman 25-11.

The Paladins (8-0-2), who earned an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, will find out where they play next during the NCAA Selection show, which airs on NCAA.com on Monday, April 19, at 1 p.m. ET.

SoCon Women's Soccer Championship All-Tournament Team

Kyndal Anderson, Furman
Jasmine Greene, Furman
Ellie Laxer, Furman
Angela Steidl, Furman
Nicole Icen, Mercer
Payton Schurr, Mercer
Shelby Hash, Chattanooga
MacKenzie Smith, Chattanooga
Kylie Gazza, Samford
Kyla Reynolds, Samford
Jennifer Seward, Samford

Most Outstanding Player

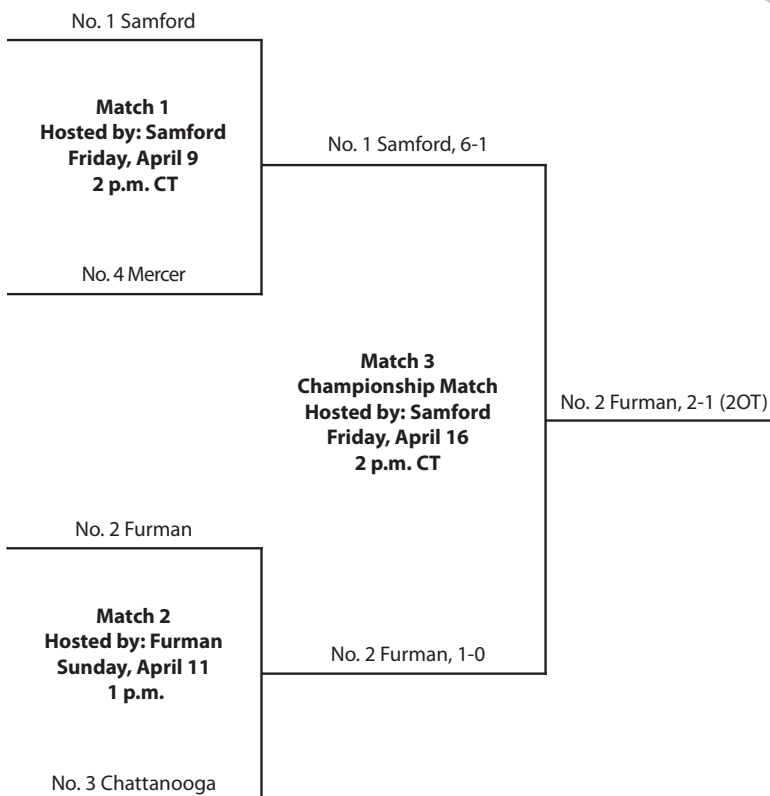
Jasmine Greene, Furman

Pinnacle Award (highest cumulative GPA among championship-eligible student-athletes on winning team)

Isabella Gutierrez, Furman

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

Campus Sites / April 9/10 & 16/17, 2021



Note: All times Eastern unless otherwise noted.



SoCon vs. Other Conferences

Overall: 9-14-4

Atlantic Coast (0-2-1)

Sept. 24 #12 Pittsburgh 2, The Citadel 1 (OT)
 Sept. 27 #12 Pittsburgh 1, The Citadel 0
 Feb. 24 NC State 0, UNCG 0 (2OT)

Atlantic Sun (2-3)

Feb. 19 The Citadel 1, Jacksonville 0
 Feb. 21 Lipscomb 2, ETSU 1
 Feb. 21 Mercer 1, Kennesaw State 0
 Feb. 23 North Florida 2, The Citadel 1
 Feb. 25 Liberty 1, Western Carolina 0

Atlantic 10 (0-1-1)

Feb. 21 Davidson 1, Western Carolina 0
 Feb. 28 VMI 1, Davidson 1 (2OT)

Big South (0-1)

Feb. 13 High Point 2, UNCG 10

Capital Athletic Conference - DIII (1-0)

Feb. 23 VMI 5, Southern Virginia 0

Conference Carolinas - DII (1-0)

Oct. 3 The Citadel 1, Belmont Abbey 0

Conference-USA (1-2-1)

Oct. 17 UAB 2, Mercer 1
 Feb. 13 Marshall 2, ETSU 1 (OT)
 Feb. 17 Western Carolina 1, Charlotte 0 (OT)
 Feb. 18 Samford 1, UAB 1 (2OT)

South Atlantic Conference - DII (1-0)

Feb. 14 The Citadel 4, Anderson 1

Southeastern Conference (0-1)

Feb. 25 Ole Miss 1, Samford 0

Sun Belt (2-4-1)

Sept. 11 Georgia State 2, Mercer 1 (OT)
 Sept. 14 The Citadel 2, Georgia Southern 1
 Sept. 24 Mercer 1, Georgia Southern 0
 Oct. 1 The Citadel 0, App State 0 (2OT)*
 Oct. 15 Georgia State 2, Mercer 1
 Oct. 16 The Citadel 3, Georgia Southern 0
 Feb. 28 Troy 1, Mercer 0 (OT)

USA South - DIII (1-0)

Feb. 11 Mercer 13, Wesleyan 0

Home team underlined

* neutral site

Active Career Leaders

Points

1. 58 Logan Dix, Sr., CIT
2. 57 Chloe Arnold, Sr., UTC
3. 50 Abigail Zoeller, Sr., MER
4. 43 Ally Fordham, Sr., MER
5. 41 Isabella Gutierrez, Jr., FUR

Goals

1. 25 Logan Dix, Sr., CIT
- 25 Chloe Arnold, Sr., UTC
3. 20 Ally Fordham, Sr., MER
4. 16 Sarah Connolly, Sr., ETSU
- 16 Isabella Gutierrez, Jr., FUR

Assists

1. 20 Abigail Zoeller, Jr., MER
2. 16 Alyssa Frazier, Sr., SAM
3. 13 Suzuka Yosue, So., CIT
4. 10 Sarah Adcock, Sr., MER
- 10 Hannah Roth, Sr., CIT
- 10 Jasmine Greene, So., FUR
- 10 Ellie Laxer, Sr., FUR

Game-Winning Goals

1. 9 Ally Fordham, Sr., MER
2. 8 Isabella Gutierrez, Jr., FUR
- 8 Chloe Arnold, Sr., UTC
4. 6 Logan Dix, Sr., CIT
- 6 Caroline Orman, Sr., SAM

Goals Against Average (Min. 2000 Minutes)

1. 0.73 Morgan McAslan, Jr., SAM
2. 0.87 Ashton Shields, Jr., UTC
3. 0.97 Aiyannah Tyler-Cooper, Sr., UNCG
4. 1.21 Jordyn Ebert, Sr., MER
5. 1.65 Natalia Icen, Sr., Western Carolina

Saves

1. 359 Jordyn Ebert, Sr., MER
2. 257 Maria Mon, Jr., WOF
3. 255 Aiyannah Tyler-Cooper, Sr., UNCG
4. 138 Ashton Shields, Jr., UTC
5. 126 Morgan McAslan, Jr., SAM

Wins

1. 32 Jordyn Ebert, Sr., MER
2. 27 Aiyannah Tyler-Cooper, Sr., UNCG
3. 21 Morgan McAslan, Jr., SAM
4. 15 Ashton Shields, Jr., UTC
5. 11 Abby Buchholz, So., UNCG
- 11 Maria Mon, Jr., WOF

Shutouts

1. 18 Aiyannah Tyler-Cooper, Sr., UNCG
2. 15 Jordyn Ebert, Sr., MER
3. 14 Morgan McAslan, Jr., SAM
- 14 Ashton Shields, Jr., UTC
5. 8 Melody Mezzina, So., WCU

Saves Per Game (Min. 10 Games)

1. 6.12 Maria Mon, Jr., WOF
2. 4.87 Noelle Heilpern, So., VMI
3. 4.55 Aiyannah Tyler-Cooper, Sr., UNCG
4. 4.54 Jordyn Ebert, Sr., MER
5. 4.18 Ashton Shields, Jr., UTC

All-Time Records in SoCon Play

Team	Years	W-L-T	Pct.
The Citadel	20th	26-135-8	.178
ETSU	24th	41-85-11	.339
Furman	27th	177-53-22	.746
Mercer	7th	36-20-6	.629
UNCG	24th	172-45-16	.773
Samford	13th	98-13-17	.832
Chattanooga	25th	58-161-22	.286
VMI	7th	12-47-4	.222
Western Carolina	22nd	100-96-22	.509
Wofford	24th	74-128-31	.384

SoCon 100th Anniversary

The SoCon is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2021. The fifth-oldest NCAA Division I college athletic association, the SoCon contested the first-ever collegiate conference basketball tournament in 1921, tackled freshman eligibility in 1922, became the first conference to adopt the 3-point field goal in basketball in 1980 and developed women's championships in 1984.



SoCon Media Relations Directors

Name	School	Phone number	Email	Website
Currie McFayden	The Citadel	843-953-6567	mcfayde@citadel.edu	CitadelSports.com
Matt Busch	ETSU	423-439-8212	buschm@etsu.edu	ETSUBucs.com
Jordan Caskey	Furman	864-294-3065	jordan.caskey@furman.edu	FurmanPaladins.com
Kraig Doremus	Mercer	478-301-5218	doremus_kj@mercer.edu	MercerBears.com
Mark Pinkerton	UNCG	757-812-1926	mdpinker@uncg.edu	UNCGSpartans.com
Isabel Rothschadl	Samford	205-726-2802	irothschadl@samford.edu	SamfordSports.com
Anne Wehunt	Chattanooga	423-425-4618	anne-wehunt@utc.edu	GoMocs.com
Daniel Whitehead	VMI	540-464-7015	whiteheaddk@vmi.edu	VMIKeydets.com
Denise Gideon	Western Carolina	828-227-2336	dgideon@email.wcu.edu	CatamountSports.com
Josh Manganello	Wofford	864-597-4098	manganellojd@wofford.edu	WoffordTerriers.com
Hannah Bradley	Southern Conference	864-591-5100	hbradley@socon.org	SoConSports.com

Furman's Gutierrez named SoCon Women's Soccer Player of the Year

Chattanooga's McKinney selected Coach of the Year

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – Furman midfielder Isabella Gutierrez has been named the Southern Conference Player of the Year. Chattanooga defender Maggie Shaw was named the Defensive Player of the Year and the Mocs' head coach, Gavin McKinney, was named SoCon Coach of the Year after his squad compiled a 6-2-1 conference record and finished third in the standings, the highest finish in program history. Furman's Nieva Gaither, a midfielder, was tabbed freshman of the year.

The league coaches voted on a pair of all-conference teams, an all-freshman team and the four individual awards. They were not allowed to vote for themselves or their own players. The first team includes 12 players due to a tie in the voting while the second features 11, both voted on by position. The all-freshman team also consists of 11 players but gives no regard to position.

Samford leads the way with six players on the all-conference teams, with Furman and Mercer closely behind with five each. Chattanooga totaled three all-conference selections, while Wofford placed two and The Citadel and UNC Greensboro had one all-conference selection apiece.

Gutierrez finished conference play tied for second in the league in points (10) and points per game (1.25) and was in second in goals (four), and goals per game (0.50). The junior from Statesboro, Georgia, was named the Southern Conference Offensive Player of the Week on March 9 and was honored as the March Offensive Player of the Month. Gutierrez, the first Furman player to be named Player of the Year since 2014, is the seventh Furman player to be honored and the ninth overall recognition for the Paladins as Emily Turgeon and Stephanie DeVita each won the award twice.

Shaw anchored the backline for Chattanooga, leading the Mocs to five shutouts, second-most amongst league teams, and 0.53 goals against average, third in the league. The junior from Columbia, South Carolina, played and started in nine games for the Mocs, who earned a spot in the SoCon tournament semifinals for the first time in program history.

Gaither made a big impact in the Furman lineup, starting all eight games for the Paladins and netting two goals for the squad that is 6-0-2 entering the SoCon semifinals as the No. 2 seed. Her four assists lead the Paladins and are tied for fourth in the conference. The Lilburn, Georgia, native is the SoCon-leading 10th freshman of the year for the Paladins and the second in a row after Jasmine Greene became the first since 2013 when she was honored a season ago.

McKinney, who is in his sixth season as the leader of the Mocs, was named Southern Conference Coach of the Year for the first time in his career. He's just the second coach from Chattanooga to be awarded the honor, joining J.D. Kyzer in 2003. Chattanooga, the No. 3 seed in the SoCon Championship, was one of just two league teams to keep regular-season champion Samford out of the win column this season, as it played to a scoreless draw with the Bulldogs to open league play.

Samford placed a league-best five players on the first team. Forward Taylor Yount, a second-team selection a year ago, was top-5 in league contests in shots and shots per game while adding three goals. Midfielder Alyssa Frazier, defender Lexi Orman, and goalkeeper Morgan McAslan earned spots on the first team for the second consecutive year and are joined by defender Kylie Gazza. Frazier had three assists and two game-winning goals for the Bulldogs, who won at least a share of the regular-season championship for the seventh straight season, while Orman and Gazza anchored the Samford backline and aided McAslan, who led the league in shutouts in conference play, amassing six solo and another combined in just nine games. McAslan, a native of Waterdown, Ontario, Canada, had a league-best 0.22 goals against average in conference play and a .909 save percentage. She was named the SoCon Defensive Player of the Week on March 16 and the March Defensive Player of the Month.

Furman forward Greene, a first-team selection for the second straight season, and midfielder Miya Poplin join Gutierrez on the all-conference first team. Gaither earned a spot on the second team at midfielder and was joined by defender Faith Hauberg. In conference contests, Gaither was fourth in the league in points (eight) and points per game (1.00).

Mercer defender Brie Pavol was the lone first-team selection for the Bears, who placed a league-best four on the second team. Forwards Ally Fordham and Aliah Kitchens were joined by midfielder Ciara Whitely and goalkeeper Jordyn Ebert. Fordham led the league in goals (five) and goals per game (0.62) in conference contests and tied for second with Gutierrez in both points (10) and points per game (1.25). Four of her goals were game-winners, also a league best. Pavol helped anchor the Mercer defense, providing support for Ebert who led the league in saves (48) and saves per game (6.00) in conference action.

Shaw was the lone first-team all-conference selection for Chattanooga, who placed forward Chloe Arnold and defender Lauren Dluzewski on the second team. Arnold amassed seven points in the Mocs' nine conference games and led the team with four goals and nine points overall.

Wofford had two second-team selections, placing forward Rachel Rasins and midfielder Katie Gilligan on the squad. Rasins netted two goals and two assists in eight games played, while Gilligan added three assists for the Terriers.

The Citadel forward Suzuka Yosue, a second-team selection a year ago, was The Citadel's lone selection, claiming a spot on the first team and becoming the first Bulldog to earn first-team honors since midfielder Mariana Garcia in 2012. UNCG defender Ashley Avelino was honored on the second team.

Furman placed three student-athletes on the all-freshman team, while Chattanooga and Wofford both added a pair. ETSU, Mercer, Samford and Western Carolina each placed one.

No. 1 Samford hosts No. 4 Mercer on Friday, April 9, at 2 p.m. CT, while No. 2 Furman hosts No. 3 Chattanooga on Saturday, April 10, at 7 p.m. ET in the SoCon Women's Soccer Championship semifinals. Both contests will air on ESPN+. The championship match, hosted by the highest remaining seed on April 16 or April 17, will also air on ESPN+.

Player of the Year –	2020-21 All-Conference First Team	2020-21 All-Conference Second Team	2020-21 All-Freshman Team
Isabella Gutierrez, Jr., MF, Furman	F – Suzuka Yosue, The Citadel F – Jasmine Greene, Furman F – Taylor Yount, Samford	F – Ally Fordham, Mercer F – Aliah Kitchens, Mercer F – Caroline Orman, Samford	Sinoxolo Cesane, ETSU Addison Corn, Furman Nieva Gaither, Furman
Defensive Player of the Year –	M – Isabella Gutierrez, Furman M – Miya Poplin, Furman M – Alyssa Frazier, Samford	F – Chloe Arnold, Chattanooga F – Rachel Rasins, Wofford M – Nieva Gaither, Furman	Miya Poplin, Furman Kendall Cook, Mercer Ella Simpson, Samford
Maggie Shaw, Jr., D, Chattanooga	D – Brie Pavol, Mercer D – Kylie Gazza, Samford D – Lexi Orman, Samford	M – Ciara Whitely, Mercer M – Katie Gilligan, Wofford D – Faith Hauberg, Furman	Kendra Mueller, Chattanooga Ao Yamada, Chattanooga Maggie Lloyd, Western Carolina
Coach of the Year –	D – Maggie Shaw, Chattanooga GK – Morgan McAslan, Samford	D – Ashley Avelino, UNCG D – Lauren Dluzewski, Chattanooga GK – Jordyn Ebert, Mercer	Mia Bookhard, Wofford Olivia Hughes, Wofford
Gavin McKinney, Chattanooga			
Freshman of the Year –			
Nieva Gaither, MF, Furman			

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

SAMFORD PREDICTED TO WIN WOMEN'S SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – For the fifth time in the last six seasons, Samford is the preseason favorite to win the Southern Conference women's soccer title in voting of the league's 10 head coaches. The Bulldogs edged Furman 1-0 in the 2019 Southern Conference Championship to claim their third tournament title and first since 2016.

The coaches also selected a 12-member preseason all-conference team, which features an extra player due to a tie in the voting. Samford picked up a league-best four selections, while Furman claimed three, Mercer claimed two, and The Citadel, UNCG and Chattanooga each placed one on the team.

Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own teams or players in the balloting.

Samford, which garnered seven first-place votes, finished with 79 points. Furman, which played in the championship each of the last two seasons, was second with 74 points, earning the remaining three first-place votes. UNC Greensboro, the 2017 and 2018 SoCon tournament champion, was picked third with 63 points, while Mercer had 53 points to finish fourth. The middle of the poll was tightly packed as Chattanooga (46), Western Carolina (41) and The Citadel (39) were separated by just seven total points and were picked fifth, sixth and seventh, respectively. ETSU was picked eighth with 26 points to edge Wofford (19) by seven points, while VMI rounded out the poll with 10 points.

Samford went 13-4-5 overall last season and 7-1-1 in league play, tying Furman for the top spot in the regular season. The Bulldogs return seven starters from that squad, including four preseason all-conference selections - forward Taylor Yount, midfielder Alyssa Frazier, defender Lexi Orman and goalkeeper Morgan McAslan - all of which were all honored on the 2019 all-conference first team. Yount tied for the league lead in goals (10) and was second in the league in shots (60), points (22) and points per game (1.0) in 2019, while Frazier finished second in assists (nine) and third in assists per game (0.41). McAslan, a junior, boasted a league-best 0.87 goals against average, led the league in solo shutouts (eight) and was also in the top three in both saves (94) and save percentage.

Furman put forward Jasmine Greene, midfielder Isabella Gutierrez and defender Faith Hauberg on the preseason all-conference team. The Paladins went 14-6-1 overall and 7-1-1 in 2019. Greene, the 2019 SoCon Freshman of the Year, and Gutierrez were both first-team all-conference picks last season.

UNCG finished the 2019 campaign 10-8-2 overall and 7-2 in SoCon play, tying for third in the league standings and earning a spot in the SoCon semifinals. Defender Kayla Campbell, a second-team all-conference performer a season ago, represents the Spartans on the preseason all-conference team.

Mercer, which also made an appearance in the tournament semifinals last season after amassing a 16-4 record and finishing 7-2 in league action, put forward Nicole Icen, the 2019 SoCon Player of the Year, and midfielder Ciara Whitely, a 2019 second team all-conference pick, on the preseason all-conference squad. Icen led the league in points (23), points per game (1.28) and goals per game (0.56) and tied for the league lead in total goals (10).

Chattanooga defender Maggie Shaw and The Citadel forward Suzuka Yosue, a second-team all-conference selection a season ago, round out the preseason squad.

The 2021 spring regular season begins on Sunday, Feb. 7, as Mercer and UNCG are in action. ETSU's season begins on Feb. 12, while The Citadel gets underway two days later. Samford, VMI and Western Carolina kick off on Feb. 18 and Chattanooga begins on Feb. 26. Furman begins on Feb. 28, while Wofford is scheduled to play only conference contests, which are set to begin on Friday, March 5.

The SoCon Women's Soccer Championship will feature just the top four seeds as part of the league's cost-cutting initiative. The semifinals, hosted by the highest seeds, will be contested on April 9 or 10 with the finals, hosted by the highest remaining seed, scheduled for April 16 or 17.

2020-21 Preseason Coaches' Poll

1. Samford (7)	79
2. Furman (3)	74
3. UNCG	63
4. Mercer	53
5. Chattanooga	46
6. Western Carolina	41
7. The Citadel	39
8. ETSU	26
9. Wofford	19
10. VMI	10

() denotes first-place votes

2020-21 Preseason All-Conference Team

F	Suzuka Yosue, The Citadel
F	Jasmine Greene, Furman
F	Nicole Icen, Mercer
F	Taylor Yount, Samford
MF	Isabella Gutierrez, Furman
MF	Ciara Whitely, Mercer
MF	Alyssa Frazier, Samford
D	Faith Hauberg, Furman
D	Kayla Campbell, UNCG
D	Lexi Orman, Samford
D	Maggie Shaw, Chattanooga
GK	Morgan McAslan, Samford

SoCON OFFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Feb. 23	..... Kendall Cook, F/M, Fr., Mercer
March 2	..... Chloe Arnold, F, Sr., Chattanooga
March 9	..... Isabella Gutierrez, F, Jr., Furman
March 16	..... Kendall Mueller, F, R-Fr., Chattanooga
March 23	..... Nieva Gaither, F, Fr., Furman
March 30	..... Rea Syska, MF, So., Western Carolina
April 6	..... Kylie Gazza, D, So., Samford

SoCON DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Feb. 23	..... Melody Mezzina, GK, So., WCU
March 2	..... Aiyanah Tyler-Cooper, GK, Sr, UNCG
March 9	..... Ashton Shields, GK, Jr., Chattanooga
March 16	..... Morgan McAslan, GK, Jr., Samford
March 23	..... Addison Corn, GK, Fr., Furman
March 30	..... Maggie Shaw, D, Jr., Chattanooga
April 6	..... Maria Mon, GK, Jr., Wofford

SoCON PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

February

Offensive.....	Kendall Cook, F/M, Fr., Mercer
Defensive.....	Melody Mezzina, GK, So., WCU

March

Offensive.....	Isabella Gutierrez, F, Jr., Furman
Defensive.....	Morgan McAslan, GK, Jr., Samford



The Citadel

(7-9-3, 1-6-1 SoCon)

S14	at Georgia Southern.....	W, 2-1
S17	MERCER.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
S24	#12 PITTSBURGH.....	L, 1-2 (OT)
S27	#12 PITTSBURGH.....	L, 0-1
O1	vs. Appalachian State.....	T, 0-0 (2OT)
O3	at Belmont Abbey.....	W, 1-0
O10	at Mercer.....	W, 3-2
O16	GEORGIA SOUTHERN.....	W, 3-0
F14	at Anderson.....	W, 4-1
F19	JACKSONVILLE.....	W, 1-0
F23	NORTH FLORIDA.....	L, 1-2
M5	*at Wofford.....	L, 0-2
M7	*at Furman.....	L, 0-1
M12	*MERCER.....	L, 1-2 (OT)
M19	*VMI.....	W, 3-0
M21	*UNCG.....	L, 1-3
M26	*at Chattanooga.....	L, 0-1
M28	*at Samford.....	L, 0-3
A1	*ETSU.....	CANC.
A3	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)



ETSU

(1-6-1, 1-4-1 SoCon)

F13	MARSHALL.....	L, 1-2 (OT)
F21	LIPSCOMB.....	L, 1-2
M5	*UNCG.....	W, 2-1
M7	*VMI.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
M12	*at Chattanooga.....	L, 1-2 (2OT)
M14	*at Samford.....	L, 0-5
M19	*at Western Carolina.....	L, 0-3
M26	*WOFFORD.....	L, 0-1
M28	*FURMAN.....	CANC.
A1	*at The Citadel.....	CANC.
A3	*at Mercer.....	CANC.



Furman

(8-0-2, 6-0-2 SoCon)

M5	*MERCER.....	W, 2-1 (2OT)
M7	*THE CITADEL.....	W, 1-0
M12	*at VMI.....	W, 2-0
M14	*at UNCG.....	W, 1-0
M19	*CHATTANOOGA.....	W, 2-0
M21	*SAMFORD.....	T, 1-1
M26	*at Western Carolina.....	W, 3-1
M28	*at ETSU.....	CANC.
A2	*at Wofford.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
A11	^vs. No. 3 Chattanooga.....	W, 1-0
A16	^vs. No. 1 Samford.....	W, 2-1 (2OT)

^ SoCon Tournament (Greenville, S.C./Birmingham, Ala.)



Mercer

(8-10-1, 5-3-0 SoCon)

S11	GEORGIA STATE.....	L, 1-2 (OT)
S17	at The Citadel.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
S24	at Georgia Southern.....	W, 1-0
O9	THE CITADEL.....	L, 2-3
O15	at Georgia State.....	L, 1-2
O17	UAB.....	L, 1-2
F7	at UAB.....	L, 1-2
F11	WESLEYAN.....	W, 13-0
F21	KENNESAW STATE.....	W, 1-0
F28	TROY.....	L, 0-1 (OT)
M5	*at Furman.....	L, 1-2 (2OT)
M7	*at Wofford.....	W, 2-1 (OT)
M12	*at The Citadel.....	W, 2-1 (OT)
M19	*UNCG.....	W, 1-0
M21	*VMI.....	W, 3-1
M26	*at Samford.....	L, 1-2
M28	*at Chattanooga.....	L, 0-1
A1	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	W, 3-1
A3	*ETSU.....	CANC.
A9	^vs. No. 1 Samford.....	L, 1-6

^ SoCon Tournament (Birmingham, Ala.)



UNCG

(4-5-2, 4-4-1 SoCon)

F7	UNCW.....	PPD
F13	at High Point.....	L, 0-2
F24	at NC State.....	T, 0-0 (2OT)
F27	at Elon.....	PPD
M5	*at ETSU.....	L, 1-2
M7	*at Western Carolina.....	W, 2-0
M12	*WOFFORD.....	T, 0-0 (2OT)
M14	*FURMAN.....	L, 0-1
M19	*at Mercer.....	L, 0-1
M21	*at The Citadel.....	W, 3-1
M28	*at VMI.....	W, 1-0
A1	*CHATTANOOGA.....	W, 1-0
A3	*SAMFORD.....	L, 0-2



Samford

(8-2-3, 7-0-2 SoCon)

F18	UAB (ESPN+).....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
F25	at Ole Miss.....	L, 0-1
M5	*at Chattanooga.....	T, 0-0 (2OT)
M12	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	W, 3-0
M14	*ETSU.....	W, 5-0
M19	*at Wofford.....	W, 2-0
M21	*at Furman.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
M26	*MERCER.....	W, 2-1
M28	*THE CITADEL.....	W, 3-0
A1	*at VMI.....	W, 2-0
A3	*at UNCG.....	W, 2-0
A9	^vs. No. 4 Mercer.....	W, 6-1
A11	^vs. No. 2 Furman.....	L, 1-2 (2OT)

^SoCon Tournament (Birmingham, Ala.)



Chattanooga
(7-3-1, 6-1-1 SoCon)

F26	NORTH ALABAMA.....	W, 2-0
M5	*SAMFORD.....	T, 0-0 (2OT)
M12	*ETSU.....	W, 2-1 (2OT)
M14	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	W, 2-1
M19	*at Furman.....	L, 0-2
M21	*at Wofford.....	W, 1-0
M26	*THE CITADEL.....	W, 1-0
M28	*MERCER.....	W, 1-0
A1	*at UNCG.....	L, 0-1
A3	*at VMI.....	W, 2-0
A11	^vs. No. 2 Furman.....	L, 0-1

^ SoCon Tournament (Greenville, S.C.)



VMI
(1-8-2, 0-8-1 SoCon)

F23	at Southern Virginia.....	W, 5-0
F28	at Davidson.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
M5	*at Western Carolina.....	L, 0-3
M7	*at ETSU.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)
M12	*FURMAN.....	L, 0-2
M14	*WOFFORD.....	L, 2-4
M19	*at The Citadel.....	L, 0-3
M21	*at Mercer.....	L, 1-3
M28	*UNCG.....	L, 0-1
A1	*SAMFORD.....	L, 0-2
A3	*CHATTANOOGA.....	L, 0-2



Western Carolina
(4-7-1, 3-5-1 SoCon)

F18	CHARLOTTE.....	W, 1-0 (OT)
F21	DAVIDSON.....	L, 0-1
F25	at Liberty.....	L, 0-1
M5	*VMI.....	W, 3-0
M7	*UNCG.....	L, 0-2
M12	*at Samford.....	L, 0-3
M14	*at Chattanooga.....	L, 1-2
M19	*ETSU.....	W, 3-0
M26	*FURMAN.....	L, 1-3
M28	*WOFFORD.....	W, 3-1
A1	*at Mercer.....	L, 1-3
A3	*at The Citadel.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)



Wofford
(3-4-2, 3-4-2 SoCon)

M5	*THE CITADEL.....	W, 2-0
M7	*MERCER.....	L, 1-2 (OT)
M12	*at UNCG.....	T, 0-0 (2OT)
M14	*at VMI.....	W, 4-2
M19	*SAMFORD.....	L, 0-2
M21	*CHATTANOOGA.....	L, 0-1
M26	*at ETSU.....	W, 1-0
M28	*at Western Carolina.....	L, 1-3
A2	*FURMAN.....	T, 1-1 (2OT)