

Zimmerman Named To U.S. U-20 Roster For Marbella Cup

Written by Jordan Caskey

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Furman's Walker Zimmerman has been named to United States U-20 National Team coach Tab Ramos' 19-player roster for the 2012 Marbella Cup in Marbella, Spain, which will take place October

6-17. The U-20 squad will gather in Spain to train and face Canada, Scotland and Azerbaijan in the international tournament.

"This is an outstanding and well deserved opportunity for Walker," said Allison. "Playing with a strong U-20 team against international competition and working under Coach Ramos and his staff will definitely benefit Walker's development as a player."

Zimmerman, a rising sophomore for head coach Doug Allison's Paladins, has scored four goals and added three assists while leading Furman to a top 25 national ranking and 9-1-2 record so far in 2012. The Lawrenceville, Ga., native last featured for the Red, White and Blue when he started all three matches at the MILK Cup in Northern Ireland this past summer, including a 1-0 loss to Denmark and 1-0 victory over Turkey. He also scored for his country in a friendly versus Liverpool FC's youth team prior to the start of the tournament.

Zimmerman earned Southern Conference Freshman of the Year honors, National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-America Third Team honors and Soccer America All-Freshman First Team accolades after helping the Paladins to a 14-4-4 record and at-large NCAA Tournament bid in 2011. The 6-foot-3 defender paced all SoCon defenders with five goals and anchored a defense that surrendered just 20 goals in 22 matches during his freshman campaign.

In 2001, Zimmerman guided the U.S. U-18 squad to a third place finish in Northern Ireland and earned a call-up to Ramos' U.S. U-20 team in January. The U.S. U-20 coaching staff is evaluating talent ahead of U-20 World Cup qualifying matches scheduled for the spring of 2013.

Photo Courtesy: Walker Zimmerman, Furman Athletics