



LUTHER COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM TO TRAVEL OVERSEAS FOR GLOBAL FOOTBALL BAVARIAN CLASSIC

Wednesday, May 19, 2010 – The Luther College football team led by head coach Mike Durnin is traveling to Germany from May 24 to June 1 for a unique cultural experience that combines local sightseeing with a game against local opposition in the Global Football Bavarian Classic.

Yes, this is football – the American version – to be played on a continent that where soccer is commonly known as football, but the gridiron game has a growing presence on the sporting landscape.

While exploring the many historical places of interest that Germany has to offer, the Norse will find time for two practices and a youth clinic in Munich as they prepare to face the Ingolstadt Dukes on Sunday, May 30.

The visit is organized by Texas-based Global Football, which provides the opportunity for young amateur athletes from different countries to compete against one another, while experiencing and learning first hand about each other's cultures.

Global Football President Patrick Steenberge has produced football games in 18 nations and this year Global Football is scheduled to travel with NCAA DIII college teams to Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

“We have hosted American football games in some of the greatest venues in the world in 18 different countries with each place being an honor,” said Steenberge. “Our mission is to share our passion for the sport with intrigued onlookers and hardcore fans, of which there are many in Bavaria. We hope the challenge of a game against American opposition will continue to aid the global development of the sport and be a great spectacle for the fans.”

Second-year head coach, Mike Durnin led Luther College to a 5-5 overall record this past season and a 4-4 finish in the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Quarterback Chris Reynolds finished his sophomore year throwing for 1,676 and nine touchdowns, while rushing for 639 yards and six touchdowns. Junior linebacker Kyle McGivney led the team 141 tackles (70 solo) and four interceptions.

During the Global Football Bavarian Classic, the group will visit three the cities of Munich, Rothenberg, and Stuttgart and will travel to Munich via the Romantic Road. While in the Bavarian capital they will see the Olympic Park and Marienplatz, the heart of the city marketplace, which dates back to the Middle Ages. The team will also visit the site of the Dachau concentration camp.

Other trip highlights include the famous Renaissance period Heidelberg Castle north of the Alps, the 19th Century Neuschwanstein Castle that attracts more than 1.3 million visitors annually, and the Munich Old Town Hall.

“These tours provide an opportunity for young amateur athletes from different countries to compete against one another, while experiencing and learning firsthand about cultures customs and history,” added Steenberge. “The game at the end of the week is the highlight, but the friendships and memories the players bring home with them will last a lifetime.”

For more information regarding Global Football tours and events contact Patrick Steenberge:
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