

2015

## 2015 Media Guide

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GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

# BRITAINS



*WOMEN'S*

# BASKETBALL

*2015-2016*

# 2015-16 ROSTER



No.	Name	Pos.	Ac./El.	Ht.	Hometown/High School/College
1	Kimberly Frost	PG	Jr./Jr.	5-5	Woodinville, Wash. / Woodinville / -
3	Sade Elliott	PG/W	Jr./Jr.	5-6	Hillsboro, Ore. / Century High School / Clackamas CC
4	Nicole Blizzard	PG/W	Sr./Sr.	5-10	Lake Oswego, Ore. / Lakeridge / -
5	Bailey McDevitt	W/F	Fr./Fr.	6-1	Beaverton, Ore. / Valley Catholic High School / -
10	Kaycee Creech	W	Jr./Jr.	5-9	Sumner, Wash. / Cascade Christian / -
11	Haylee Hutzler	W/F	Fr./Fr.	5-11	Clackamas, Ore. / Clackamas High School / -
14	Sammy Naluai	PG/W	Sr./Sr.	5-7	Sammamish, Wash. / Eastlake / -
15	Julie Litchfield	W	So./So.	5-8	Soldotna, Alaska / Soldotna / -
21	Emily Arellanes	W/F	Fr./Fr.	5-9	Fullerton, Calif. / Rosary High School / -
22	Tavin Headings	W/F	Fr./Fr.	5-11	Hermiston, Ore. / Hermiston High School / -
25	Justine Benner	F	Sr./Sr.	6-0	Naches, Wash. / Naches Valley / -
30	Matney Jamieson	F/P	Fr./Fr.	6-0	Condon, Ore. / Condon High School / -
31	Anjenae Torregano	PG/W	Jr./Jr.	5-7	Portland, Ore. / Saint Mary's Academy / Central Arizona College
42	Kaitlin Jamieson	F/P	So./So.	6-3	Forest Grove, Ore. / Forest Grove / -

# SEASON PREVIEW

After an historic season in 2014-15 in which the George Fox University women's basketball team went undefeated until the national championship game, the Bruins reloaded their roster and are ready to continue their winning tradition this year. Their season begins with a No. 2 national ranking from the USA Today Coaches' Poll and a No. 4 national ranking from D3Hoops.com.

Head coach Michael Meek adds eight players to the program, his largest recruiting class since he was hired in 2010. He became the fastest coach in George Fox history to reach 100 wins, accomplishing the feat in just a five-year span, and is currently third on the all-divisions (NCAA Div. I, II and III) winningest active coaches list with an overall record of 130-20. He has appeared in the NCAA national championship game twice and was named Northwest Conference Coach of the Year in 2012 and 2015.

Seniors Justine Benner, Sammy Naluai and Nicole Blizzard will lead a relatively young Bruins squad into the 2015-16 season. Benner surpassed Hannah Munger as the all-time season points leader last year, scoring 548 points in the 2014-15 season (16.61 ppg). She also was named to

D3Hoops.com's 2015 All-West Region team, and was a WBCA Coaches' All-America team honorable mention.

"I look at each new year as a new team regardless of who is returning," Meek said. "What type of legacy will be left on this group? We start over every year regardless of having every kid back or not. We look at each game like we are 0-0, and we want to come out 1-0. Each game is a new leaf and a new learning experience."

That learning experience will be tested this year as the newcomers learn the smothering, tenacious defense that George Fox's opponents dread. The offense will continue to shine, as the Bruins have added new facets to their game with height, speed and vision on the court that will give fans an exhilarating game to watch.

"We have an excellent senior class with three kids who have been a part of a lot of success," explained Meek. "They all bring a different type of leadership and were a huge part of last year's team and its successes. We are excited for all three of them in their last season."

# COACHING STAFF



Michael Meek, the 2011-12 D3hoops.com NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year, became the fastest coach in George Fox history to reach 100 wins, doing so in just a five-year span. Meek will enter his sixth season at the head of a program with an overall record of 130-20 in five seasons.

He is currently third on the all-divisions (NCAA Div. I, II, III) winningest active coaches list.

Last year (2014-15), Meek led an undefeated Bruin squad to its 10th Northwest Conference championship. The Bruins earned an automatic bid into the NCAA Division III Tournament, where they reached the championship game after defeating Montclair State 70-58 in the Final Four. The Bruins finished as the NCAA Div. III runner-up after falling to Thomas More in a physical and competitive game.

The Bruins had three players honored as Lauren Codling, Jami Morris and Justine Benner were named to the All-NWC list and D3hoops.com All-West Region Team. The Bruins achieved a ranking of No. 3 in the nation after being left out of the preseason poll. They finished the season with 32-1 record and a perfect 16-0 mark in conference play. Meek was named Northwest Conference Coach of the Year for the second time in his five years in the conference.

In the 2013-14 season, Meek continued the Bruins' success with a 22-5 record and 13-3 conference record to push the winning seasons record to 21 straight. The Bruins earned an eighth straight berth to the Northwest

Conference Tournament, and earned a bid to the NCAA Tournament, but fell in the first round to Whitworth, 51-71.

In the 2012-13 season, Meek directed the Bruins to their 20th straight winning record as they went 19-7 overall and tied for third in the conference at 12-4, earning a seventh straight berth to the NWC Tournament, where they fell to eighth-ranked Lewis & Clark in the semifinals. The Bruins went 2-0 vs. NAIA opponents and won two games in the Azusa Pacific Invitational against teams transitioning to the NCAA Division II; went 2-0 in the Hampton Inn Classic in Santa Cruz, Calif.; and had winning streaks of seven and six games during the season.

In 2011-12, he directed the Bruins to the cusp of their second national championship, guiding them to a 32-0 record and into the NCAA Division III title game, where a devastating knee injury to All-American center Hannah Munger early in the contest led to an eventual 57-48 loss to Illinois Wesleyan University. The Bruins finished with a 32-1 record, equaling the school record for wins set by the 2008-09 national championship team. Along the way, the Bruins posted a perfect 16-0 conference record for the third time in four years, earned a sixth straight NWC crown, a fourth straight NWC Tournament title, a fifth straight trip to the "Sweet 16" round of the NCAA National Tournament, a fourth straight trip to the "Elite 8", and second "Final Four" trip in team history. The Bruins were ranked No. 2 in both the D3hoops.com and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association final polls, even earning one final first-place vote in the WBCA poll despite that final loss in the championship game.



**Kevin Ruble**  
Assistant Coach, (2015-)



**Kevin Eakin**  
Assistant Coach, (2010-)



**Kelsey Khaw**  
Assistant Coach, (2015-)



**Tom Batsell**  
Assistant Coach, (2010-)



**Tashawna Gordon**  
Chaplain, (2013-)



# 2015-16 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
Fri. 13	<b>California Lutheran</b>	6 PM
Tue. 17	<b>Corban</b>	7 PM
Fri. 27	vs. Redlands @ Santa Cruz, CA	5 PM
Sat. 28	at California-Santa Cruz	5 PM
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
Fri. 4	<b>Puget Sound *</b>	6 PM
Sat. 5	at Pacific (Ore.) *	4 PM
Fri. 11	at Whittier	6 PM
Sat. 12	at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	5 PM
Mon. 14	<b>Southern Virginia</b>	6 PM
Mon. 28	vs. Carthage @ South Point Arena, Las Vegas	2 PM
Tue. 29	vs. Bethel (Minn.) @ South Point Arena, Las Vegas	2 PM
<b>JANUARY</b>		
Fri. 8	at Lewis & Clark *	6 PM
Sat. 9	<b>Pacific Lutheran *</b>	4 PM
Fri. 15	<b>Whitman *</b>	6 PM
Sat. 16	<b>Whitworth *</b>	4 PM
Tue. 19	at Willamette *	6 PM
Fri. 22	<b>Linfield *</b>	6 PM
Fri. 29	<b>Pacific (Ore.) *</b>	6 PM
Sat. 30	at Puget Sound *	4 PM
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
Fri. 5	at Pacific Lutheran *	6 PM
Sat. 6	<b>Lewis &amp; Clark *</b>	4 PM
Fri. 12	at Whitworth *	6 PM
Sat. 13	at Whitman *	4 PM
Tue. 16	<b>Willamette *</b>	6 PM
Sat. 20	at Linfield *	4 PM

**Bold:** Home Event | \* Conference



**Bold:** Home Event | \* Conference | # Exhibition

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sun. 15	at Eastern Wash. #	3:30 PM
Fri. 20	at Wheaton (Ill.)	8 PM
Sat. 21	at Wheaton @ Wheaton (Ill.)	5:30 PM
Wed. 25	at Northwest (Wash.)	7 PM
Sat. 28	Saint John's (Minn.)	3 PM
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
Fri. 4	<b>Puget Sound *</b>	8 PM
Sat. 5	at Pacific (Ore.) *	6 PM
Sun. 12	<b>California-Santa Cruz</b>	4 PM
Sun. 13	<b>Colorado College</b>	1 PM
Fri. 18	at California Lutheran	5 PM
Sat. 19	at California Tech	2 PM
Tue. 22	Augustana (Ill.)	7 PM
<b>JANUARY</b>		
Fri. 8	at Lewis & Clark *	8 PM
Sat. 9	<b>Pacific Lutheran *</b>	6 PM
Fri. 15	<b>Whitman *</b>	8 PM
Sat. 16	<b>Whitworth *</b>	6 PM
Tue. 19	at Willamette *	8 PM
Fri. 22	<b>Linfield *</b>	8 PM
Fri. 29	<b>Pacific (Ore.) *</b>	8 PM
Sat. 30	at Puget Sound *	6 PM
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
Fri. 5	at Pacific Lutheran *	8 PM
Sat. 6	<b>Lewis &amp; Clark *</b>	6 PM
Fri. 12	at Whitworth *	8 PM
Sat. 13	at Whitman *	8 PM
Tue. 16	<b>Willamette *</b>	6 PM
Sat. 20	at Linfield *	4 PM

# 2015-16 SCHEDULE

# 2015-16 ROSTER



No.	Name	Pos.	Ac./El.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/High School/College
0	Johnathan Douth	G	So./So.	6-2	165	Keizer, Ore. / McNary / -
1	Thomas Rico	G	So./So.	6-1	170	Glendora, Calif. / Glendora / -
2	Mason Green-Richards	G	Fr./Fr.	6-0	175	Eugene, Ore. / South Eugene High School / -
3	Willie Perkins	G	Fr./Fr.	5-11	165	Lancaster, Calif. / Middlebrooks Academy / -
4	Chris Fedler	W	Fr./Fr.	6-3	210	Keizer, Ore. / 22 Feet Academy / -
5	Ryan Thistlewood	W	Fr./Fr.	6-2	160	Golden, Colo. / Golden High School / -
11	Brendan Jones	G	Jr./Jr.	5-10	185	Missoula, Mont. / - / Everett CC
13	Felix Tsai	G	Fr./Fr.	6-1	160	Taipei, Taiwan / St. Georges School / -
15	Joshua Caddel	G	Jr./Jr.	5-11	175	Kelso, Wash. / Three Rivers Christian / -
20	Isaac Lee	F	Fr./Fr.	6-5	230	Oxnard, Calif. / Oaks Christian High School / -
22	JJ Lacey	G	Jr./Jr.	6-4	170	Auburn, Wash. / Auburn Mountainview / -
24	Jacoby Wolfe	C	Fr./Fr.	6-7	220	Newberg, Ore. / Newberg High School / -
25	Kajahn Patton	W	Fr./Fr.	6-3	190	San Diego, Calif. / Gompers Prep / -
35	Dylan Hamlett	C	Fr./Fr.	6-7	210	Spring Valley, Calif. / Steele Canyon High School / -

# SEASON PREVIEW

The 2015-16 men's basketball season will be filled with excitement, as head coach Maco Hamilton will coach a 15-man roster without one senior on the team.

A trio of juniors will head up the young Bruins, who will suit up three sophomores and nine freshmen.

In that group, junior JJ Lacey will be the go-to player, as he led the team in minutes played (29.2), rebounds (98) and assists (66) in the 2014-15 season. The Bruins also return Joshua Caddel, Andrew Smith, Thomas Rico and Johnathan Douth.

"The junior group has great leadership qualities and will set the tone on how our program will develop over the next couple years," said Hamilton.

"I'm looking forward to having a roster that is composed of guys that we recruited," Hamilton said. "I'm excited about each one of these guys buying in to the culture of our program. I'm anticipating great leadership

both on and off the court from our five returning players."

"I fully expect us to play hard every night and to be better defensively since I've been here," Hamilton said. "We will still have some growing pains with such a young team, but that will only make us stronger throughout the year. They have exemplified everything we have asked them to do in terms of the culture in our program. That includes their passion, their competitive spirit and their team unity."

"We have a really tough schedule this year, which includes the No. 1 preseason-ranked team coming to Newberg on Dec. 22. Eight of our nine non-conference teams are against some really tough teams in Div. III. The Northwest Conference will be challenging, with the majority of teams having a lot of their guys back, so we are hoping our non-conference schedule will get us ready for conference play. No expectations of winning and losing. We want to give our best effort and achieve our ceiling every game."

# COACHING STAFF



Maco "Shark" Hamilton, who built the Union High School boys' basketball program in Camas, Wash., from inception to state champion in just three years, took charge of the George Fox program prior to the 2013-14 season.

Hamilton will enter his third season at the helm of the George Fox men's basketball program.

Last season (2014-15), Hamilton led the Bruins to a 5-20 record and 3-13 in the Northwest Conference. The Bruins were third in the NWC in

points per game with 75.4 and second in 3-point attempts and makes with 216 and 619, respectively.

In his first season (2013-14), the Bruins went 16-9 and 9-7 in conference play. They averaged 88.5 points per game, which ranked them among the top 10 in NCAA Division III.

Hamilton was Union's first boys' basketball coach when the school opened in 2007. In 2009-10, his team won the Washington state championship in Class 3A, the state's second-highest classification. He was named the 2010 Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association 3A Coach of the Year for that accomplishment. He also won or shared the 4A Greater St. Helens League Coach of the Year awards each of his last three seasons.

With teams known for their fast-paced offenses and pressure defenses, Union went 95-56 (.629) under Hamilton in its first six years of existence, winning three league and two district titles, three state tournament trophies, and one state championship. Union finished seventh in the 2008-09 3A state tournament and third in the 2011-12 4A state tournament.

Hamilton has strong basketball connections in Oregon and Washington. He played at Fort Vancouver High School, Mt. Hood Community College (1998-99) and Eastern Oregon University (1999-01). He has assisted at Mountain View High School in Vancouver (2001-03; 04-06), the University of Portland (2003-04) and Ridgefield (Wash.) High School (2006-07).

A 2001 graduate of Eastern Oregon in business administration management, Hamilton worked as a multicultural youth outreach coordinator and student advocate at Mountain View (2001-06) and as a guidance counselor at Ridgefield (2006-07) and Union (2007-13). He

earned his masters in education from City University in Vancouver in 2006.

Hamilton serves on the board of Courts for Kids, a nonprofit organization that sends sports teams to economically disadvantaged areas where they partner with local organizations to build courts for use by youth. He has joined Courts for Kids trips to the Philippines, Uganda and Costa Rica. Recently, he joined a U.S. Department of State-funded trip to lead a coaches' clinic in Uganda, where he worked with more than 200 coaches. In 2001, he played on an Athletes in Action basketball team that traveled through Kenya playing professional teams.

Hamilton and his wife Shayna have two beautiful children, Mia and Kyrie. They reside in Camas, Wash.



Jamal McKenzie enters his third season under head coach Maco Hamilton for the 2015-16 season.

McKenzie has been by Maco's side for the past six years, and has nine years of coaching under his belt.

Jamal started school at Santa Clara University in 1994, but took several years off from school to help run a non-profit group home located in San Jose, California. It was at this group home that McKenzie found his passion for working with

troubled and at risk youth. He worked at the home up until 2004 when he moved with his then fiancé to Vancouver, Washington.

He finished his schooling at Washington State University in 2006, where he earned a degree in Public Affairs with an emphasis in criminal justice and a minor in sociology.

Jamal and his wife Ebony just celebrated their 10 year wedding anniversary in 2015 and have two children: Asha, age 8, and Hasani, age 5.

McKenzie currently works as an at-risk advocate at Union High School and as the scheduling coordinator for Janus Youth Programs.

In his own words, Jamal had this to say, "I'm blessed to be able to still be coaching with Maco who shares the passion of using basketball as a tool to build great young men. I am excited about where we are going as a program."



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# BRUTINS

***MEN'S***

# BASKETBALL

***2015-2016***

