

2004

2004 Media Guide

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GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Softball



04 GEORGE
FOX



SOFTBALL
GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Coach Bob Steenson
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Excellence in Academics and Athletics

The Northwest Conference and NCAA Division III Experience

National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III

Colleges and universities in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III

NCAA place their highest priority on the overall quality of the educational experience and on the successful completion of all students' academic programs. Division III institutions seek to establish and maintain an environment in which a student-athlete's athletics activities are conducted as an integral part of the student-athlete's educational experience.

Division III consists of more than 400 institutions, making it the largest division in the NCAA. All Division III institutions award no athletically related financial aid to any students. Division III sponsors 13 national championships in men's sports, 14 in women's, and eight national collegiate championships that are combined with other divisions.

George Fox University has been a member of the NCAA since 1995 when — along with the other institutions in the Northwest Conference — it elected to transfer its membership from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).



George Fox left the Cascade Collegiate Conference to join the Northwest Conference in 1995, shortly before the Northwest Conference shifted national affiliation from the NAIA to the NCAA. Leaving behind years of success at the NAIA level, the conference embraced the move as one that would foster equity, sportsmanship, and genuine concern for the student-athlete in all endeavors of competition.

The Northwest Conference

The nine colleges and universities in the Northwest Conference are known for their academics and athletics.

The conference is building a reputation as one of the most competitive NCAA Division III alliances in the country. In the academic arena, every Northwest Conference institution has been ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as a top-tier school in its category.

Formed in 1926, the conference is one of the oldest athletic alliances in the western United States. Its nine members are all private colleges or universities located in Oregon or Washington.



- George Fox University**, Newberg, Ore.
- Lewis & Clark College**, Portland, Ore.
- Linfield College**, McMinnville, Ore.
- Pacific University**, Forest Grove, Ore.
- Pacific Lutheran University**, Tacoma, Wash.
- University of Puget Sound**, Tacoma, Wash.
- Whitman College**, Walla Walla, Wash.
- Whitworth College**, Spokane, Wash.
- Willamette University**, Salem, Ore.

BRUIN
SOFTBALL
WINNING
TRADITION 2004



1987



Three-time
First Team
All-NAIA
District 2
pitcher Dee
Aarhus

1991



Heidi Rettig pitched
the first perfect game
in George Fox history

First Team All-
Cascade Conference
pitcher Brandy Price



1993

1994



First Team All-Cascade
Conference catcher
Angie Jordan

1994



Pitcher Becky Stewart
was NAIA District 2
Player of the Year

2000



Two-time First Team
All-Northwest
Conference pitcher-
infielder Beth Davis

1995



First Team All-Cascade
Conference Melanie Parker
hit .301 with 20 RBI.

1999



First Team All-
Northwest Conference
Rachel Camp

2001



Laura Steenson won
First-Team All-Northwest
Conference Honors

2001



Cori Wulf led the Bruins
with a .311 batting aver-
age and 16 RBIs

2000



First Team All-
Northwest
Conference infielder
Brittany Baird

George Fox University

Mind, Body, and Soul

George Fox University is a Christian university of the liberal arts, sciences, and professional studies ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as a "Best Value" and as a top-tier master's university in the West. More than 2,900



students—including 1,500 traditional undergraduates—attend classes at the Newberg campus and at teaching sites in Oregon and Idaho. The George Fox faculty includes a former U.S. senator, the 2000 Oregon Professor of the Year, and three Fulbright Scholars.

George Fox offers unique programs. Every incoming freshman is provided a laptop computer to use and keep upon graduation. Students also can take advantage of the university's study-abroad program. George Fox pays transportation costs for a three-week

overseas study tour led by professors. Past trips have gone to every continent but Antarctica.

George Fox University was established in 1885 by Quaker settlers as Friends Pacific Academy. Herbert Hoover, the 31st president of the United States, attended the academy

before it became a college in 1891. The George Fox name honors the founder of the Friends (Quaker) church.

George Fox offers bachelor's degrees in more than 30 majors, degree-completion programs for working adults, a seminary, and 14 master's and doctoral degrees.



GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Head Coach Bob Steenson

It was a case of player first, coach second.

It is not unusual for college athletic programs to hire someone for their coaching staffs with the hope of enticing one of the coach's sons or daughters to play for the team when recruiting time came. However, when George Fox University hired Bob Steenson in the fall of 2002 as its new softball coach, it was a case of "player first, coach second."

When Steenson took over for Tim Hill, who had left the part-time George Fox position for a full-time opportunity at Pacific University, he joined his daughter, Bruin pitching ace Laura Steenson Serrat, for her senior year. She will return to the program this year as an assistant coach to her father.

"Certainly, it being Laura's last year had something to do with it," Steenson admitted, "but it was more than just a one-shot deal. I had been out of coaching for a couple of years, but after working with the George Fox team that fall, I realized I missed it, and here was a good opportunity to get back into coaching. I'm hoping to be here several more years."

The 2003 season was Steenson's first venture into college coaching, but he had 14 years



of experience as an ASA softball coach, having led teams of various age levels, from the 18-and-under groups on down, to several tournaments and two trips to ASA Nationals.

During that time, Steenson formed a friendship with Hill and was one of those who encouraged him to look into the George Fox coaching position three years ago. When Hill left, Steenson offered to guide the team through fall practices, and enjoyed himself so much that he made a proposal to take over the program to Director of Athletics Craig Taylor, who readily accepted.

The Bruins finished the 2003 season with a 5-31 record, due in large measure to a schedule that

was played entirely on the road because of poor drainage at the team's Morse Field. Steenson admits that the Bruins have a ways to go before challenging for the Northwest Conference title, but he is looking forward to watching the team improve in his second season.

A native Oregonian, Steenson graduated from Clackamas High, then played football for one season at Willamette University and a year of baseball on the first team ever at Clackamas Community College. He raced motorcycles and owned a motorcycle dealership before settling into sales of forest products for several years. He presently works as a marketer for Abco Marketing, which sells athletic and corporate logo apparel. He and his wife Rosie have been married for 33 years and live in Milwaukie, Ore.

SOFTBALL

We believe...

by Bob Steenson

We who are involved with George Fox University Softball believe that ...

... Softball is more than "just a game."

... Softball provides a safe arena in which student-athletes can build confidence in themselves as players and as team members.

... Softball is an opportunity to build relationships with other athletes as well as coaches. It is our desire to build community as a team, providing a support system. These relationships transcend the game, blossoming into friendships based on mutual respect and a compassion for one another as friends.

... Collegiate sports help one learn to stay calm in difficult situations, work with diverse individuals for a common goal, and believe in oneself.

... There must be a commitment to work together. Everything we do affects the team. A good attitude can make the difference.

... It takes just as much energy to put in only half an effort as it does to go all out. We strive to make the most of every moment.

... You have to dig deep when you think you've done all you can, because there is always a little bit more to be found than you thought.

... If at the end of the game, you can walk off the field and know you gave 100 percent, you have been successful, regardless of the score.

... Whatever you do, do your best!



CURTIS AND MARGARET MORSE COMPLEX

George Fox University soccer, baseball, and softball teams play home games on the Curtis and Margaret Morse Athletic Complex.

Located on the northeast section of the campus, the complex was renovated in 1989 using a major donation from Curtis and Margaret Morse, avid supporters of Bruin athletics. Four generations of the Morse family have attended George Fox.

All three Morse Fields are natural-grass surfaces. The soccer field, home to both the men's and women's soccer teams, has seating for 250 spectators.

The baseball field has seating for 250 spectators. Directly behind home plate is the concession stand and press box. The field measures 340 feet down the left field line, 375 to the left field power alley, 400 to dead center, 370 to the alley in right, and 335 down the line in right.

The softball field, which has an all-dirt infield, has seating for 100 fans. The outfield wall is 205 feet down the left field line, 200 down the right field line, and 200 to straightaway center.

Fund-raising efforts are now under way for a new athletic field complex located on 24 acres of land donated to the university by Newberg business owners Ken and Joan Austin.

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION:

Location:Newberg, Oregon (18,750)
 Mailing address:414 N. Meridian St.
 Newberg, OR 97132
 Founded:1891
 Denomination:.....Evangelical Friends (Quaker)
 Enrollment:2,913
 President:David Brandt
 Faculty athletic rep:Becky Ankeny
 Switchboard phone:.....503-538-8383
 Web site:www.georgefox.edu

ATHLETIC INFORMATION:

Nickname:Bruins
 Colors:Navy Blue and Old Gold
 Affiliation:NCAA Division III
 Conference:Northwest Conference
 Director of athletics:Craig Taylor
 Office phone:503-554-2911
 Assoc. dir. of athletics:Pat Bailey
 Office phone:503-554-2914
 Athletics secretary:.....Patty Findley
 Office phone:503-554-2910
 Athletics FAX:503-554-3864

SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE:

Sports info director:Blair Cash
 Office phone:.....503-554-2926
 Home phone:503-554-8067
 E-mail:bcash@georgefox.edu
 Sports info FAX:503-554-3864
 Sports Hotline:503-554-3868
 Sports Web site:.....www.georgefox.edu/athletics

COACHING STAFF:

Head Coach:Bob Steenson (2nd yr)
 GFU Record:5-31 (.139), 1 yr
 Overall Record:5-31 (.139), 1 yr
 Office Phone:503-554-2921
 Assistant Coach:.....Mark Vergets (2nd yr)
 Assistant Coach:Laura Steenson Seratt (1st yr)

BRUIN
SOFTBALL
GAME
SCHEDULE 2004



FEBRUARY

14	Sat.	Western Baptist (2)	12:00 noon
28	Sat.	at Concordia-Portland (2)	1:00 p.m.

MARCH

6	Sat.*	Willamette (2)	12:00 noon
7	Sun.*	at Willamette (2)	12:00 noon
13	Sat.*	Whitworth (2)	12:00 noon
14	Sun.*	Whitworth (2)	12:00 noon
19	Fri.#	vs. Redlands	5:45 p.m.
19	Fri.#	vs. Babson	8:00 p.m.
20	Sat.#	vs. Hamilton	10:45 a.m.
20	Sat.#	at Chapman	3:30 p.m.
22	Mon.#	vs. St. Catherine	8:30 a.m.
22	Mon.#	vs. Williams	10:45 a.m.
27	Sat.*	Lewis & Clark (2)	12:00 noon
28	Sun.*	at Lewis & Clark (2)	12:00 noon

APRIL

3	Sat.*	at Puget Sound (2)	2:00 p.m.
4	Sun.*	at Puget Sound (2)	12:00 noon
9	Fri.*	at Pacific (2)	12:00 noon
10	Sat.*	Pacific (2)	12:00 noon
17	Sat.*	at Linfield (2)	12:00 noon
18	Sun.*	Linfield (2)	12:00 noon
24	Sat.*	Pacific Lutheran (2)	2:00 p.m.
25	Sun.*	Pacific Lutheran (2)	12:00 noon

MAY

7-10	Fri.-Mon.	NCAA D-III Tournament Regionals	TBA
13-17	Thur.-Mon.	NCAA D-III Tournament Finals	TBA