

Softball

George Fox University Athletics

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2008

### 2008 Media Guide

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#### Recommended Citation

George Fox University Archives, "2008 Media Guide" (2008). *Softball*. 12.  
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# 2007-08 Softball



**GEORGE FOX  
UNIVERSITY**

## SOFTBALL GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

*Coach Mark Vergets*  
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gfubruins.com



2007-08  
SOFTBALL  
COACH  
MARK VERGETS

## Head Coach Mark Vergets

*Bruins continue to improve under fourth-year coach*

Mark Vergets, a longtime figure in Oregon softball, took over the George Fox University softball program in 2005 and fashioned a 12-25 record in his first year – triple the number of victories from the season before. Now, after two years of rebuilding, the Bruins are ready to again be a force in the rugged Northwest Conference.

Vergets was already familiar with the Bruin program, having served as an assistant coach under Bob Steenson the previous two seasons. The transition to the new coach was a smooth one, and the future of the program is brighter than ever as it embarks on its third year under Vergets' leadership.

Vergets' involvement in softball began in 1991 as a summer Amateur Softball Association coach. In 1998, he led his girls' 14-U Oregon ASA fastpitch summer team to the state championship. He was an assistant

softball coach at Newberg High School from 1999 to 2002.

Vergets moved to Newberg in 1964. Mark and his wife, Roni, own and operate Newberg Hardware.

The Vergets have been married for 31



years and have four grown children: Keri, Kory, Kindra (a member of the 2004 George Fox softball team), and Kirk. They have three grandchildren: Kodee, Kenya, and Zenry.

### From Coach Vergets...

*Thank you for taking time to put George Fox on your list of schools to look at. We know you have many things to think about over the next few months that will greatly impact you for the rest of your life.*

*We encourage you and your family to come and spend some time with our staff and players and see what our team passion is about!*

**BRUIN  
SOFTBALL  
WINNING  
TRADITION**

**2007-08**



**1987**



Three-time  
First Team  
All-NAA  
District 2  
pitcher **Dee Aarhus**

**1991**



**Heidi Rettig** pitched  
the first perfect game in  
George Fox history

**1994**



First Team All-Cascade  
Conference catcher  
**Angie Jordan**

**1993**



First Team All-Cascade  
Conference pitcher  
**Brandy Price**

**1994**



Pitcher **Becky Stewart**  
was NAA District 2 Player  
of the Year

**2002**



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

**1996**



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

**2004**



**Cassie Halvorson**, a three-time All-Northwest  
Conference outfielder, went 186 at bats without  
striking out, the third-longest streak in NCAA  
Division III history.

**2000**



First Team  
All-Northwest  
Conference infielder  
**Brittany Baird**

## Keys to Success

by Mark Vergets

An adaptation of UNION (author unknown)

If we are united as a softball team, what can stand before us? If we divide – in our thinking, believing one job or one position is more important than another – we shall destroy ourselves.

To be unified for a successful softball team, we must:

- 1) Be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of it.
- 2) Speak freely to each other, not allowing any unwholesome talk, which is not helpful for building others up. Never depart without a kind word.
- 3) Take care not to be jealous of each other's positions or playing time.
- 4) Never speak lightly of one another (especially when joking around or teasing).
- 5) Defend one another's character.
- 6) Labor, in honor, each to prefer the other before oneself.
- 7) Respect ... life, liberty, authority, humankind, and individual personalities (strengths and weaknesses).

The first step to success begins by a deep dedication to the Bruin softball program; without commitment, frustration will result.

It is time to stop futile, self-destructive activities and find uplifting, positive ones to contribute by reaching out with our time, thoughts, and talents. Believing in our value is discovering who each of us is and approving of that individual.

Even though one may be joking or teasing about another's faults or

weaknesses, it is demeaning. As a coach, I expect each staff member and player to have the highest level of morals, ethics, and citizenship.

Although being here in this softball program is a very small piece of the big-life picture, we have a great opportunity to develop a family-type relationship that can provide lasting friendships.

Take the first step ... venture out ... allow ourselves, our teammates, and the coaches to be "less than perfect" – and yet believe that everyone makes a contribution.

Each member of our softball team has the freedom and the ability to make our life, our school, and our world a better place, starting with each new day. Believing this can bring joy, peace, and fulfillment. This is the start of something big!



## 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 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 their 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 & 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.

# George Fox University

*A matter of mind and spirit*

George Fox University is a Christian university of the humanities, sciences, and professional studies. Nearly 3,200 students – including 1,600 traditional undergraduates – attend classes at the Newberg campus and at teaching

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 40 majors, degree-completion programs for working adults, a seminary, and 16 master's and doctoral degrees.



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.

With a student-to-faculty ratio of 12-to-1, George Fox offers personal attention to each student. 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



## 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 330 down each line, 365 to the left-center power alley, 370 to right center, and 380 to dead center.

The softball field, which has an all-dirt infield, has seating for 100 fans. The outfield fence is 200 feet down each line, and 205 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 (20,565)  
 Mailing address: .....414 N. Meridian St.  
 Newberg, OR 97132  
 Founded: .....1891  
 Denomination: .....Evangelical Friends (Quaker)  
 Enrollment: .....3,200  
 President: .....Dr. Robin Baker  
 Faculty athletic rep: .....Kerry Irish  
 Switchboard phone: .....503-538-8383  
 Website: .....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: .....Steve Grant  
 Office phone: .....503-554-2917  
 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 website: .....gfubruins.com

### COACHING STAFF:

Head coach: .....Mark Vergets (4th yr)  
 Office phone: .....503-554-2921  
 Assistant coaches: .....Erin Case (3rd yr)

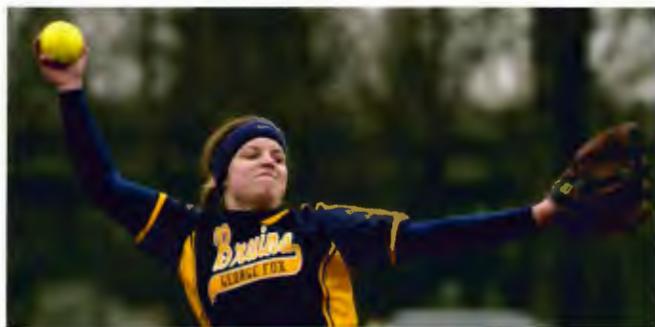


**GEORGE FOX  
UNIVERSITY**



## **INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

are an important part of George Fox University, home to one of the Northwest's most successful small-college sports programs. Winning programs, of course, are accompanied by a proper balance between academics and athletics. At George Fox University, student-athletes compete for conference and national titles at a Christ-centered university where professors and coaches help them grow in mind, body, and spirit. Intercollegiate athletics competition provides for practical application of what is learned in the classroom and at practice.



**THE UNIVERSITY** fields teams in 15 varsity sports, eight for women (golf, volleyball, soccer, cross country, basketball, softball, tennis, and track and field) and seven for men (soccer, cross country, basketball, baseball, golf, tennis, and track and field). More than 15 percent of George Fox's traditional undergraduate students participate in these sports. Their records over the years serve as shining testimonies to the administration's conviction that an institution can play for the glory of God, follow the rules and ethics of its governing organizations, and be successful on the fields and courts of competition at the same time.

At George Fox, the values of athletics are integrated with the goals of Christian higher education in a process that includes:

- Physical conditioning
- Managing emotions
- Courage
- Teamwork
- Cooperation
- Graciousness in winning and losing



Consider the growing legacy:

- George Fox has earned national, district, or conference titles 21 times during the last decade.
- George Fox athletes have earned more than 300 All-America and All-America Scholar-Athlete honors.
- Seven of the 13 coaches on staff have been named Coach of the Year at various levels a total of 27 times.
- George Fox coaches have held their positions for an average of 10 years, and together have accumulated more than 1,500 collegiate wins.