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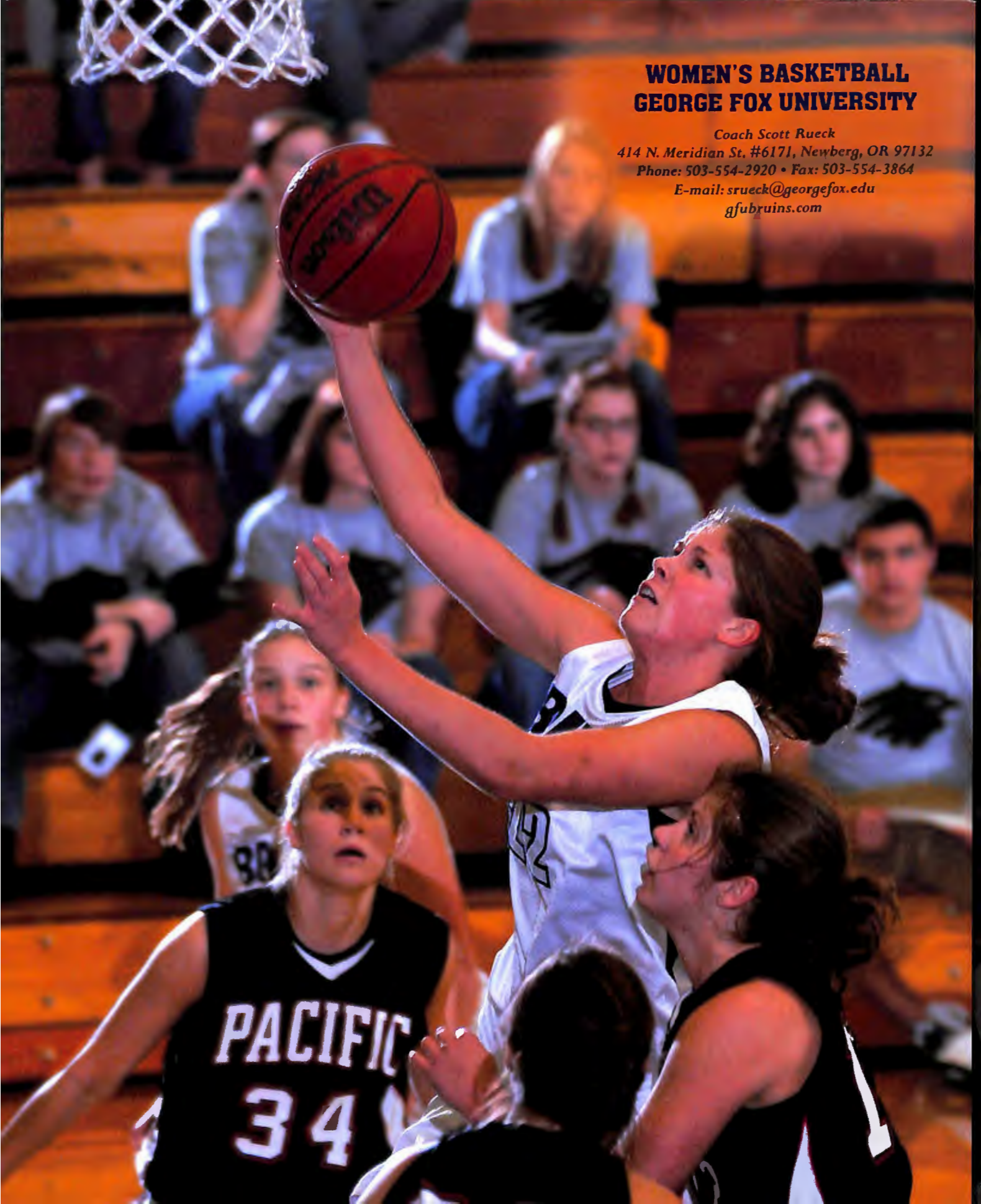
2006-07 Women's Basketball

GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Coach Scott Rueck
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The 2005-06 Season

Record-tying start propels Bruins to 13th straight winning season

Making it 13 winning seasons in a row, the George Fox Bruins rolled to a 19-6 record in 2005-06 and tied for third in the Northwest Conference with a 10-6 league mark, continuing a run of excellence that has established the Bruins as one of the top teams in the nation at the NCAA Division III level.

The Bruins exploded from the blocks, racing out to an 11-0 record that tied the team record for the longest winning streak and the most wins to start a season. The Bruins' first 10 wins were all by double-figure margins, and the team rose as high as second in the national polls.

The winning streak came to an end when Puget Sound shot 60 percent from the field against the Bruins in their first conference game on the road, and a series of injuries to key players plagued the team throughout the rest of NWC play. That prevented them from achieving back-to-back league titles and another postseason bid.

Nationally, the Bruins ranked 14th in three-point field goals per game (7.2), 48th in won-lost percentage (.760), 50th in scoring margin (+11.5), 54th in three-point percentage (.342), 58th in blocked shots per game (3.96), 60th in scoring (69.6 ppg), and 74th in field-goal percentage (.418) and assists per game (15.2).

Sparking the Bruins to another winning season was shooting guard Kim Leith (Sr., Sherwood, Ore.), who earned All-NWC First Team and D3hoops.com All-West Region Third Team honors. While leading the team in scoring (13.8 ppg), she ranked sixth in the NWC in that category, as well as being third in three-point field goals (2.12) and free-throw percentage (.829, 47th nationally), eighth in three-point percentage (.344, 69th nationally), ninth in steals (1.72), and 14th in assists (2.12). She finished her career fourth on the school's all-time scoring list with 1,348 points and seventh in assists with 235. She is the all-time leader in three-pointers with 205, and edged Christy Brock for the all-time free-throw percentage lead, making 210 of 259 for an .8108 mark to Brock's .8105.

Robin Taylor (Jr., Bend, Ore.), Leith's running-mate at wing, was named to the All-NWC Second Team while ranking second on the team in scoring and eighth in the conference at 13.2 points per game. She was the league leader in field-goal percentage (.525) while ranking fourth in three-point field goal percentage (.429), fifth in three-pointers (1.56) and free-throw percentage (.784), seventh in assists (2.72), and 11th in steals (1.68). She was named the Most Valuable

Player in the D3 Hoops in Hawaii Classic and received NWC Player of the Week honors for Nov. 21-27.

Honorable mention All-NWC recognition went to forward Katy Campbell (So., Springfield, Ore.), who led the Bruins in rebounds per game (6.4) while ranking seventh in the conference. She was also 11th in field-goal percentage (.461), 15th in steals (1.48), and 23rd in scoring (8.6).

Tiffany Schmidt (Jr., Hillsboro, Ore.) ranked 62nd nationally in blocked shots per game (1.75).

Coach Scott Rueck completed his 10th season with the Bruins with a career mark of 184-73, a winning percentage of .716 that puts him in the top 35 among all active Division III coaches.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL WINNING TRADITION 2006-07

1982

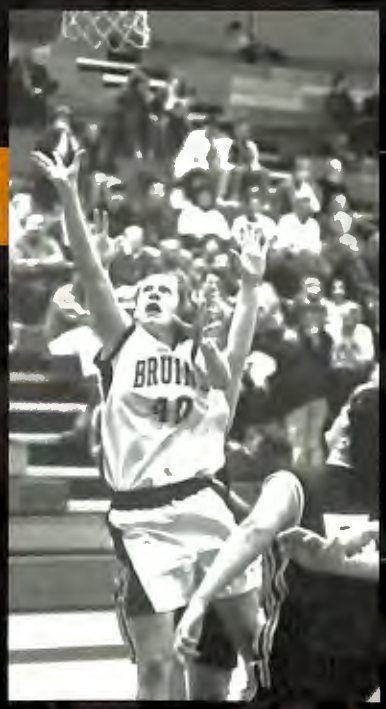
NAIA First-Team All-District 2 ***Melody (Groeneveld) McMaster*** *scored a school-record 37 points in a game versus Willamette University.*

1988

NAIA First-Team All-District 2 ***Tammy Lewis*** *grabbed a school-record 23 rebounds in a game versus Western Oregon University.*

George Fox's women's basketball has recorded 13 consecutive winning seasons.

1993



Cascade Conference First Team ***Kristy Fleming*** *had 31 points and 20 rebounds in a game versus Central Washington University.*

1991

NAIA Honorable Mention All-American ***Heidi Rueck*** *had 13 assists in a game versus Linfield College.*

The 2000-01 Bruins started the season 20-1 and were ranked No. 1 in the nation for two weeks before finishing with a 23-3 record and a No. 11 national ranking.

2000-01

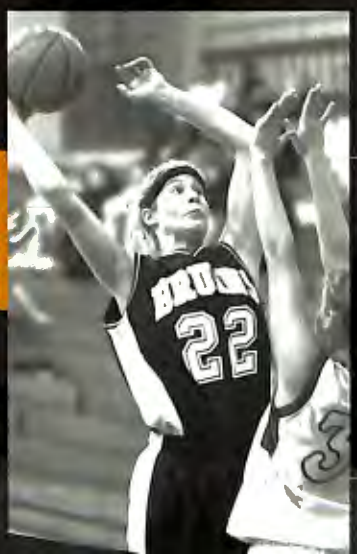
1996-97

First Team All-Northwest Conference ***Angela Pettit*** *scored 35 points in a game versus Lewis & Clark College.*

1995-96

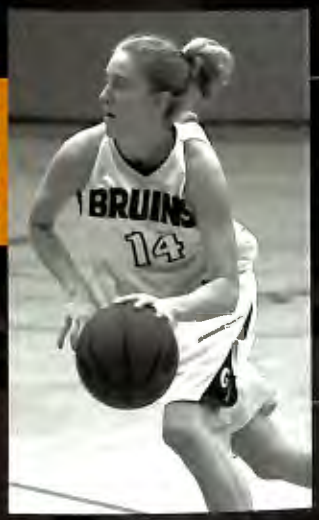
NAIA Div. II Second-Team All-American ***Nancy Rissmiller*** *was named NAIA National Female Athlete of the Year by College Sports Magazine. She also was a two-time NAIA national high jump champion.*

2000-01



Kodak NCAA DIII All-American ***Katie Lacey*** *twice was named Northwest Conference Player of the Year.*

2004-05



Kim Leith *was the Northwest Conference Player of the Year, an honorable mention All-American, and set a single-season record for points scored with 485.*

10 and Counting ...

Scott Rueck has never had a losing record in 10 seasons at George Fox

With 10 consecutive winning seasons, an overall record of 184-73 (.716), five postseason playoff appearances, and three top-25 final national rankings, the George Fox Bruins under Scott Rueck have become one of the finest programs in the nation at the NCAA Division III level.

The 2005-06 season was another addition to that success story as the Bruins went 19-6 overall and tied for third in the rugged Northwest Conference at 10-6. An 11-0 start to the season boosted the Bruins as high as second in the national polls, but injuries to key personnel in the second half slowed the Bruins' hopes of a second straight conference championship and playoff berth.

A three-time honoree as NWC Coach of the Year (1999-2000, 2000-01, and 2004-05), Rueck has guided the Bruins to conference titles in those same three seasons. In three NCAA playoff appearances, the Bruins are 4-3, reaching the "Elite 8" of the tournament in 2004-05 and a No. 10 ranking in the final WBCA poll, the highest finish ever for a George Fox team. The 2000-01 squad, which opened the season 20-1, was ranked No. 1 nationally for two weeks before winding up 11th in the final rankings.

Rueck, 37, has 17 years of coaching experience. From 1993-95, he served as a women's basketball assistant. Previously, he served as an assistant boys' basketball coach at Santiam Christian High School in Corvallis, Ore.

A graduate of Glencoe High School in Hillsboro, Ore., Rueck comes from a basketball family. His sister, 1995 George Fox graduate Heidi Rueck, set the school's career, season, and single-game assist records as an NAIA All-American point guard. His father, Marv Rueck, was a longtime member of the basketball coaching staffs at Hillsboro Union and Glencoe high schools.

Rueck graduated from Oregon State University, earning a bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science and a master of arts degree in physical education teaching. He and his wife, Kerry, an assistant coach for the women's basketball team, live in Newberg with their 2-year-old son, Cole.

The Rueck Record (1996-2005)

Year	School	Overall	Pct.	Conf.	Pct.	Team Honors
1996-97	George Fox	15-10	.600	11-5	.688	
1997-98	George Fox	16-9	.640	13-5	.722	
1998-99	George Fox	18-6	.750	14-4	.778	
1999-00	George Fox	23-5	.821	14-2	.825	NWC 1st (tie); #19 ranking; 2-1 in NCAAs
2000-01	George Fox	23-3	.885	15-1	.885	NWC 1st; #11 ranking; 0-1 in NCAAs
2001-02	George Fox	20-6	.769	11-5	.688	NWC 3rd
2002-03	George Fox	15-10	.600	10-6	.625	NWC 4th
2003-04	George Fox	13-12	.520	7-9	.438	NWC 5th (tie)
2004-05	George Fox	22-6	.786	14-2	.875	NWC 1st; 2-1 NCAAs; #8 ranking
2005-06	George Fox	19-6	.760	10-6	.625	NWC 3rd (tie)
10 years		184-73	.716	119-45	.726	

Rueck's Honors

1999-00	NW Conference Coach of the Year
2000-01	NW Conference Co-Coach of the Year
2004-05	NW Conference Coach of the Year

A Formula for Success

by Coach Scott Rueck

The Program

The women's basketball program at George Fox University is founded on hard work and discipline. We strive to place ourselves in a position to deserve success. We know if we work hard and continually pay attention to detail, we will reach our potential as a team.

Great athletes play basketball. We build our team around players who are physically gifted with speed, quickness, strength, and jumping ability. Over the course of our student-athletes' years in the program, it is amazing to watch how they make strides in strength and athleticism.

Mental toughness is a key component. We ask that our players fall in love with competition. To love competing is to constantly push yourself to higher levels of accomplishment. Our players understand that the only way to learn how to win is to pursue competitive situations that produce winners and losers. Fear of failure is not allowed.

Our approach on the court is one that begins with stingy defense coupled with an opportunistic running game and a solid offensive approach that starts inside and works itself outside. We take care of the ball, we rebound well, and we force our opponents into a low shooting percentage.

The Person

I believe it is my responsibility as the leader of this program to create an atmosphere that is conducive to learning and growing. The George Fox women's basketball program does not solely exist to teach a group of athletes how to sink a ball into a hoop or how to stop another team from doing so, but to teach young adults how to better themselves as people.

Our coaching staff pushes our players daily to be at their best. Discipline is the avenue; responsibility is the result. Our players learn quickly in their first year how hard they have to play. The result is a team that competes at a high level day in and day out. But more importantly, players develop a work ethic that will lead to success throughout their lives.

The development of leadership is possibly the most important aspect in team sports. Acquiring leadership skills mold athletes' futures and defines their roles in life. Our athletes are first exposed to the principles of our program by following those in leadership positions. Soon they move into that role.

My goal as the head coach is to create an environment in which each player understands her role on the team and works hard to fulfill that responsibility. Because I have been in every position on a team – from a starter to a player who never made it into the game, I can relate to each player's role.

We want our players to have fun but realize that the only way to have fun is to be successful – not necessarily in wins and losses but by playing well. Some of our teams' proudest moments have been following losses where we've left it all on the floor.

The type of player that enjoys the most success at George Fox is one who has a high sense of personal responsibility, is self-motivated, and loves being a part of a team. She would rather be a national champion than an All-American. She loves to be coached, challenged, and pushed daily.

Players love to play basketball at George Fox. Our athletes can expect their teammates and coaches to always respect one another, encourage each other, and stay committed to achieving our goals. It is a formula that has proven to be a winning combination.

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 athletics activities of a student-athlete 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 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).

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 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.

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.*

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION:

Location .....Newberg, Oregon (20,565)
Mailing address .....414 N. Meridian St.
Newberg, OR 97132
Founded 1891
Denomination.....Evangelical Friends (Quaker)
Enrollment 3,185
President .....David Brandt
Faculty athletic rep .....Dr. Melanie Hulbert
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 .....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
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Home phone 503-554-8067
E-mail.....bcash@georgefox.edu
Sports info fax 503-554-3864
Sports hotline 503-554-3868
Sports website .....gfubruins.com

COACHING STAFF:

Head coach .....Scott Rueck (11th yr)
Alma mater .....Oregon State '91
Overall Record.....184-73(.716)
Office phone.....503-554-2920
Assistant coaches
Megan Dickerson (1st yr) Alma mater: MSU-Billings '98
Heather Doud (1st yr) ..Alma mater: George Fox '02

WHEELER SPORTS CENTER/ MILLER GYM

Entered by crossing a wooded canyon on a 200-foot bridge, the Wheeler Sports Center is the home of the George Fox Bruins basketball team. The $2.7 million, 55,000-square-foot complex is the university's largest building.

Wheeler's main feature is the James and Lila Miller Gymnasium. With a total seating capacity of 2,750, and measuring 116' x 174', the gym contains three full-length basketball courts, three volleyball courts, and 10 badminton courts. The ceilings are 32 feet above the hardwood maple floor.

Adjacent to the gym on the upper level are a staff room, multipurpose room, classrooms, and athletics administration and faculty offices. The building's weight room was remodeled and expanded during the summer of 2002 and now contains 1,800 square feet of floor space. On the lower level are dressing rooms, team rooms, a concessions area, laundry facilities, an equipment-issuing room, and storage space. An east wing of the building houses two racquetball courts.

GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY BRUINS

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.

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

THE UNIVERSITY fields teams in 14 varsity sports, eight for women (golf, volleyball, soccer, cross country, basketball, softball, tennis, and track and field) and six for men (soccer, cross country, basketball, baseball, 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.

Consider the growing legacy:

- George Fox has earned district or conference titles 19 times during the last decade.
- George Fox athletes have earned more then 300 All-America and All-America Scholar-Athlete honors.
- Seven of the 12 coaches on staff have been named Coach of the Year at various levels a total of 26 times.
- George Fox coaches have held their positions for an average of nine years, and together have accumulated more then 1,500 collegiate wins.