

2016

2016 Media Guide

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GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Bruins



BASEBALL

2015-2016

SEASON PREVIEW

Looking back at the past two seasons, the Bruins have been a solid program. In 2014, they finished 28-12, a .700 winning percentage, but were denied a bid to the regional tournament. Last season, despite significant roster changes, the Bruins rode out unexpected challenges to finish with a 13-11 record in the Northwest Conference, but lost out to Pacific Lutheran in the NWC tournament.

As the 2016 season approaches, though, head coach Marty Hunter and his squad are unwilling to leave things to chance. For Hunter, clearing that last plateau begins with his team's experience: they've been through this before.

"We have so many guys back," said Hunter, "and they have a strong desire to see it happen. They want it – that's a big piece."

The Bruins carry most of this experience through the middle of their lineup. "In the middle of the lineup, we're looking at Andrew Reichenbach, Jake Thran and other guys - Kady Nannini, Brandon Wileman and Jacob Woehler as a formidable bunch," Hunter said.

With sophomore AJ Valencia setting the table – he hit .322 last year and swiped 12 bases – the Bruins' 3-4-5 ought to have plenty of opportunities. And there's more than just power in the lineup. Besides the aforementioned Valencia, seniors Clay Mott and Gabe Louthan can both outrun a catcher's arm, and there's even

more speed behind them. The Bruins, Hunter says, have plenty of talent.

"Pitching-wise, we're going to use a lot of people. Each guy needs to do his job. But they're all going to throw strikes."

It doesn't hurt that, regardless of who's on the mound for the Bruins, an excellent defense will be ready.

"Our defensive is very energetic. They play hard. Defensively we'll be solid."

Looking forward, Hunter has few worries about the makeup of his squad. The Bruins are balanced, experienced and energetic. They've been here before; they know what to expect. Hunter is only concerned about keeping his guys on the field.

"Injuries," Hunter responded when asked what could derail his club. "When guys are healthy and you have options; it's much easier. When guys are injured, it hampers you."

If the Bruins maintain their health, the season looks promising. The Bruins' season will be about experience - not only the experience they carry with them, from seasons of practice and play, but the experience to come.

"We'll be fun to watch. We'll progress. I look forward to watching the guys play and seeing their improvement," said Hunter.



SCHEDULE



DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
FEBRUARY		
Fri. 5	Pacific Lutheran	2 PM
Sat. 6	Puget Sound	11 AM
Sun. 7	Whitman	11 AM
Mon. 8	Pacific (Ore.)	3:30 PM
Fri. 12	Emory / Concordia	9 AM / 5 PM
Sat. 13	Pomona-Pitzer / Rhodes	11 AM / 6 PM
Sat. 20	Pacific (Ore.)	11 AM / 2 PM
Sun. 21	Pacific (Ore.)	12 PM
Sat. 27	Willamette	11 AM / 2 PM
Sun. 28	Willamette	12 PM
MARCH		
Sat. 5	Whitworth	11 AM / 2 PM
Sun. 6	Whitworth	12 PM
Sat. 12	Whitman	11 AM
Sun. 13	Whitman	12 PM
Fri. 18	Dubuque	8 AM
Sat. 19	Carthage / Buena Vista	9 AM / 12:30 PM
Sun. 20	Concordia	8 AM
Tue. 22	Willamette	2 PM
Fri. 25	Pacific Lutheran	12 PM / 3 PM
Sat. 26	Pacific Lutheran	12 PM
APRIL		
Sat. 2	Puget Sound	12 PM / 3 PM
Sun. 3	Puget Sound	12 PM
Sat. 9	Lewis & Clark	12 PM / 3 PM
Sun. 10	Lewis & Clark	12 PM
Sat. 16	Linfield	12 PM / 3 PM
Sun. 19	Linfield	12 PM
Fri. 22	TBA - Northwest Conference Tournament	TBA
Sat. 23	TBA - Northwest Conference Tournament	TBA
Sun. 24	TBA - Northwest Conference Tournament	TBA
Fri. 29	Linfield	TBA
MAY		
Sun. 1	Linfield	3 PM

2016 ROSTER



1 Jalen
Drath



2 Riley
McKean



3 Gabe
Louthan



4 AJ
Valencia



5 Kady
Nannini



6 Connor
Newell



7 Caylen
Clardy



8 Nate
Higa



9 Tyler
Hamilton



10 Brandon
Wileman



11 Dustin
Wells



12 Sam
Morland



13 Dillon
Blankenship



14 Blake
Stassi



15 Ansel
Webster



16 Zachery
Muenster



17 Patrick
Thorpe



18 Nick
Auld



19 Houston
Thom



20 Kyle
Esquerra



21 Derek
Johnson



22 Zack
Rhoads



23 Jantzen
Tamanaha



24 Mason
Dunning



25 Jake
Thran



26 Clay
Mott



27 Liam
Kent



28 Andrew
Reichenbach



29 Mikah
Takashige



30 Zach
Stouder



31 Michael
Zicarelli



32 Gavin
Speegle



33 Colby
Watilo



34 Jacob
Woehler



35 Alex
Jondal



36 Connor
Forsyth



37 Bryan
Branstatter



38 Ethan
Boughal



39 Brandon
Casteel



40 Rowdy
Huston



41 Brock
Jackson



42 Cameron
Lewis



43 Tyler
Ridings



44 Jake
Timlin

No.	Name	Pos.	Ac./El.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/High School/College
1	Jalen Drath	UT	Jr./Jr.	5-8	175	Eugene, Ore. / Willamette / -
2	Riley McKean	INF	Jr./Jr.	5-9	165	Belfair, Wash. / North Mason / -
3	Gabe Louthan	OF	Sr./Sr.	5-11	165	Dayton, Ore. / Western Mennonite / -
4	AJ Valencia	CF/OF	So./So.	5-8	155	Phoenix, Ariz. / Desert Vista / -
5	Kady Nannini	OF	Sr./Sr.	5-8	170	Gresham, Ore. / Gresham / -
6	Connor Newell	INF	Jr./Jr.	5-9	155	Roseburg, Ore. / Roseburg / Mt. Hood CC
7	Caylen Clardy	UT	Jr./Jr.	5-10	186	Beaverton, Ore. / Aloha / Oregon State
8	Nate Higa	P/INF	Jr./Jr.	5-10	190	Pearl City, Hawaii / Punahou / -
9	Tyler Hamilton	C	Jr./Jr.	6-2	175	Lindon, Utah / Timpanogos / Salt Lake City CC
10	Brandon Wileman	OF	Jr./Jr.	5-11	190	Mesa, Ariz. / Red Mountain / -
11	Dustin Wells	P	Sr./Jr.	5-10	170	Glendale, Ariz. / Brophy Prep / -
12	Sam Morland	P	Sr./Sr.	6-0	210	Newberg, Ore. / Newberg / Mt. Hood CC
13	Dillon Blankenship	OF	Jr./Jr.	6-1	195	Baker City, Ore. / Baker / -
14	Blake Stassi	P	Jr./Jr.	5-8	145	Elk Grove, Calif. / Bradshaw Christian / -
15	Ansel Webster	C	Jr./Jr.	5-11	195	Milwaukie, Ore. / Lakeridge / Lower Columbia College
16	Zachery Muenster	P/INF	So./Jr.	6-1	185	Waianae, Hawaii / Punahou / Alcorn State University
17	Patrick Thorpe	P	Jr./Jr.	6-1	165	Vancouver, Wash. / Evergreen / Chemeketa CC
18	Nick Auld	P	So./So.	6-0	165	Newberg, Ore. / Newberg / -
19	Houston Thom	OF	So./So.	5-11	190	Gresham, Ore. / Barlow / -
20	Kyle Esquerra	SS/2B	So./So.	5-11	165	Tualatin, Ore. / Horizon Christian / -
21	Derek Johnson	OF	Fr./Fr.	6-1	175	Spring Branch, Texas / Smithson Valley / -
22	Zack Rhoads	OF	Fr./Fr.	5-7	175	McMinnville, Ore. / McMinnville / -
23	Jantzen Tamanaha	INF	Fr./Fr.	5-7	150	Aiea, Hawaii / Punahou / -
24	Mason Dunning	1B	Sr./Sr.	6-2	210	Milwaukie, Ore. / Rex Putnam / Lower Columbia College
25	Jake Thran	1B	Sr./Sr.	6-3	230	Gresham, Ore. / Barlow / -
26	Clay Mott	INF	Sr./Sr.	6-0	175	Gresham, Ore. / Gresham / U of Portland
27	Liam Kent	P	Fr./Fr.	6-0	175	Torrance, Calif. / Bishop Montgomery / -
28	Andrew Reichenbach	C	Jr./Jr.	6-1	225	Newberg, Ore. / Newberg / -
29	Mikah Takashige	P/SS	So./So.	5-9	170	Wahiawa, Hawaii / Leilehua / -
30	Zach Stouder	P	Fr./Fr.	6-2	210	Clackamas, Ore. / Clackamas / -
31	Michael Zicarelli	OF	Fr./Fr.	5-6	160	Auburn, Wash. / Thomas Jefferson / -
32	Gavin Speegle	C	Fr./Fr.	6-2	205	Eagle, Idaho / Eagle / -
33	Colby Watilo	C	Fr./Fr.	5-11	180	Walla Walla, Wash. / Walla Walla / -
34	Jacob Woehler	1B	Sr./Sr.	6-2	215	Sacramento, Calif. / Capital Christian / -
35	Alex Jondal	P/C	So./So.	6-4	220	Spokane, Wash. / Ferris / University of Hawaii
36	Connor Forsyth	SS	So./So.	6-0	175	Tukwila, Wash. / Foster / -
37	Bryan Branstatter	1B	So./So.	6-5	235	Pendleton, Ore. / Pendleton / -
38	Ethan Boughal	P	Fr./Fr.	6-0	213	Lacey, Wash. / Timberline / -
39	Brandon Casteel	P	Fr./Fr.	5-8	160	Washougal, Wash. / Washougal / -
40	Rowdy Huston	P	So./So.	5-9	170	Eugene, Ore. / Marist / -
41	Brock Jackson	P	Fr./Fr.	6-3	180	Portland, Ore. / David Douglas / -
42	Cameron Lewis	2B	So./So.	5-10	145	Irvine, Calif. / Beckman / -
43	Tyler Ridings	INF	Fr./Fr.	6-1	175	Kent, Wash. / Seattle Christian / -
44	Jake Timlin	P	So./So.	6-1	165	Castle Rock, Colo. / Valor Christian / -

COACHING STAFF



Marty Hunter
Head Coach (2008-)

Marty Hunter, the 2009 Northwest Conference Co-Coach of the Year, enters his ninth season at the helm of the nationally recognized Bruin' baseball program with a record of 204-123 (.624).

In 2015, the Bruins posted an overall record of 17-25 and 13-11 in the Northwest Conference and qualified for the Northwest Conference Tournament with the top four-teams in double-elimination style. The Bruins fell after two tough battles and were sent home in their second game. Zach Rapacz and Ian Buckles were named All-NWC First Team, while Andrew Reichenbach was named All-NWC Second Team and AJ Valencia earned an Honorable Mention.

The season before, Hunter led his team to an overall record of 28-12 (.700) and 15-9 (.625) in the Northwest Conference. They finished third in the NWC standings and had 11 players garner All-NWC accolades.

Hunter's 2009 team went 36-11, the second-most wins in a season in Bruin history. After tying for the conference championship with Pacific Lutheran, both at 27-5, the Bruins defeated PLU in a one-game playoff to earn the NWC's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The playoff win gave the Bruins a 33-9 regular season record, the most wins prior to postseason play in team history. In the West Regional in McMinnville, Ore., the Bruins battled back after an opening-round loss to California Lutheran with wins over No. 1-ranked Pomona-Pitzer, Texas-Tyler, and Chapman, before Chapman eliminated the Bruins in the regional title game. Hunter was named NWC Co-Coach of the Year along with PLU's Geoff Loomis, a former George Fox assistant coach.

Hunter first came to George Fox as an assistant baseball coach in 2003, with a primary focus on the infielders, and was named

the Bruins' associate head coach in 2005. Under his tutelage, the George Fox defense ranked in the top six nationally in fielding average for five straight seasons (2003-2007), leading the nation in both 2003 and 2005 and setting a Division III record in 2005 with a .979 fielding mark.

Prior to joining the George Fox staff, Hunter led Canby (Ore.) High School to a 132-63 record from 1995-2002. His teams made the state Class 4A playoffs every year and won Pacific-9 Conference titles in 1997, 1998 and 2002. He was the Pac-9 Coach of the Year in '97, '98, '01, and '02. He also continued as a teacher at Canby while working with the Bruin baseball team.

Hunter coached Bend (Ore.) High School from 1991-94, going 68-40. Bend won Intermountain Conference titles in 1991 and 1992, and he was named Coach of the Year in the conference both seasons. In 1990, he served as an assistant coach with the Bend Bucks, a team in the professional Class A Northwest League.

A graduate of Gresham (Ore.) High School, Hunter attended Linfield College, where he received two letters as a football cornerback and three as a second baseman and catcher on the baseball team. He earned both dual business and health degrees from Linfield in 1984, then worked at Gladstone, Gresham, and West Albany High Schools, all in Oregon, before landing in Bend. He completed a master of education degree from Linfield in 1991.

In addition to his coaching duties, Hunter serves as an instructor in the George Fox Department of Health and Human Performance. He and his late wife Kim have two sons: Taylor, 25, a two-time all-conference shortstop for the Bruins who enters his third year as an assistant coach for his alma mater, and Tucker, 22, who graduated from Oklahoma State University and lives in Dallas, Texas. Marty resides in Canby.



Kevin Kopple
Assistant Coach &
Recruiting Coordinator (2007-)

Kevin Kopple enters his ninth season with the Bruins serving under head coach Marty Hunter.

Kopple serves as the recruiting coordinator as well as working with the catchers and third

basemen.

He coached in the West Coast Collegiate League-Portland for four summers and now serves as the commissioner of the league, which is now known as the NCBL-Portland.

As a player, Kopple was a part of the 2006 team that made an appearance in the NCAA D-III National Tournament, and the 2005 team that won the Northwest Conference championship.

Before his playing days at George Fox, Kopple spent two years at Napa Valley College in Napa, Calif.

A 2006 graduate of George Fox, he is now working toward a master's degree in sports management from the United States Sports Academy.



Taylor Hunter
Assistant Coach (2012-)

Taylor Hunter enters his fourth season under head coach Marty Hunter in the 2016 season.

Hunter graduated from George Fox in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in health and human performance. He was a four-year standout ath-

lete for the Bruins and holds 10 records in the baseball records book. His biggest claim to fame is topping the chart in sac hits with 35, which is seventh in Division III.

When he isn't coaching at George Fox, he spends his days working for the Nike company store.



Brent Trask
Assistant Coach/Pitchers (2014-)

Brent Trask enters his second season for the Bruins serving under head coach Marty Hunter. Trask will work with the pitchers for the 2016 season.

A George Fox standout, Trask was named second-team All-NWC his junior season ('09) and first-team All-NWC his senior season ('10) as a catcher. He finished his career hitting .308 and played in over 60 games. He was a part of the 2009 season, in which the team won the Northwest Conference Championship and made the NCAA D-III National Tournament.

Before his time at George Fox he spent two years at Linn Benton Community College. He earned honorable mention for as

a catcher his freshman year and earned first-team all-conference accolades as a sophomore.

Trask graduated from George Fox in December of 2010 earning his degree in pre-physical education. He later received his master's degree in June 2013 from Oregon State University in physical education teacher education.

Trask works for local Newberg School Edwards Elementary as a teacher in physical education.

Brent married former women's basketball national champion Elise (Kuenzi) Trask on August 13, 2011. They currently reside in McMinnville.



Seth Anderson
Assistant Coach (2015-)

Seth Anderson enters his first season as an assistant coach under head coach Marty Hunter for the 2016 season. Anderson will work with the first/third basemen and hitters.

Anderson was the starting first baseman for the 2009 season, when the team won the Northwest Conference championship and made the NCAA D-III National Tournament. His 2009 squad posted the second highest batting average in the country and second-most wins in a season only to the 2004 team at George Fox. Anderson played two years for George Fox and recorded a batting average of .335. He recorded 307 at bats, 103

hits, 22 doubles and 62 RBI's.

A native of Boise, Idaho, Anderson started his college career playing two seasons of football for Boise State University. He was part of the 2007 Fiesta Bowl winning team vs. University of Oklahoma. Seth then transferred to Wenatchee Valley Community College to pursue his passion of playing college baseball.

Anderson graduated from George Fox in the spring of 2010 with a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing.

Seth and his lovely wife, Kristin, reside in Newberg.



Randy Rutschman
Assistant Coach (2004-)

