The Church-State Divide

There's no argument that the First Amendment's guarantee of religious freedom has allowed faith to flourish in America. But the proper relationship between church and state — including at places such as George Fox — is still a matter of debate.

When George Fox University senior Pisey Sok declared himself a Christian ministries major, he gave up his $3,000 Oregon Opportunity Grant. Sok could have studied biology or business and kept the annual award, but his desire to be a youth pastor cost him the grant. The Oregon state constitution bars state funds from being spent on religion.

A private donor has made up the difference in Sok's financial aid, but Mark Hall, associate professor of political science, sees Sok's loss as a violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Hall last summer signed a Friend-of-the-Court Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of a Northwest College student who is challenging a similar law in the state of Washington. The case, Locke vs. Davey, was heard last month. A decision, perhaps by a 5-to-4 vote, is expected this summer. If the Washington law is ruled unconstitutional, similar constitutional provisions or laws in 36 other states — including Oregon — also will be overturned.

The Locke vs. Davey case follows several high-profile court battles over the volatile church-state relationship. Each side claims victories. The chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court recently was ousted for refusing to remove a Ten Commandments monument from a state building. In 2002, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled state-funded vouchers could be used to pay for tuition at religious schools. That same year, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the phrase "under God" could not be included in teacher-led recitations of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools.

"Pervasively Religious"

George Fox University has an interest in how the courts define the relationship between church and state. The Christian mission of George Fox has cost the school hundreds of thousands of dollars in state support: A 1982 American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) suit charged Oregon with violating its state constitution because it was providing aid to institutions that were "pervasively religious." At the time, Oregon private colleges received a stipend from the state for each Oregon student they educated. During the 1970s, George Fox received between $130,000 and $225,000 annually from the state. Because of its large number of Oregon students, George Fox was one of the biggest beneficiaries. "We were the primary institution they were after," says Don Millage, who was business manager at the time. George Fox initially resisted the suit, but it became obvious the case would hinge on the school's mission.

"We admitted we were pervasively religious and let it go," says Millage.

One Powerful Phrase

One 16-word phrase has unleashed more than two centuries of church-state legal battles. It is found in the Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The First Amendment begins "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . . ."

The possibility of future Christian ministries majors receiving state grants depends upon how the Establishment Clause — the part of the sentence before the comma — and the Free Exercise Clause — the part after the comma — are interpreted by the Supreme Court.

"It was never really defined to anyone's satisfaction what 'establishment' meant," says former U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield, who now teaches at George Fox as the Herbert Hoover Distinguished Professor. "We're going to wrestle with that until the Lord comes."
First-Hand History Lessons

Students get a personal perspective on history in a new class taught by former U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield

Presidential impeachment. The Vietnam War. Watergate. Desert Storm. George Fox University students this spring are getting an inside perspective on those historical events from a man who participated in making the history. Former U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield this semester will address conflicts between the presidency and Congress in a new course, Congressional- Presidential Relations on the Newberg campus.

Students will read about the events and hear Hatfield tell his version of them. Students also can ask questions.

This will be the first time Hatfield has addressed the topic in a semester-long course. The longtime Oregon senator joined the George Fox faculty in early 1987 after a 30-year career in the Senate. He will team teach the spring class with Mark Hall, associate professor of political science.

“The basic idea behind the class is to look at conflicts between the presidency and Congress during the time Sen. Hatfield was in office,” Hall said.

Hatfield will discuss Watergate, the impeachment of presidents Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton, judicial nominations, Vietnam, the War Powers Act, Grenada, Gulf War I, presidential leadership in major pieces of legislation, and congressional oversight of the president (including legislative vetoes).

Hatfield is George Fox’s Herbert Hoover Distinguished Professor. He will be teaching his 15th semester at George Fox. He spent a half century in Oregon political life, including service as a legislator, secretary of state, two-term governor, and five-term U.S. senator.

A Healthy Dialogue

The United States is envied, emulated, and criticized in many places in the world. My friends in Kenya still ask how the United States manages to be a Christian nation. When I suggest that maybe it has not been very Christian for some time, and that currently the popular culture is considered anti-Christian by many, they tell me it doesn’t look that way from their perspective.

After all, we speak and move about freely. In spite of some very visible failings in recent years, business ethics are much more Christian than in some other parts of the world. And, those failings have been publicly punished. We are free to have Christ-centered institutions of higher education that are accredited by the same agencies that accredit public and secular institutions, and students bring with them financial support from government agencies.

We live in a special country. Some of this “specialness” is the result of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which establishes the separation of church and state. We are free to practice our Christian faith commitments unhindered by the government. Our brothers and sisters in other countries, such as China for example, do not have such freedom. In many other countries the resistance to Christian faith is over fervent than in China, but sometimes just as real. We are fortunate to have our expressions of faith protected by law.

There is, of course, another side to this discussion. Since the founding of the United States, the Christian religion has often had preferred status. The First Amendment, as currently interpreted, assures not only equal treatment for all religions, but also public support for any religion. It can be easily shown, however, that faith-based organizations in our country often operate for the public good, not just for the good of the religious community. Should public funds be used for the public good, and, if so, how can such funds be denied faith-based organizations?

George Fox University is an unapologetically Christ-centered institution, and yet we prepare students to be effective citizens in the real, deliberately secular world. Our graduates are sought after by employers, sometimes because they bring with them a value system that is effective in the real, non-religious world, but also because they are well-prepared for their careers. They become effective physicians, attorneys, teachers, businesspersons, homemakers, pastors, and journalists.

Our nation will not likely reach a definitive conclusion about the proper interpretation of our First Amendment any time soon. I believe that’s good. We live in a special country that needs to have this ongoing conversation, and Christians need to be a deliberate part of this dialog.

George Fox University needs to prepare students who will effectively participate in this conversation for at least two reasons. We need to work diligently to make the United States the finest nation possible and we need to be clear about what it means to be Christian and how best to express our faith in the country in which we live.

There are some things believers can do without consulting with or worrying about government. One such thing is to pray. We hear about Korean churches where many thousands of believers pray each morning, seven days each week. How might such an intense prayer effort affect the United States? I encourage you to pray about the First Amendment conversation in our country, and pray that the United States is envied, emulated, and criticized in many places in the world. My friends in Kenya still ask how the United States manages to be a Christian nation. When I suggest that maybe it has not been very Christian for some time, and that currently the popular culture is considered anti-Christian by many, they tell me it doesn’t look that way from their perspective. After all, we speak and move about freely. In spite of some very visible failings in recent years, business ethics are much more Christian than in some other parts of the world. And, those failings have been publicly punished. We are free to have Christ-centered institutions of higher education that are accredited by the same agencies that accredit public and secular institutions, and students bring with them financial support from government agencies.

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Roman Belonozhko sits atop a table across from the recording studio in the World Harvest Church. His legs swing to the alternative rock playing in the dark, foam-padded room. Hanging around in the studio with him are the stylish youth of refugee families from Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus.

Belonozhko's brown eyes flash as he expresses what importance this church holds in his life — it is for him a breath of fresh air. World Harvest, a Slavic congregation located in east Portland, pulses with life. This church embraces contemporary worship and even has its own rock band, the Briksa Band.

"The other Russian churches here are bigger and more formal, music-wise," says Belonozhko, 20, who moved to the United States from Ukraine with his family 12 years ago. "At those churches, there are no drums, no worship teams — they are more like the Ukraine churches in the older times. There hasn't been much progress with the music and Bible study. This church is where I really started to grow."

The concept of modern worship is nothing new to American churches. Yet somehow its practice remains uncommon in Russian-speaking congregations in the United States. But this church's pastors — George Fox Evangelical Seminary students Yuri Bigun and Andrey Martynychev — are striving to draw in the new generation. Their goal is to help people connect to God, and music is a critical channel. "Time is moving and things are changing — that means music has changed. I feel worship must be practical," says senior pastor Bigun.

The pastors, both of whom are married and have young children, are troubled by the scores of young Slavic Christians leaving the faith. About 100,000 Slavic people live in the Portland-Vancouver area, says youth pastor Martynychev. Most of these came with their families from the former Soviet Union so they could worship freely. "Only about one-third of those still follow God," he says.

Bigun first came to the United States two years ago with the intention only to visit his parents. But when he learned that more than 6,000 Slavic youth in the Portland area abuse drugs, plans changed. "I felt I needed to stay in Portland to do something," says Bigun, who was pastoring a church in Ukraine at the time.

He returned and assumed the role of senior pastor for World Harvest after its first pastor left 18 months ago. Martynychev, who is from Russia, joined as youth pastor soon afterward. The next step, they decided, was to become better equipped to minister. So both enrolled in George Fox Evangelical Seminary, where Bigun attributes with helping them understand U.S. culture and build the church. "It's really a great blessing for us."

Though reaching youth is their greatest passion, much of the congregation's approximately 120 people are young families with small children. They come because the worship feels genuine and the church is their family. "This church makes me thirstier for God," says Pavel Kuznetsov, a young mother. "We are looking for the unlimited God — not religion."

World Harvest's youth group is still small, with about 10 members, but Martynychev doesn't mind. His focus is on discipleship. "I want devoted young people who love the Lord with all their hearts and serve him with all their hearts," he says.

His work is paying off with several youth who love to read the Bible and pray together, teach the younger children, and jam in the recording studio.

"I really feel this church is a family," says Vitaly Belonozhko, Roman's brother. "I have never experi- enced something like this before. I think this is what the church is all about."

— Tamara Cissna

Tracy Prybyla found it a challenge to practice speaking Spanish outside the classroom last year, so she found a solution: She moved into the Spanish house, one of George Fox University's six Living and Learning Communities. Now she speaks Spanish every day.

Prybyla mixes daily with eight other women who share a common goal — all seek to improve their Spanish-speaking ability and to build stronger social connections on campus. "Living here makes what we learn feel more relevant," Prybyla says, "and this setting is a lot more open for creating friendships because you are living with people who have a similar passion."

The home's interior identifies the community's unmistakable focus. Spanish words are posted randomly, verb charts are displayed near light switches, and even chore lists are written in Spanish.

"We have fun with the language, the food — gallo, pinto, tamales, tortillas espanolas — and, of course, the music," says house manager Beth Hernandez, a sophomore majoring in Spanish and international studies. "The guys' Spanish house next door seems like a natural extension of our house. We are either at their house watching a movie or studying, or they are over here eating food and listening to music, and it really feels like the three brothers."

The program, with 68 students participating this year, is in its pilot year. Administrators are working out the program, with an eye toward expansion next year. Cara Copeland, assistant director of residence life, encourages students to dream about the possibilities for new communities based on their passions.

— Tamara Cissna
were state supported. Hall notes 11 of the 13 colonies supported established churches — the Anglican Church in the South and the Puritan and Congregational churches in the North. Since the First Amendment applied only to the federal government at the time, many states continued to fund and promote their churches after the amendment became law.

Those who argue for this view say that if the clause does more than ban a national church, it prohibits the government from favoring one religion or denomination over another. “For instance, it can’t hire only Baptist chaplains for the military or fund only Roman Catholic schools,” Hall says.

Strict Separation

The other major view of the Establishment Clause is that there should be strict separation between church and state. The ACLU and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State are high-profile advocates of strict separation, arguing that any government support for religion violates the amendment and threatens religious liberty. They have embraced President Thomas Jefferson’s description of the Establishment Clause as creating a “wall of separation between church and state.” The phrase — used in an 1802 letter to a group of New England Baptists — came to prominence in a 1940s church-state case and has been quoted often in recent court decisions.

Even today, one could argue the “wall of separation” isn’t an accurate description of the current relationship between religion and government, since the state closes its offices for Christmas, hires military chaplains, exempts churches from taxes, and declares “In God We Trust” on its money. Rather than a “wall of separation,” one judge jokingly called it a “sponge of separation.”

“No Money ... for Religion”

“It is the Oregon constitution that bars Sok from his grant. States are allowed to develop their own laws governing the church-state relationship as long as they don’t violate the U.S. Constitution. Oregon and Idaho — the two states where George Fox offers classes — have more restrictive laws than the federal government. The Oregon constitution was adopted in 1859 with the mandate, "No money to be appropriated for religion." Hall says this and many of the other state laws barring aid to religious institutions were created by Protestant majorities to block government aid to Catholic schools.

Religious Discrimination

Several Supreme Court cases in recent years have moved the federal and state governments away from strict separation. Influenced by the First Amendment’s Free Exercise and Free Speech clauses, the court has ruled states cannot discriminate against religion. For example, 10 years ago it ruled that non-religious and religious clubs must receive equal access to facilities.

Hall believes this line of reasoning will carry over into Washington’s Locke vs. Davvy case. "No one is claiming that students studying religion or theology should be favored," he argues. “But Washington may not discriminate against students because they choose to major in Christian ministries, rather than physics.”

That equal treatment is why the federal government allows Sok, the religion major, to receive a $3,500 Pell Grant. The grant is available to any financially eligible student enrolled at an accredited institution, no matter the major.

The Legacy of the First Amendment

Despite the potential negatives of a strict interpretation of separation, Robin Baker, George Fox provost and professor of history, says evangelical Christians should be grateful for the First Amendment. With the end of the Congressional and Anglican religious monopolies, he says dissident groups such as the Baptists, Methodists, and Quakers were allowed to grow. “Evangelical religious expression owes its very existence to the concept of separation of church and state,” he says.

Certainly the church would have found ways to reach people even in a society with a state church, but the nature of religious toleration in the United States provided an environment that enabled passionate men and women to convert thousands for the cause of Christ.

In this environment of religious freedom, colleges with a Christian theological commitments — such as George Fox University — sprouted up across the nation. Today, more than 100 American colleges are members of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities. Many of them could be affected by the upcoming Locke vs. Davvy ruling and all certainly have an interest in the future of the church-state relationship. While many would probably like to see the state prohibitions on aid to religion overturned, they likely are even more adamant about protecting their ability to teach, operate, and worship as they feel Christ leading them. “It is in our direct interest to ensure that the state continues to remain distant from religious institutions,” says Baker.

One thing seems certain. Whatever decision the Supreme Court makes on the role of church and state in Locke vs. Davvy, it will not silence the two-century-old debate.

“Evangelical religious expression owes its very existence to the concept of separation of church and state...”

— Robin Baker, provost, George Fox University

Early Quakers Encouraged Religious Freedom

A Friends (Quaker) influence. Noted Christian historian Mark Hall credits 17th-century Quaker William Penn with being nearly a century ahead of his time when he included provisions for religious liberty in the 1682 Pennsylvania Charter of Liberty. Those ideas later would be echoed in the First Amendment.
Dr. Hagen Puts Down the Baton

From organizing historical pageants to starting the university’s East Asia Exchange Program, longtime music professor Dennis Hagen has done far more than conduct during his four-decade career at George Fox.

Before the music begins, the conductor must signal the first downbeat. Throughout his multifaceted 36-year career at George Fox, Dennis Hagen has given countless first downbeats, both on and off the musical podium.

Hagen grew up in Keizer, Ore., near Salem. Hagen says that George Moore, then academic dean at George Fox, recruited the 26-year-old pastor, saying “I know five people who can do what you can do for Clear Lake, but you’re the only person qualified to do what we need in instrumental music.”

Eight students signed up for his first concert band class. A story from that era claimed Hagen would identify prospective band members by going through the dorms looking under the beds for music-minded students. Some students called him “Colonel” during the early years. “It was a title of compliment: ‘They say, ‘I don’t remember much about college, but I’ll always remember band tour.’”

Twice the band performed overseas. The 1976 band went to Western Europe. The 1999 band was in flight to China when the United Nations bombed the Chinese Embassy in Kosovo, stressing U.S.-China diplomatic relations. The band was welcomed warmly, but many of the concerts were cancelled.

Hagen is a tall, calm man with a fondness for storytelling. Even as times of the concerts were cancelled. “It was a statement of respect that everyone should honor the directo,” says Hagen. After he earned his Ph.D. from Indiana in 1973, students addressed him as Dr. Hagen or Doc. H.

Hagen shaped the fine arts department for a university English entrance exam. More than 60,000 copies have been printed. Another five books will be print this year.

His relationships have led to the creation of several exchange programs. Nearly a dozen George Fox professors have taught at Chinese universities since 1993. Numerous Chinese professors have visited, lectured, or studied on the George Fox campus.

His contribution to the Hubei Province, which has 60 million residents, was recognized in 2002 with the Chinese Bells Governor’s Award. The Hagens currently are in the United States recruiting English teaches to teach in China. They hope to return to Asia this spring for a three-year period. He has some dreams, but “there’s nothing firm about the future,” he says. It seems there are a few more downbeats left in this conductor.

— Rob Fenton, trumpet player for Hagen, 1986-92

Dennis Hagen conducted numerous George Fox instrumental groups from 1984 until he became director of the university’s East Asia Exchange Program in 2000. His retirement plans include a return to teaching English in China.

That same year he and his wife, Janet, joined several others to open a restaurant in downtown Newberg. It often featured live musical entertainment by George Fox students. The couple has teamed up on numerous ventures during their 43-year marriage. Music united them in high school. “She was the pianist in the choir,” he says. “I was a tenor in the back row. I looked at her and she looked at me and that’s all it took.”

In 1990, they took a summer English-teaching trip to China that turned his career path eastward. He and Janet have returned to spend seven summers and four full years as foreign experts in English at Wuhan University of Technology in central China.

The Pageant Guru

The year after department accreditation, Hagen set out on a series of new ventures. During the summer of 1982 he organized the first Champoeg Historical Pageant. During the next 10 years, more than 100,000 people saw the dramatic recreation of Oregon’s trek to statehood. Hagen’s input was known as” the father of Oregon’s historical pageants” and the “Oregon pageant guru.”

Loren Wenz (right), was hired in fall of 2002 to direct the choir and DaySpring, the university’s traveling vocal ensemble.

Wenz was director of choral activities at South Salem High School from 1981 to 2002. In addition to winning 10 Oregon School Activities Association state choir championships, his choir also finished second five times. His South Salem Jazz Choir took first place at the Northwest Jazz Festival 14 times.

He has been named Secondary Educator of the Year by Salem-Keizer Schools, Willamette University, and South Salem High School. He has been named one of 10 outstanding music educators in Oregon by the Oregon Music Educators Association and the National Association for Music Education.

A Talented Trio

George Fox University hires three of Oregon’s top music directors

Patrick Vandehey, a future in the Oregon music education field, is the new conductor of the George Fox Symphonic Band. Vandehey was hired last summer after teaching music for 23 years in the Beaverton School District. His last nine years were at Westview High School, where he directed the program to five consecutive Sweepstakes Awards at the Rose Festival’s Grand Floral Parade and three consecutive state championships.

Vandehey is currently president elect of the Oregon Music Educators Association. Vandehey has served as president for the Oregon Band Directors Association and as an executive member of the OBA Directors’ Academy.

Bill Hunt is in his first year as director of the Chehalem Symphony. He also is conductor of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony’s Concert Orchestra in Portland. A récitalist and founding member of the Artemis Quartet, he has been concertmaster of the Detroit (Texas) Bach Society, Eugene Symphony, and Oregon Mozart Players; first violinst in the Oregon Bach Festival; and principal second violinst with the Portland Baroque Orchestra.
Denise (Hills) Nickey (G76) moved to Newberg when she was 9. Her bookkeeper at Newberg Friends Church. She previously served almost 15 years as the office services director at Trout Rocks Friends Camp.

Robert Wright (G76) and his wife, Linda, are the owners of Apple Annie Antique Gallery in Casimir, Wash.

Marie (Eisenbruch) Ruffin (G77) recently received her certificate as a medical office assistant. She is now the medical records clerk for Care Center Rehabilitation and Pain Management in North Hills, Calif.

Jeannette (Ryens) Wesham (G78) earned her master of arts in organizational management from Concordia University in St. Paul, Minn., in June 2003.

Jack Lyda (G79) recently moved back to Newberg after retiring from a 20-year career in the Air Force.

Michael Leflar (G82) was awarded the 2004 National Goalkeeper of the Year. He became the fourth George Fox team to finish eighth and third nationally.

Mike currently works at Central Middle School in Spokane, Wash.

Tori (Wesbrook) Sharpig (G83) accepted the position of executive director for Baby Love Pregnancy Crisis Center in Spring Hill, Fla., in May 2003. Baby Love is a Christian-based pro-life organization that helps individuals in pregnancy crisis situations.

Jean (Taylor) Wesham (G89) is an assistant teacher at Head Start in Greenwood, Ind. Her husband, Jeff Wesham (G89), is serving as pastor to the Spiceland Friends Meeting in Spiceland, Ind.

Eldred Brown (G93) is the director of music ministries for the new Orthodox Christian mission in Newberg. This mission is an outreach of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church of Portland. He also recently earned his associate of applied science degree in computer software engineering technology from Portland Community College.

Kevin Doughtery (G93) completed his Ph.D. at Punke University in August 2003. He is now a member of the faculty at Calson College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Ryan Bartlett (G94) is the senior pastor at the First Methodist Church in Prescott, Ariz. He took the position after graduating with his master of divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky., in May 2001.

Ruth (Zander) Mohl (G94) received her master of arts in international and intercultural management, focused on human resource development and training, at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vt. She and her husband are currently living in Japan and working for Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals.

Charles Rackner (G96) in spring 2003 completed his Ph.D. at the University at Albany. State University of New York in social/personality psychology. He is now a psychology professor at Redeemer University College in Hamilton, Ontario (Canada).

Benjamin Spotts (G96) recently returned from 17 months of working in India in partnership with local Christian organizations. He is finishing his master of arts in intercultural studies at Western Seminary in Portland.

Mark Frisell (G98) was given a full scholarship to pursue a master of arts in church history at The Catholic University, located in Washington, D.C.

Trevor Handley (G98) has been named an associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society. He is currently working as an actuarial assistant at Unigard Insurance Co.

Kirsten Kessler (G98, MAT03) has joined the staff at Nezavaka High School in Tillamook, Ore. She is teaching two classes in geometry and three in biology.

Andrew Wilson (G99) recently received his master of arts degree in early medieval history from the University of Manchester in Manchester, England.

Kristen Bolster (G01) recently graduated from Portland State University magna cum laude with a master of music in conducting. This past year she traveled to Europe with the PSU Chamber Choir, sang in Carnegie Hall, and is presently working on an international recording project. Bolster is continuing her education at PSU, working toward her master of science in special education, focusing on teaching visually impaired children.

Kelly Croomeville (MEl00) is the new principal at St. James School in McMinnville, Ore.

John Hartford (G01) (left to right): Richard (Dick) Cadd, Ronald (Ron) Crecelius, Norval Hadley, and Harrow Amiker.

Winner of the drawing: John Binger (G01), Silverton, Ore.

Correct answer: (left to right) Richard (Dick) Cadd, Ronald (Ron) Crecelius, Norval Hadley, and Harrow Amiker.

Winner of the drawing: Marvin S. Barper, Class of 1971, now living in Richland, Wash., received $25 worth of goods from the University Store.

Where are they now? Three of the four members now reside near their alma mater: Harrow Amiker lives in nearby Dundee, retired after 17 years as manager of Barclay Farms, Newberg, and 15 years as director of Twin Rocks Camp on the Oregon Coast. Norval Crecelius lives in Friendswood Retirement Community after 18 years as George Fox chaplain, then named exequatium in residence and finally chaplain emeritus. Dick Cadd retired in 1985 to Newberg after 30 years of missionary service in Tibet, Philippines, and Namibia. He resides in Quaker Gardens in St. Martin, Calif., where he is chaplain. He previously served nine years as executive director of Evangelical Friends Mission, based in Arvada, Colo., following 25 years with World Vision.

What were we told (selected)?

When I was a student and a graduate at George Fox College, I became engaged to film Westminster and wanted to be married at Forrest Home Friends Church.

2004 Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

George Fox University’s Sports Hall of Fame will induct its ninth class with a banquet and special ceremonies Friday, Jan. 30, as a part of homecoming events.

Larry Cronen (1945–49) was a four-sport star for the Bruins, earning All-Oregon Collegiate Conference honors as a linebacker in football and as top scorer in basketball, while also playing baseball and competing in track and field.

Charlotte Krebs (1938–72) was a three-time MVP in volleyball, a three-year starter and leading rebounder in basketball, and a three-time All-Star in tennis.

Tim Hagen (1973–76) set the school record in the high jump, winning the NCAA District 2 event three times. He earned All-American honors in 1973 and 1974, finishing eighth and third nationally.

Jeff Nelson (1980–83) was awarded the 2004 National Goalkeeper of the Year. He became the fourth George Fox team to finish eighth and third nationally.

Blair Jones (1988–90) set the school record in the mile, winning the District 2 event three times. He earned All-American honors in 1988–89 and 1989–90.

Correct answer: What we were told (selected): There’s been no Place like Home

For more information, call 503-554-2130 or go to www.georgefox.edu and click on “Homecoming.”

Homecoming 2004

January 30 to February 1

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Correct answer: What we were told (selected): There’s been no Place like Home
George Fox University students will be calling you soon to update you on what’s happening on campus and raise funds for scholarships and other university needs. Please take advantage of this opportunity to learn first-hand how George Fox students are having an impact on their campus and community.

MARRIAGES
Shanna Hill (GFES) and Anthony Cisneros, Nov. 18, 2003, Seattle, Wash.
Tammie Camerlo (GFES) and Gabriel Hostetler, July 13, 2002, Beaverton, Ore.
Cherish Carroll (GFES) and James Sattal, Aug. 30, 2003, Seattle.
Shana Hilt (GFES) and Anthony Cisneros, Nov. 18, 2003, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.
Juli Morse (GFES) and Matthew Stamp, Aug. 9, 2003, McCall, Idaho.
Heidi Oester (GFES) and Brian Cox (GFES), Sept. 19, 2003, Portland.
Stacy Baugh (GFES) and Kasey Powers, Oct. 12, 2003, McMinnville, Ore.

BIRTHS
Ronny (GFES) and Anna (GFES), a girl, Margaret (GFES) Allen, Aug. 16, 2003, Jackson, Mich.

DEATHS
Alice Dixon Dies at 88
Alice Dixon, former dean of women, dorm housemother, and long-time telephone switchboard operator, died Oct. 29 at age 88. Survivors include her brother, Paul, and nieces and nephews.

Seeking George Fox Yearbooks
Do you have a part of George Fox history you would be willing to share? The GFU Archives is seeking copies of scarce '84 yearbooks. Specifically, the Archives has no copy of the 1941 yearbook. It also has just one copy from the following years: 1937, 1938, 1955, 1975, 1979, 1982, 1984, 1986, and 1994. Note that in 1985, George Fox published an unusual three-part magazine format.

Got Advice?
Come share your career experiences with current students at Connections and Confections March 3 • 7 p.m. • Newberg campus
Host a table of students at Connections and Confections, an event where undergraduate students can learn about potential careers from alumni. Gourmet desserts will be served.

Precending the Connections and Confections event will be Career Services’ Etiquette Dinner, where students receive instruction on proper business meal etiquettes. For more information, contact Penny Galt, director of alumni relations, at 503-554-3130 or pgalt@georgefox.edu. Register online at www.georgefox.edu/alumni/program/cc.html

ALUMNI NOTES
Lisa (Roberts) Singletary (GFES) is teaching music to kindergartners through third-graders at Portland Christian Elementary.
Alison Townsend (GFES) is now a certified nursing assistant and physical therapist for ALS patients in Taunton, Ariz.
Sharia Hayt (GFES) is currently attending Azusa Pacific University, where she is earning her master’s in college student affairs.
Eric Sarem (GFES) is pastor at Trinity Baptist Church in Lakewood, Ore.
Valerie Darsey (GFES) is currently the head manager of Figaro’s Italian Kitchen in McMinnville, Ore.

Dr. Brandt and the “Audacious Goal”
George Fox president assists in determining NCAA direction
George Fox President David Brandt isn’t against motherhood and apple pie. But he says that’s just not enough when it comes to the future of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). He wants something more concrete. And he says a proposed “audacious goal” by the nation’s top athletics association really is needed.

His opinion counts. Brandt is one of nine NCAA Division III presidents in the nation selected to an ad hoc strategic planning committee named by NCAA President Myles Brandt.

In January, Brandt will express his views at the NCAA’s national convention in Nashville — his third national meeting with the NCAA in 10 months.

In a previous meeting of the NCAA’s management councils, discussion focused on core purposes, core values, and an “audacious goal.” It says the NCAA “will be the catalyst for successfully integrating the intercollegiate model of athletics with the higher education experience, for reinforcing the mission of the university, and for advancing the values and ideals of college athletics — mind, body, and spirit — as a positive force in our national culture.”

“I don’t think this is audacious at all,” says Brandt. “Most of the (Division III) schools do this all the time.” It’s expected and assumed, he says.

He said at past meetings his group had “significant input to suggest that the main purpose of the NCAA is to govern intercollegiate athletics.”

“This sounds obvious, but the statement that came to us from the other meetings talked about ‘motherhood and apple pie, but don’t get to governance.’”

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GEORGE FOX PHONATHON 2004
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A sk Ali and Barbara Forbes of Jackson, Wyo., about their All-American daughter and they’ll need a little more information: which of the three? In an unusual trifecta, all three of their daughters — Amy, Colleen, and Michelle — have attended George Fox and earned NCAA Academic All-Americans status in track and cross country. All three received the award from the United States Track Coaches Association. Honored athletes must have a minimum 3.25 grade average and participate in the NCAA Division III National Championships.

Academic All-Americans

Although Amy was the first to enter George Fox, in 1997, it was middle sister Colleen who earned her award first, placing 98th out of 211 runners in the nation’s cross country race in Spokane, Wash., as a sophomore in the fall of 2000. “The crazy thing,” says Colleen, “is that it really wasn’t my sport. That fall was my first time ever to run cross country.”

Amy, a senior, followed suit later that academic year by high-jumping 5 feet, 3.75 inches to tie for 12th place in the national track and field championships in Decatur, Ill. She had entered the event ranked seventh in the nation at 5-6.

“It wasn’t the best day for jumping,” Amy remembers. “It was rainy and windy, and the officials wound up changing the angle of the jumps after the preliminaries to compensate for the wind. I think all the changes and distractions probably affected me. But it was still a wonderful experience.”

Michelle, now in her junior year, completed the trio’s honors last spring when she tied for 13th in the high jump with a mark of 5-1.75 in the nationals at Canton, N.Y.

Sisterly Competition

All three sisters acknowledge the role their parents have played in their achievements. Ali Forbes was a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army who retired from full-time service and settled in Wyoming as an orthopedic surgeon in 1988. Remaining in the Army Reserve, he was recalled to active duty in early December and sent on a three-month tour of duty at a hospital in Afghanistan. Barbara Forbes was a longtime teacher and chair of the board of education in Jackson. “Our folks never demanded good grades, but they did want us to take school seriously,” says Michelle. “They just helped us when we had questions and always encouraged us to do our very best.”

There were very few low grades for any of the sisters. All of them began reading at the age of four and developed a sincere love for learning. Amy and Colleen became class salutatorians and Michelle was class valedictorian at Jackson Hole High School.

One might expect some intense competition among three sisters with such remarkably similar lives, yet they report very little sibling rivalry. “The girls really enjoy helping each other,” says Barbara. “Homework time for them was a family affair; they would gather around the table and study together.”

In the case of physical activities, Barbara says, “We didn’t push them into any one thing, but just encouraged them to try lots of different things — and did they ever. Soccer, basketball, running, dance, figure skating, alpine skiing … you name it, they tried it.”

Each girl began to develop her own specialty, and it was only when one would cross over into another’s area of expertise that any hint of a friendly rivalry emerged. “The high jump was my main event, but during my senior year in high school, the coaches said I ought to try the triple jump, which was Colleen’s specialty,” says Amy. “Well, the first thing I did was go out and beat Colleen’s personal record, and she couldn’t believe it. So she turned around at the next meet and beat my jump. I guess we helped each other like that with a little ‘sisterly competition.’”

Forbes’ Futures

Amy graduated in 2000 with a degree in psychology then remained at George Fox for two years to complete a master’s degree in counseling. During that time, she was an assistant coach with the Bruin volleyball program, for which she had earned Honorable Mention All-Northwest Conference honors as a senior.

She was able to watch Michelle, whom she had never seen compete in high school because of a four-year age difference. Now working temporarily at a bank back east, she is keeping medical missions in mind as a future career path.

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Michelle still has two years of classes left and will again be an integral part of the Bruin track program in the spring.

The girls’ brother, Ryan, plays basketball and runs track as a junior at Jackson Hole. Could there be a fourth Forbes in George Fox’s future? “There’s no way,” laughs brother Ali. “Blair Cash