“EVERY PLACE CHRIS HAS GONE THE PROGRAM HAS Risen – HE’S A WINNER.”

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

CHRIs CASEY WILL RETURN TO HIS BOYHOOD HOME TO COACH THE REVIVED GEORGE FOX FOOTBALL PROGRAM
George Fox Journal

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Athletics Offer Lessons in Life

I am the son of a coach. In 1968, I rode the team bus to watch my father’s Florence High School basketball team lose by almost 30 points to Marana, the top-ranked team in Arizona. I watched in the locker room as many of the guys cried. My father and the team talked about what they had not done well and made a commitment that the next game would be different. After seeing them lose so badly, I considered this wishful thinking.

But there was something special about this particular team. They had good players but no great players, and none would go on to play in college. What they did do was play together like no other team my dad had coached. They believed in each other, they sacrificed for each other, and no one seemed to care who received the credit.

The next time the two teams met, Marana came to Florence and the gym was packed. The faces of my father’s players are still etched in my memory – focused, attentive and resolved. I remember little about the game but the final score: Florence 69, Marana 50. Not only had my father’s team won, they reversed the first game’s outcome by nearly 50 points. The team believed it was possible, even when the coach’s son didn’t.

It’s been said, “Sports do not build character. They reveal it.” The sports page provides plenty of evidence of athletes with poor character. Individual character development comes from a coach who challenges, inspires and mentors athletes. It also comes from the modeling of good teammates who help each other face challenges.

Hundreds of our students each year find the lessons of the classroom enhanced on the fields of play as well as on the theatre stage, in student government offices and in many other extracurricular settings. At George Fox, we strive to create an environment where all of our students can honor God with their talents and reach their potential.

About 30 years after that Florence-Marana game, I was with my father when we happened upon a member of that remarkable team. The former player – now the mayor of Florence – wanted to thank my father for teaching him valuable life lessons: to never give up, to have faith in those you work with, and to remember that a group of committed people can overcome the odds if they work together.

I believe these are the lessons we continue to teach at George Fox University.

Robin Baker
President

To read more from President Baker, including his experiences at the NCAA Div. III Final Four with the women’s basketball team, visit his blog at blogs.georgefox.edu/president.
A SEASON TO REMEMBER  By Sean Patterson

For four months, nobody could beat the George Fox women’s basketball team – until a heart-wrenching injury to the Bruins’ star center thwarted the team’s quest for a national championship.

It didn’t include a storybook ending, but the 2011-12 season was one the George Fox women’s basketball team and its supporters won’t soon forget.

For four months, the Bruins didn’t lose a single game, routinely beating opponents by double digits. Living up to a No. 3 national ranking, George Fox went a perfect 16-0 in Northwest Conference play en route to a sixth straight NWC title, beating league foes by an average of 20.7 points in the process.

Then came thrilling victories in the postseason – most notably a 52-50 defeat of rival Lewis & Clark in the second round of the NCAA Division III National Tournament and a 76-69 victory over the nation’s top-ranked team, Amherst College (Mass.), in the Final Four semifinals.

The victories were memorable for different reasons: The former came when a banked-in Lewis & Clark three-pointer was waved off for coming after the buzzer, and the latter ended defending national champ Amherst’s 50-game win streak.

Sandwiched in between were one-sided victories over Bowdoin College of Maine (71-55, in a Sweet 16 matchup) and Mary Washington (68-45, in an Elite 8 game).

Suddenly, at 32-0 and with the top team behind them, it was looking more and more like the Bruins might match the magic of 2008-09, when George Fox went unbeaten to win the program’s first national title.

But it wasn’t to be.

A resilient effort notwithstanding, the Bruins succumbed 57-48 to Illinois Wesleyan in the championship game, contested on the campus of Hope College in Holland, Mich., on March 17. Remarkably, George Fox hung with the Titans to the very end despite playing without 6-foot-5 All-American center Hannah Munger most of the night.

Munger, whose career-high 36 points and 13 rebounds overwhelmed Amherst the day before, collapsed with a knee injury after colliding with Illinois Wesleyan’s Olivia Lett just eight minutes into the game. As Munger was helped from the court, the DeVos Fieldhouse fell silent.

“It took us a while to gather ourselves after Hannah went down,” said second-year head coach Michael Meek. “There was an emotional toll, but I couldn’t be any more proud of how we responded in the second half and made it a game again.”

Munger, on the bench with her right leg heavily bandaged, watched her teammates put together a 13-0 run midway through the...
second half to turn a 41-34 deficit into a 47-41 lead with just over five minutes to play. Leading the charge was senior forward Keisha Gordon, who scored nine of her team-high 17 points during the outburst.

Unfortunately, George Fox could only manage one point the rest of the way, and the team didn’t have an answer for Lett, an All-American guard who scored 11 of her team’s final 16 points on her way to a game-high 22 points.

As Gordon reflected on her final season, however, she wasn’t dwelling on the loss. Instead, one word came to mind. “Blessed,” she said. “Blessed is the word I’d use to describe this journey – everything about it. I’m just so incredibly blessed.”

Perhaps there is no better way to put it. In the past four years, George Fox has gone a remarkable 117-10 and reached the Elite 8 of the national tournament each year – and the Final Four twice.

“The hardest part of the season ending is knowing we won’t be seeing each other as much,” added Gordon. “The relationships between each of the players and coaches is what made this team so special.”

INDIVIDUAL ACCOLADES

Keisha Gordon finished her career as George Fox’s all-time leader in points (1,754) and steals (297). She was recognized as the NCAA Division III West Region Player of the Year, was named a First Team All-American by D3hoops.com and the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association, and earned Northwest Conference Player of the Year honors after finishing among the top 10 in eight statistical categories in NWC play.

Joining Gordon on D3hoops.com’s All-West Region First Team was junior center Hannah Munger, who also was a Second Team All-American selection by D3hoops and an All-America honorable mention choice by the WBCA. Munger, also named First Team All-Conference, reached double figures in scoring 25 times and in rebounds 16 times, with 15 double-doubles. She is already the Bruin career leader in double-doubles (40) and blocked shots (324).

Munger also earned a spot on the Academic All-American Third Team.

Michael Meek was named National Coach of the Year by D3hoops.com and NWC Coach of the Year. He is also a finalist for the WBCA National Coach of the Year honor.

Senior wing Arianna Mohsenian received honorable mention all-league honors.

For a roundup of this year’s tournament run, visit georgefox.edu/finalfour2012.
Nursing Grads Impress on National Licensure Exam

George Fox nursing graduates showed they were fully prepared to enter the workforce in 2011, recording a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses.

In just its sixth year, the program easily bested the 82.77 percent national pass rate for the exam, as all 31 graduates made the cut.

“We’re very proud of our students and the fact they have been consistently successful,” said Carla Hagen, director of the nursing program. “This is a testament to the quality of students who are joining our program.”

The program will increase its incoming class size from 40 to 48 beginning in the 2012-13 academic year. This is due in part to the high projected demand for registered nurses, which is expected to increase by 22 percent through 2018 according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics – much faster than the average for all other occupations.

To learn more about the nursing program, visit nursing.georgefox.edu.

New Act Six Scholars Bring Diversity, Leadership to Campus

A new cadre of Act Six scholars is set to join George Fox for the 2012-13 academic year. The group comes in with an impressive average GPA of 3.65 and includes students of Mexican-American, African-American, Romanian, Laotian and Nicaraguan descent.

More than 200 applicants took part in a rigorous three-month competition, but in the end seven students were chosen to receive four-year, full-ride scholarships based on leadership, academic potential and a commitment to making a difference in their communities.

The university’s sixth cadre of Act Six scholars all come from Oregon high schools, and five of the seven are first-generation college students.

Launched by the Portland Leadership Foundation, Act Six seeks to develop future urban leaders. Over the course of five years, 45 of the 49 scholars originally selected for the program at George Fox are still enrolled or have graduated, a rate that far exceeds national averages.

To help support future Act Six scholars, visit giving.georgefox.edu.
Harvard Physicist Lectures on Role of Faith in Science
World-renowned Harvard professor Dr. Gerald Gabrielse paid a much-anticipated visit to campus in February to present a free public lecture titled “God of Antimatter.”

Dr. Gabrielse, Harvard’s George Vasmer Leverett Professor of Physics, tackled questions such as “What role does faith have in a scientist’s life?” and “Is there more to our world than science can say?” in a presentation held at the university’s Wood-Mar Auditorium, in addition to speaking in chapel.

The event was the second installment of the school’s Dalton Lecture Series, and garnered significant interest due not only to the intriguing topic, but the extensive credentials of the speaker.

In addition to receiving numerous research awards from Harvard and the international science community, Dr. Gabrielse’s work has been featured in more than 165 scientific publications, and he is currently chair of the Division of Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics of the American Physical Society.

Bruin Track Star Invited to Oregon Sports Awards
The George Fox community cheered on Irene Johnson last May when she set a school record en route to victory in the 100-meter hurdles at the 2011 NCAA Division III Track and Field National Championships. Several months later, the entire state joined in.

In February, Johnson attended the Oregon Sports Awards as one of five finalists for the 2011 Ad Rutschman Small College Women’s Athlete of the Year Award. Johnson fell short of winning the award, but the nomination itself represented a significant accomplishment and served as validation for her memorable four-year career.

Johnson, who graduated in 2011, is only the third Bruin to claim an NCAA individual championship. She earned All-American honors for her outstanding season, which included four All-Northwest Conference honors in a variety of events as she led the Bruins to a conference title by a record 75 points.

Del Rio Brings Championship Experience to Men’s Soccer Team
A new men’s soccer coach will be roaming the pitch this year for George Fox, and he brings with him a track record of success. Luis Del Rio, who led Woodburn High School to back-to-back Oregon 5A state soccer championships in 2010 and 2011, will take on the challenge of turning around a Bruins squad that struggled to a 2:15-1 record last season.

But Del Rio, who lost only four games in the past three seasons with Woodburn, isn't daunted by the task at hand. “I think George Fox is committed to developing a good program . . .” he says. “Every day, every year, I’m going to challenge myself to be better, as a person, as a coach and as a leader.”

Del Rio will fill the vacancy left by Tim Tsohantaridis, who led the Bruins to an NCCAA championship in 1988, but recently stepped down to concentrate on his teaching duties in the university’s Department of Religious Studies.
SUCCESSFUL ALUMNUS RETURNS AS VP OF ADVANCEMENT

After nearly 19 years away, Brian Gardner returned to George Fox in January to take the reins as vice president for university advancement. Gardner, a 1989 graduate who also worked as a contracted admissions representative for the university until 1993, most recently made waves as director of development at Wheaton College, where he played an integral role in the school’s $260 million “Promise of Wheaton” campaign.

RECENT RECOGNITION

University President Robin Baker was inducted into the Grand Canyon University Hall of Fame in March as part of the university’s homecoming festivities. Baker, who earned his undergraduate degree with high honors from Grand Canyon in 1980, is among 40 members of his immediate and extended family to have attended the school.

In February, Baker participated in the new speaker series, Nobel Peace Laureate Forum: Preventing War & Ending World Conflicts. Baker joined 1993 Nobel Peace Prize recipient President F.W. de Klerk and others in a dialogue that sought to answer the question, “Where the Leadership Will Come From to End the Korean War and Solve the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.”

Assistant Professor of Political Science Michael MacLeod was awarded a $9,500 Canadian Studies Faculty Research Grant for his project, “Financial Investor Activism and Environmental Sustainability: A Comparative Analysis of Investor-Driven Governance Networks in Canada and the United States.”

Sarah Gibson’s interactive documentary, “Steve Taylor’s Digital Clone,” was honored by the 2012 Broadcast Education Association, receiving the Faculty Interactive Media Best of Festival King Foundation Award. The project was made possible by a George Fox faculty grant that allowed the professor of cinema and media communication to work with four students over the summer.

Associate Professor of Art Mark Terry’s pottery was included in “West Coast Wood Fire,” an exhibit featuring wood-fired ceramics by more than 50 contemporary clay artists from California, Oregon and Washington.

IN PRINT

In February, Professor of Art Doug Campbell’s new book, Parktails, was published by Wipf and Stock. Parktails is an adventure that takes place in the aftermath of a great forest fire. Once the fire is extinguished, the animals of Geyser District are forced to confront numerous difficulties.

Professor of Biblical and Quaker Studies Paul Anderson’s 68-page essay on the I-Am sayings in the gospels was published in the December issue of The Journal for the Study of the Historical Jesus. In the essay he challenges one of the key bases for questioning John’s historicity.

Professor of Business and Economics Debra Drecnik Worden recently received the Abramson Scroll for her outstanding contribution to the National Association for Business Economics journal Business Economics. She shared the honor with coauthor Diane Schooley-Pettis of Boise State University. The two authored “Fueling the Credit Crisis: Who Uses Consumer Credit and What Drives Debt Burden?”

Professor of Biology Don Powers had a manuscript accepted for publication in the journal Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology entitled “Respiratory evaporative water loss during hovering and forward flight in hummingbirds.”

Professor of History Paul Otto published an editorial, “Political Commitments and Doing Justice,” in Capital Commentary, a weekly current-affairs publication of the Center for Public Justice.

Junior history major Josh Pierson self-published a book, Voices of the Veterans: Conversations with Veterans of the Second World War, in which the stories of five veterans are recalled. Pierson also recently had an article about Pearl Harbor published in The Chronicle (Lewis County, Wash.).

SUCCESSFUL ALUMNUS RETURNS AS VP OF ADVANCEMENT

How can a simple bar of soap help put an end to the sex-slave industry in Lebanon? Last semester Bob Bredemeier’s Illustration class got the opportunity to find out. Students were tasked with creating a unique package design for the soap, which is marketed and sold in the U.S. by Twice Cleansed. The organization works in the country to encourage a cottage industry of soap making as an alternative to sex slavery and prostitution.

Junior Brian May created the winning product label (top), and senior Laura Silva designed the best product packaging. A portion of the proceeds will go toward human trafficking in the Middle East.
Most 18-year-olds might feel out of place in a room filled with vice presidents, directors and chief marketing officers. But for George Fox freshman Alex Perez, it’s business as usual. After all, Perez sits side-by-side with these community leaders on the board of directors for Hacienda CDC, a nonprofit organization that develops affordable housing for low-income Latino families.

“At first I was intimidated,” admits Perez, an Act Six scholar who has spent the past 12 years living with his family in Hacienda housing, but only a matter of months on its board. “I know my contribution might be small, but it has an impact at the same time.”

As it turns out, Perez has quite a knack for impacting his community – and he’s only getting started. Regular volunteer commitments include greeting patrons in Legacy Good Samaritan’s emergency room and serving food to the homeless at the Blanchet House in northwest Portland, the latter of which really hit home.

“That was a humbling experience ...” recalls Perez. “I saw people whose addictions took over their lives and their families and destroyed everything. I see that reflected in my family, but we didn’t get to that extreme.”

The oldest of five – including two special needs children – and son to a father who has long battled addiction and often wasn’t present, Perez is no stranger to the effects of poverty.

“It’s been challenging for me,” he admits. “But I feel like God put me in those places because he wants to see me grow, and I’m very optimistic about the future. I know the Lord is going to work in wonderful ways.”

For Perez – the recipient of a four-year, full-tuition Act Six scholarship – future plans include a bachelor’s degree in accounting followed by a master’s in business administration, inspired in part by his experience on the Hacienda CDC board.

“I saw how everything works together, how a nonprofit benefits from our contribution, and I was like ‘Wow, I want to be in the business field and serve my community that way,’” he says.

And while the specifics of Perez’s future plans may very well change, one thing won’t. “I’ve known people who grew up in the same situation I did, but after they made money they left,” he says. “My goal is to get an education, but go back. I’m not going to leave my people the way they are. I want to help them to make a better life.”

__Millage Leaves Lasting Legacy__

Former Vice President of Finance Don Millage died Feb. 17. A fixture at George Fox for 30 years, Millage didn’t stray far from campus following his retirement in 2001. He was named the university’s 2008 Volunteer of the Year for his dedicated service as the men’s basketball scorekeeper – a post he held through more than 300 total games.

Millage won’t soon be forgotten, thanks in part to the Virginia Millage Memorial Endowment that will be funded by his estate. Named in honor of his late wife, the endowment will provide several sizable scholarships to students majoring in elementary education.
“I ran a block and a half from our house and spent half a night in Calder (now the Lemmons Center) on the George Fox campus,” he says, chuckling. “I was just a kid mad at my dad for something – I don’t know what. Guess I always felt I had a home at Fox.”

Casey is again “home at Fox” – this time on a more permanent basis. In late February, he was introduced as future head coach of the university’s revived NCAA Division III football program. The Bruins will kick off their first season in 45 years in the fall of 2014. Casey will assume his new job in January of 2013, after guiding his current team, the Aloha (Ore.) High School Warriors, one last season.

The same Casey who, as a 10-year-old, joined with younger brother Pat to serve as a ball boy for George Fox’s last football team in 1968, is returning to the sidelines in his native Newberg.

“Home Field Advantage”

Casey can’t help but laugh when he thinks about coming full circle. He is now 54 and about to start a new venture in his boyhood home. In the 36 years since he graduated from Newberg High School, his travels have taken him all over the region, including assistant coaching stops at The Dalles High School (1982-85), Linfield College (1985-94) and Whitworth College (1994-2004).

Still, through all the years, his ties to Newberg have remained strong. His parents still live in town, and his brother Brian is the city’s police chief.

“The world is round, let me tell you,” he says. “I literally grew up playing on the fields at George Fox. It was the No. 1 place we hung out. As a kid, I remember football players from the college having lunch with us on Sundays. As a ball boy, I cleaned the ball [George Fox running back] Charlie James used to rush for 200 yards one game. I remember thinking I played a vital role in Charlie’s success that day.”

Remarkable Turnaround

These days, Casey is cultivating success at Aloha. When he took over the program in 2004, the Warriors had won just 17 games in the previous 14 seasons. They hadn’t made the playoffs since the mid-1980s. Playing in the Metro League – arguably the state’s strongest – Aloha was regularly outmatched on the football field.

“When we arrived there were a lot of obstacles to overcome,” recalls Aloha assistant coach Bob Mewhinney, who also coached with Casey at Linfield. “It took a ton of work to change the attitude and implement a new system. But with Chris’s leadership, we were able to turn things around. He believed in the kids. There was a lot of adversity, but Chris hung in there.”

Casey refused to use the program’s losing culture – or the town’s disadvantaged socio-economic standing relative to surrounding communities – as excuses. His persistence paid off, as Aloha made
MEET COACH CASEY

Family: Kathleen (wife); sons Lute (21) and Michael (14); daughters Kayleen (16) and Natalie (10)

Nickname: “Repeat” (“He likes to talk,” says Aloha assistant coach Bob Mewhinney.)

Favorite teams: Notre Dame football, Gonzaga basketball, Oregon State baseball

Pet peeves: Society’s addiction to technology; bullies

Favorite football memories: Winning a state title at Aloha; his junior year as a player at Newberg High School
the playoffs for the first time in 22 years in 2009.

But the best was yet to come. Led by star all-state running back Thomas Tyner, the Warriors stormed to an Oregon Class 6A state championship in 2010 and Casey was named 6A Coach of the Year. But Aloha’s 34-13 championship-game defeat of Tualatin isn’t what stands out in Tyner’s mind when asked for his favorite Casey memory.

“My favorite moment was watching coach dance with his wife after we beat Westview in 2009,” says Tyner, a highly-ranked Division I prospect. “He had told us that if we got to the playoffs he would dance in the middle of the field, so he got out there and danced to Journey’s ‘Don’t Stop Believing.’ It was a great moment for the whole community.”

Aloha had gone from doormat to champion, in part because it had a coach with an unrelenting work ethic and an infectious belief in the power of community. “No coach in the history of football can outwork Coach Casey,” says Tanner Krahel, a defensive tackle at Aloha who graduated in 2010. “The guy works day and night and puts his heart and soul into his job and his players. He’s phenomenal. He wants more than anything for his players to be the best they can on the field – and more importantly – in life.”

**FIELD AS CLASSROOM**

To Casey, the field is a classroom. “The best place in our academic system to learn success skills is team activities and team sports – cheerleading, band, speech, drama, athletics,” he says. “Those are great teachers of life skills – things like working hard, getting along with people, handling adversity, finishing what you start, determination, being a team player. I hardly know of any job anymore that doesn’t have a team concept to it.”

It’s a philosophy Casey adopted from his mentor Ad Rutschman, the legendary Linfield coach who won three national football titles – and one baseball crown – and is enshrined in the College Football Hall of Fame. “Coach wouldn’t use the word ‘extracurricular’ because [athletics] involve learning,” recalls Casey. “It’s not ‘extracurricular,’ it’s ‘co-curricular.’ I don’t think we should have anything here on campus that’s organized where learning doesn’t take place.”

Casey’s priority to “build championship-caliber people first and foremost and a championship-caliber football program secondly” is a conviction that, Rutschman believes, makes him “ideal” for George Fox.

“Chris is a man of character, commitment, integrity, honesty and excellence,” Rutschman says. “He believes in what George Fox stands for. I don’t know of anyone who would be a better fit.”

**CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE**

With 22 years of playing and coaching experience in the Northwest Conference, Casey is prepared for the task at hand. He’s also a proven winner.

As defensive coordinator at Whitworth, Casey helped reestablish the Pirates as a Northwest Conference playoff contender after a string of subpar seasons. During his last five years at Whitworth, they won a NWC championship, made it to the national playoffs and went 29-19. The defense led the conference in scoring defense in 2001 and produced the conference’s defensive players of the year in 2000 and 2001. Overall, 16 Pirates were named first-team all-league defenders during Casey’s tenure.

At Linfield, he spent nine years helping Jay Locey, now the assistant head coach at Oregon State, run the Wildcats’ defense. Casey was a member of the 1986 squad that won an NAIA Division II national championship, and he won two conference titles as a player for Linfield (1978-81), where Mike Riley, current Oregon State coach, was his position coach.

“Every place Chris has gone the program has risen – he’s a winner,” says George Fox Athletic Director Craig Taylor, who championed Casey among a nationwide pool of 80 candidates for the head job. “He knows the Northwest, he knows our conference and he’s the kind of guy you want your son to be around. We couldn’t think of a more qualified candidate.”

**ALL IN THE FAMILY**

Casey stresses the fundamentals. He’s big on conditioning and preparation. Ultimately, though, he puts a premium on character development – and it all starts with relationship.

To Casey, students are like family. Walking the
halls at Aloha, he offers a greeting to everyone who crosses his path. He asks one student how they did on a test. He asks another how his basketball season is going. To another, he questions why they aren’t in class after the bell, because “academics is where it’s at – it’s important,” he tells them.

“We’re pretty tight-knit around here,” he says in between greetings. “That’s what happens when you go through so much together – the tough times and the good times.”

Casey has recently spoken at two players’ funerals. He makes himself available for counseling. He takes late-night calls from distressed players.

“He obviously wants to win on the field, but winning in life is more important to him,” says his brother Pat, who coached baseball at George Fox before taking over at Oregon State and winning two national D-I titles. “Coaching is a big roller-coaster ride. You deal with all kinds of things, on and off the field. Chris has made a positive impact wherever he’s been, and I’m sure he’ll do the same at George Fox. I’m happy for him.”

LOOKING AHEAD
Casey admits starting a program from scratch is a monumental challenge, but he relishes the opportunity.

“My want to be a part of enhancing the George Fox experience,” he says. “It’s already a great school. I’d love our program to be something students can rally around – a source of community pride. I’ve just been so impressed with the school and with [President] Robin [Baker’s] and Craig [Taylor’s] commitment to this.”

To Casey, students are like family. Walking the halls at Aloha, he offers a greeting to everyone who crosses his path.

HARD WORK: THE GREAT EQUALIZER
“People live in one of two worlds – a world of excuses or a world of answers,” he says. “People who live in the world of excuses are always finding a rationale for not doing something, for not succeeding. People who live in a world of answers work hard enough to where they find an answer to overcome, to achieve, to solve problems. We’re going to live in the world of answers. Hard work is the great equalizer.”

His recruiting criteria? Find players who are teachable, put the team first and are willing to lead. “Ideally, we want student-athletes who are looking for a Christian experience and, more so than even athletic ability, I’m looking for work ethic, attitude, coachability – those things.

“Give me a bunch of guys who do that and we’re going to be winners.”

Casey addresses the media after being announced as the new George Fox head football coach.
On Friday nights in winter, it’s not uncommon to see a slow but steady exodus across Fulton Street to campus. The travelers carry padded bleacher seats – the mark of true fans – and make their way into Miller Gymnasium before settling in behind the scorer’s table in anticipation of another night of George Fox women’s basketball.

They wear matching blue and gold T-shirts, often with pearls or over collared shirts. Clutching rosters in their hands, they take special note of who is injured. Maybe they are not the loudest in the gymnasium, but they are the most dedicated.

Known as the Foster Friends, this collection of diehard fans from the Friendsview Retirement Community is present at each and every home basketball game for one reason: to support their girls.

Marvin Clarkson can most often be found sitting about 10 rows behind the home team’s bench, his attention focused on senior guard Keisha Gordon – though he also keeps an eye on assistant coach Mandee Wilmot. Clarkson and his wife Louise were paired with each woman as part of the program – Wilmot in 2004 and Gordon in 2008 – and he doubles as an adoptive grandpa and dedicated supporter of both.

Clarkson’s presence is exactly what the Foster Friends is all about. In 1994, then-Bruins women’s basketball coach Sherri Murrell saw an emotional need going unmet. She was quoted in a Friendsview publication as saying, “After a home game, I saw one of our players was by herself, and it got to me wishing that every player could have someone after the game to hug.”

As a result, Murrell and Friendsview resident Esther Klages went about pairing the 16 players on the 1994-95 team with members of the Friendsview community, and lasting relationships began to form. In the nearly two decades since, the program has become a selling point when recruiting new players and an integral part of the lives of current players – and their adoptive grandparents.

True to Murrell’s vision, players whose families are too far away to attend games now have someone cheering for them every home game. Ari Mohsenian, a senior from Yakima, Wash., remembers how much that meant to her as a freshman. “It was so nice to know I had a ‘grandma’ there watching me and cheering for me,” she recalls, “someone who was there specifically for me.” Four years later, her foster friend, Earlene Edwards, still considers Mohsenian the star of the team.

But the connection goes beyond the gym. The Foster Friends meet with their players as often as schedules allow, catching up over coffee or treating them to a coveted home-cooked meal. Foster Friends also have a knack for remembering birthdays, and often send cards of encouragement to let their player know that she is in their prayers.

And, of course, stories are passed from the older generation to the younger – some about sneaking down the fire escape after curfew as students living in Minthorn Hall.

As an assistant coach, Wilmot sees how good it is “for girls to interact with people...
who are not 20 and in college.” She knows this from her own experience, having maintained a relationship with Clarkson since graduation. Now she meets with him regularly on her lunch break from the George Fox admissions office, calling their weekly time “Tuesdays with Marvin.”

Players keep the same Foster Friends the entire time they are in the basketball program. Consequently, the women get to know their adoptive grandparents well, sharing in both joys and sorrows. When Mohsenian got engaged, she e-mailed Edwards right away. The celebration prompted a meaningful conversation. Edwards shared with Mohsenian how she has seen her young friend grow from a freshman into a young adult prepared to follow Christ into new roles as a teacher and wife.

Likewise, both Wilmot and Gordon know what it’s like to share periods of sadness; Louise Clarkson was diagnosed with cancer and passed away about a year ago. Watching someone close to her pass from life into death was a painful new experience for Gordon. But she emphasizes the blessings of seeing Marvin say goodbye to his beloved wife and continue putting his faith in the Lord.

As a new wife, Wilmot is inspired by Clarkson’s continued love for his wife and his choice to honor her by enjoying life. “The way Marvin talks about Louise inspires me to love my husband and be thankful for the time we have together,” she says.

But it’s not just the George Fox players who benefit; the Friendsview residents also cherish these friendships. Clarkson says that their relationships with players “keep older people younger.” Eilene Williams, meanwhile, keeps track of all 11 of her former adopted players, sharing how the current team is doing over e-mail and happily receiving photo attachments of weddings and babies.

Plus, the Foster Friends enjoy walking across the street to home games, proudly sporting their blue and gold and cheering on their adopted granddaughters. After all, as Williams likes to say, for many of the Friendsview residents “the redeeming feature of winter is basketball.”

Likewise, among the blessings of basketball at George Fox are the multigenerational bonds formed through the Foster Friends program, where lasting relationships remain long after the final buzzer has sounded.
For the Love of the Game

Joshua Echo-Hawk is one of several George Fox alumni to turn his passion for sports into a career

*By Jeremy Lloyd*
Joshua Echo-Hawk weaves his way through the back corridors of Autzen Stadium, emerges through a little-used side door and pauses to soak in the strangely tranquil scene before making his way down to the field.

“This is my favorite part of the day,” says the George Fox alumnus, looking out over the empty seats and vast field of green artificial turf, “coming into a stadium in the morning, knowing how crazy it’s going to be later, and how quiet it is right now. It’s the calm before the storm.”

The storm he’s referring to is the annual Civil War game between the Oregon Ducks and Oregon State Beavers. Within a matter of hours, upwards of 59,000 ravenous college football fans will transform the stadium into an eardrum-pounding mosh pit of face-painted, sign-waving humanity.

And it’s up to Echo-Hawk’s company, Graystone Media, to keep them entertained – especially when the action on the field hits a lull.

“We work really hard to stand out from the crowd, to be very elite,” he says. “We want to be the S.W.A.T. team of what we do. You have to make good choices when you do that; you have to sacrifice and you have to have standards.”

And as it turns out, Echo-Hawk kept on finding those qualities in people who got their start in the same place.

“The equipment has changed,” he says. “It’s gotten bigger, better and badder, but we all have this initial love of the business, and we learned it in Newberg.”

One of his early influences in Newberg was ironically Hyatt, who was director of the video center and a professor at George Fox in the early ‘90s when Echo-Hawk was a student. A few years later, “I accidently landed a crazy job that I didn’t know how to do, so I called Dan,” he admits. The rest is history.

“Josh was very talented, very creative, and I knew that he was going to do really well,” recalls Hyatt, “but I had no idea that someday he was going to hire me. It’s been the opportunity of a lifetime, and I’ve really enjoyed it.”

When the game begins, Hyatt is undoubtedly the maestro, conducting a seamless symphony of camera angles, video replays and motion graphics packages from a TV truck parked outside the stadium.

“When Dan’s directing the show, he’s massaging the crowd, he’s got that energy right in his hands ...” grins Echo-Hawk. “He can make the crowd get loud at key moments on a third down or a goal-line stand ... It’s the best feeling in the world.”

“It’s an adrenaline rush,” adds Hyatt. “I’m an adrenaline junkie anyway, so to be able to be around that atmosphere and experience that every week is pretty awesome.”

At the end of the day, Hyatt – a longtime Oregon football fan – would get his fair share of thrills as the Ducks rolled the Beavers 49-21. The convincing win ensured Oregon a spot in the Pac-12 Championship Game, and later a Rose Bowl berth, both of which led to big-money contracts for Graystone Media. But for Echo-Hawk, it’s the love of the game that keeps him coming back for more. And sharing the experience with his George Fox crew makes it all the more special.

“There aren’t many of us who get to work in this business, and for even a few of us to be from George Fox and working together on a regular basis in such a cool environment, it’s very special ...” he says. “It’s very fun to have a few of us that we kind of nod to each other and go, ‘back in the day.’"
For this young woman from Afghanistan, the choice for education was not fight or flight – she had to do both

By Kimberly Felton

Every time Meena Ahmadi* calls home, her body shakes. “Please God, let them pick up. Please, please, please.” If they don’t answer, it may be nothing. Or they may be dead.

Phone calls to her home in Kandahar, Afghanistan, are erratic, short and never about Ahmadi or her studies at George Fox University.

“When we talk I say, ‘I’m happy, I’m healthy, I’m going to school... I’m safe here; we don’t need to talk about me,’” she says. Their longest conversations are 20 minutes.

Taliban In, Female Education Out

Ahmadi grew up listening to her mother’s stories. She was told of the time, before she was born, when her father was forced to work for the Russians and disappeared.

“He sent a lot of letters to my mom, but my mom could not read,” Ahmadi says. “She thought he was dead for three years. She had all the letters at home. She always wanted me to get an education – until the Taliban came.”

Ahmadi was 6 the day the Taliban seized power in Kandahar. It was her first day of school – and her last. Women were no longer allowed an education.

But Ahmadi’s father was determined. He taught her at home until the Taliban were ousted six years later and Ahmadi returned to class. She excelled, teaching herself English on the side. Then in high school she applied for a one-year Youth Exchange and Study Program scholarship.

“The names in this article have been changed for security reasons.
Ahmadi begged her family not to deny the scholarship. After all, it would cost the family nothing – the scholarship paid all school and travel expenses, and her American host family would feed her.

Her mother’s stories only served to reinforce her desire to accept the scholarship; without an education, she had nothing.

Finally her mother relented. “If I can’t trust this program, I can trust my daughter.”

“My dad loves my mom very much, and he cannot say no to her,” Ahmadi says. But her stubborn independence fled as she clung to her mom at the airport.

“No, it’s too late now,” her mom said, detaching Ahmadi. “Go pursue your dreams.”

Ahmadi stepped off the plane in the United States in 2005, a risk-taking 16-year-old intent on an education.

The Price of Education
That year in America was a time of peace, as Ahmadi learned to appreciate her family so far away. She never intended to become a threat to them upon her return in 2006.

The Taliban were back in power. After she returned to school in Kandahar, they bombed her school twice. The principal said the bombs were because of her and asked her to stop coming. Living in America had made her – and anyone associated with her – a target.

Ahmadi turned to the media. “They wanted to know who was ready to speak up. I was not scared anymore. I would talk against Taliban, not knowing the consequences. It got really difficult for my family. We had to move to an area where nobody knew us.

“But I still struggled. I wanted an education – but have my family on the safe side. If something happened to them because of me, that would be the worst thing to live with.”

Ahmadi’s family no longer encouraged her education. “My brothers said they’d rather have me uneducated and alive,” she says. But she could not stop – not now.

Continuing her education through a scholarship for an online business school, Ahmadi downloaded class materials at an Internet cafe every week. Each time, she risked the Taliban pouring acid on her face – a common punishment. She varied her routes to school and work, hoping the Taliban would not learn she defied them. But death came too close in 2008.

An American aid worker at Ahmadi’s high school, a friend, was kidnapped, her body dumped on the street. An online school classmate was discovered and shot in the mouth, forehead and chest. Ahmadi witnessed the murder.

Then a colleague working with Ahmadi at a local Canadian NGO (non-government organization) received a death threat for working with foreigners. “Tears fell from her face as she said, ‘I am gone Meena. It’s too late for me and it’s the best time for you to resign before these people find out about you.” That night, the Taliban held the woman’s father at gunpoint until she came with them. Her bloody burqa and shoes were found alongside the river.

Ahmadi needed a way out. Her American host family worked with her American high school and a community college to complete the necessary forms. “I think her entire family felt they’d be safer with her in America,” says host mom Sue Franklin*. In January 2009, Ahmadi left for Kabul to apply for a visa. To her surprise, it was granted immediately.

* An aspiring pediatrician, Ahmadi (left) can often be found in the George Fox biology lab.
“I called my family, but they said to not come back; it was too dangerous with the embassy documents,” she says. “They gave me their prayers over the phone.” Within 24 hours, the Franklins booked and paid for Ahmadi’s flight to America. She has not seen her family since.

A Muslim Among Christians
Ahmadi spent her first semester back in America at a community college. “My host dad has five kids; he could not support a sixth person,” she says. “But he managed somehow to pay for my first semester; otherwise I would have been deported.” Meanwhile, the Franklins helped her apply for U.S. asylum and contacted George Fox University.

Their friends who graduated from George Fox are very satisfied with the education they got here, and their jobs,” says Ahmadi. Her culture was also a consideration. “I’m from a very conservative place. [My host family] did not want me to go through a whole culture shock.”

She also wanted to attend a school where she could interact with professors. “They are so welcoming and so open about helping me,” she says. “Many of them are interested to know my background. I’m blessed; the professors invite me for dinner with their family. I’m grateful to be part of their daily duty.”

Now a junior at George Fox, Ahmadi is not the first Muslim on campus, but they are few and far between. “At first when I came here, it was very difficult,” she says. “I had not been in a community where people’s beliefs were different … but the good words are always good.”

With a double major in biology and economics, Ahmadi hopes to be a pediatrician but is prepared with a Plan B. “I did my research,” she says. “If I cannot get into medical school, economics is the best way to earn a living.”

Urgency drives the 22-year-old. A sister and nieces have been abducted. A brother’s shop was bombed. Another brother was injured when suicide bombers attacked the police compound where he works. Most of the men in her family were forced out of their jobs for backing the new government rather than the Taliban, so Ahmadi helps support the family.

While she hopes and prays for healing in her country, Ahmadi begs God to keep her family safe. In the meantime, she works and takes classes year-round.

Though U.S. asylum gave Ahmadi access to government school loans, she must pay living expenses. “So yes, [the loans] are something to worry about, but I won’t worry about them now,” she says. Right now, “the work I do is for my living and my family. Every time I send money to my family, I feel happy. During the summers I work a lot, so I have invested a little bit for my school year. To be honest, I never liked these two summers. Students are happy, talking about what they’ll do with their family and friends. But I stay in Newberg.”

It’s not that Ahmadi’s life is all work and no play. Afghans are famous tea drinkers; the joy of tea lingers in her, especially when she’s with friends. She enjoys cooking Afghan meals for friends, and – like most young women in America – shopping. She also recently joined a rugby team, and tries to make it to practice.

“I hurry a lot. I wish …” She pauses, then sighs. “I love school; I never complain about school … but I hurry.”

Before It’s Too Late
Ahmadi is running against time. It will take one more year of college, four years of medical school (she hopes at Oregon Health & Science University) and another year of residency to become a pediatrician.

“I know my future goals, but I don’t know where I’m standing right now,” she says. “Sometimes when I’m thinking about it, I think I’m too far behind.”

Before her residency, Ahmadi hopes to visit home. “Not to Kandahar, because it is dangerous; I don’t want to risk my family,” she says. “But her father is older, and ill. “Every time I call, he asks when I’m coming home.” She doesn’t tell him how many years of school she has left. When she suggests bringing them to America, her mom simply asks, “All of us?”

“I must study, but am thinking about my family. Sometimes I read a chapter two or three times, and suddenly I find myself lost, back in Afghanistan.

“I want my family to see me successful. When I get rewarded for something, I want to see my mom there. I want to see my dad. Every time I call, he asks when I’m coming home.” She doesn’t tell him how many years of school she has left. When she suggests bringing them to America, her mom simply asks, “All of us?”

“I have changed my family a lot, being a female. My brothers have so much respect for me, and the local people who know me, they listen. I feel honored.

“I’m given a chance; I want them to give this chance to other females, too … Culture is made because of people, and people can change it.”

When Ahmadi read Elie Wiesel’s Night, about his experience in concentration camps, she discovered an understanding soul. “You might be in a corner where you think this is not happening, and is just a story,” she says. “But there is so much that is not just story.

“When I get overwhelmed, I use my family as motivation: ‘OK, this is the only way I can get them out of that situation.’ And then I get back to my studies. Sometimes you just have to make the best out of the worst, and that’s what I do.”
1960–69

Pete McHugh (G67) in December was inducted into the Scappoose (Ore.) High School Hall of Fame for his contributions as a school administrator and community leader. He retired from the school as principal in 1997 after 20 years with the school district. Awards from the community are not new. He was named Columbia County Educator of the Year in 1984, and in 2001 was honored as South County Citizen of the Year by the St. Helens Scappoose Chamber of Commerce. He continues as a broker with Windermere St. Helens Real Estate Inc.

1970–79

Bill Jackson (G71) was honored in December with a celebration marking his official retirement at Friendsview Retirement Community in Newberg. The former George Fox University food services head served as Friendsview’s director of dining services from 1999 to 2007, when he took an extended medical leave that included receiving a kidney transplant from his wife, Marilyn (May) Jackson (G72).

Peggy Fowler (G73) has been elected chair of the board of Umpqua Holdings Corporation, parent company of Umpqua Bank. She has served on the company’s board of directors since 1999 to 2007, when she retired as chief executive officer for Portland General Electric. She was with the power company for 35 years, the last eight as its top officer. She continues on several other boards, including Cambia Health Solutions, Regence BlueCross/BlueShield of Oregon and Hawaiian Electric Industries, and was on the George Fox University board from 1991 to 2004.

Barb (Grinalds) Tusant (G73) and John Tusant (G74, MA76) are beginning new careers in Mongolia. They left Spokane, Wash., at the end of February for five months of training in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, before teaching junior and senior high school English teachers. Working with the English Language Institute, they also will be assigned to assist at a church. He leaves a 15-year career as director of the Greater Spokane Association of Evangelicals, where he worked with pastors to strengthen their ministries. She has been teaching 27 years at Northwest Christian School in Spokane, most recently in the fourth grade.

Debbie (Le Shana) Rickey (G76), with lead author Richard Sagar of Washington State University, is the author of a new book to be released in April 2012 by Sage Publications: The Relentless Pursuit of Excellence Lessons From a Transformational Leader. The book’s approach to leadership is drawn from the principles and philosophy of the Society of Friends, emphasizing the search for wisdom through personal reflection and community. In the new book, Dea Cox (n53), an honorary George Fox trustee and former board chair who joined the board in 1983, shares his own application of Quaker philosophy in his 30 years as a school superintendent in Oregon. Rickey is Office of Dissertations director for the College of Doctoral Studies at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix.

Jim Marshall (GFES76) has authored Code Billy: 75 Real Life Meditations, published by Dust Jacket. The former musician, pastor and missionary says it is “a collection of lessons I’ve learned from real-life situations,” and in each instance the Bible has had something helpful to say. The name originates with his daughter being released from a rehab hospital after having suffered a massive stroke. When she was leaving, “Code Billy” was announced over the PA system and all the doctors and nurses who had worked with her lined up, clapping and cheering her on.

1980–89

Brian Barkdull (G83), president and chief operating officer of American Southwest Credit Union of Sierra Vista, Ariz., reported “quite an emotional time in our community” following the shooting of Arizona congresswoman Gabby Giffords. His headquarters office is across the street from the congressional district’s Cochise County office. In the days after, he and his staff could see the display of flowers and other mementos placed on the doorstep. His firm joined other Arizona credit unions in making donations to funds designated to honor Giffords and the other victims. In November, American Southwest sponsored a bike run in support of the Wounded Warrior Project, raising $7,350. Barkdull personally raised $1,450 by completing the 42-mile El Tour de Tucson bike event on Nov. 29 in 2 hours, 27.28 minutes, earning pledges from his fellow credit union peers.
Honors and recognition are coming in pairs for Willard Hayne (G37).

At 99, he’s been declared the nation’s oldest blood donor. And it’s just been determined that he’s now George Fox University’s oldest living graduate. This spring will mark the 75th anniversary of his graduation.

The North Bend, Ore., resident donated his 139th unit of blood on Sept. 29, with television news cameras recording the occasion. “I had a hard time believing it,” Hayne says about being told of his national status. “At first I thought it was a hoax.” But there it was: a news story from the American Red Cross that cited him as a “true lifesaver.”

Born Feb. 17, 1913, in Canada, Hayne began donating in 1949, but his string of donation years was interrupted for a time when an age limit was introduced. He returned to donating as soon as the limitation was lifted.

Still in good health and taking full advantage of the lack of an age limit for blood donors in Oregon, Hayne — who has high blood pressure and takes medication for it — times his donations so he is sure to pass the health screening.

Red Cross volunteers brighten when they find out Hayne is coming in. “He always seems to come in with a smile on his face,” says Red Cross supervisor Elaine Graves. “It’s really exciting to see someone his age continue to donate and see that they have such a worthwhile cause they can participate in, even at their age.”

“I’m glad to be able to do it — it’s gratifying,” says Hayne. “It feels so good to be honored as a donor. I never expected anything in return. You hear about people who need blood and just being able to donate is a gift enough.”

Hayne was a banker his entire career, starting from the bottom as a bookkeeper and working his way up to manager. He finished his career with an 18-year run as branch manager of the First National Bank of Oregon (now Wells Fargo) in Silverton, Ore., before retiring in 1975.

A chemistry and math major at George Fox (then Pacific College), Hayne says he “tried” to play football, but was too small to be very successful, and spent a lot of his non-classroom time working to secure funds to stay in school.

As for being the university’s oldest living graduate, he says, “I guess I’m really not surprised — I’m getting kind of old.” Hayne has the distinction of being the oldest living male alumnus, but he’s fifth in line as oldest living former student, with four non-graduates — all women — setting the standard for longevity.

Howard Young (MA83) in October was one of nine inductees into the first Bismarck (Missouri) High School Hall of Fame. Its purpose is to recognize alumni who have made “exemplary accomplishments.” A 1967 graduate of the school, he started his ministry career as a senior there and has continued for the last 42 years. He has served churches in Missouri, Colorado, Alaska and Wisconsin, and currently is lead pastor at the Woodland Worship Center of the Assemblies of God in Oneida, Wis. Previously, he was a professor and president of Trinity Bible College in Ellendale, N.D. Already with two doctor of ministry degrees under his belt, he currently is studying for a PhD through the University of Minnesota.

Tim Morland (G84) is general manager with Engine Components Northwest in Troutdale, Ore. He has been with the aircraft servicing and maintenance firm for more than 27 years, commuting from Newberg where he and his family have recently purchased a 40-acre farm (moving up from a 17-acre property). But he has even longer commutes: overseeing 17 people (all in Texas), he travels 80,000 miles a year.

Julie Nolta (G84) decorated the kitchen of the historic Pittock Mansion in Portland for its annual “Christmas Around the World”...
exhibit. She also was the lead designer for the historic Farrell House for the 2011 Camas, Wash., Holiday Home Tour. She operates Apple Green Studio/Julie Nolta Design in Portland, providing services for homes, including work prior to construction, remodeling and makeovers. After George Fox she completed the advanced design program at Heritage School of Design.

Angie (Dunn) Rettmann (G86) is ministry partnership director for Africa New Life Ministries, based in Portland. In that role for nearly two years, she is one of 10 staff members, responsible for staff development in addition to maintaining and growing partnerships with supporting churches across the United States. She also leads two or three missions teams each year to Rwanda from partnering churches. Africa New Life Ministries, founded in 2001, has 2,300 sponsored children being helped in Rwanda from partnering churches. Africa New Life Ministries, founded in 2001, has 2,300 sponsored children being helped in Rwanda, three churches, a mission center, a Christian academy, a program for women and university students, and operates six homes for orphans. Previously, Rettmann was children’s ministry director at Grace Chapel in Wilsonville, Ore., for 10 years.

Rick Anderson (MA87, MBA97) has been named to the new position of director of operations with K&E Excavating in Salem, Ore., overseeing daily operations and strategic planning. The 14-year-old family-owned business operates as a general contractor or subcontractor on public and private commercial projects. A recent job was the Matthew Knight Basketball Arena at the University of Oregon.

Toby Long (G88) operates an internal medicine practice in Wenatchee, Wash., where he is affiliated with Central Washington Hospital. His special interests are preventative health maintenance and geriatric care. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and member of the American College of Physicians.

Gregg Peters (ADP88, MBA04) has been named to the board of the Salem (Ore.) Multicultural Institute, a nonprofit organization that operates the annual World Beat Festival and World Beat Gallery in Salem, now in its 15th year. He is the owner of Oil Can Henry’s in Stayton, Ore., a business he purchased and expanded after he retired from a career with Hewlett-Packard.

**1990–99**

John Ricards (ADP90) is in his 18th year as a missionary to the Philippines, affiliated with MCN International and Village Health Ministry. His primary work is among tribal groups in the mountains of the island of Mindanao, where he and his wife have established more than 30 congregations. The most recent initiative, helping tribe members with health and wellness issues, includes the establishment of a new center for coordination and staff housing.

Jeff Richards (G90) is president and chief appraiser for his own firm, First Choice Northwest, a residential and commercial real estate appraisal management company in Beaverton, Ore. He started appraising in 1992 and opened his company as First Choice Appraisals in 2002. It now has a team of eight and serves 10 surrounding counties. He is also a licensed realtor.

Carlos Sequeira (n92) is the new principal of Sherwood (Ore.) High School. In July he moved from the position of assistant principal at Wilsonville (Ore.) High School, where he had been since 2007. Previously, he taught at Grant High in Portland for seven years, then at West Linn (Ore.) High for five years before a one-year dean of students position at Liberty High School in Hillsboro, Ore.

Carol Ann Riha (ADP93), as bureau chief in charge of the Iowa office of the Associated Press, has been one of the leaders in the national coverage of the Iowa presidential caucuses, not only this spring but also in 2000, 2004 and 2008. She has been with the AP since 1983, and was named to her current post in 2006 after serving as news editor at the bureau. In 2009, she was invited to AP corporate headquarters in New York for a special celebration of her professional work. Her latest recognition is being named an outstanding alumna and inducted to the LaSalle High School Alumni Hall of Fame on Feb. 3 in Cedar Rapids.

Susan Lute (ADP95), after years of working as a nurse, now has a new career as a writer. Her fourth and latest book, The London Affair, came out last June. Her first, Oops ... We’re Married?, was published in 2003 by Harlequin and has sold 117,000 copies. She followed it with Jane’s Long March Home, the story of a female Marine, then followed that with a prequel set 10 years earlier, A Girl Named Jane. Her latest book, a contemporary romance novel, is being followed by a book in a new direction in her career: a post-apocalyptic, paranormal fantasy book, or in other terms, a “dragon book.” Her works are now independently published and available as e-books through Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Scott Wade (G97) is the new director of university advancement for Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Wash., He began in January and supervises the areas of development, alumni relations and the university’s foundation. He moves from a position at Houghton College in New York, where he was executive director for development. Previously, he was at Baylor University as director of the student union and activities.

Heidi (Haley) Ankeny (G98) and Luke Ankeny (n98) are back in the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends after leaving in 2010 for a church-planting team effort in Cicero, N.Y. He is the new pastor of Homedale (Idaho) Friends Community Church. Previously, they served at Entiat (Wash.) Friends Community Church.

Stacey (Parker) Bailey (G98) in August became a dietitian at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, Calif., relocating with her husband from Phoenix where she also was employed as a dietitian.

Trey Doty (G98, MDiv00) is the new executive vice president and chief operating officer of Responder Life in Portland, part of a national ministry to first responders (police,
Chris Skaggs (G99) was speaker for George Fox University’s midyear commencement ceremonies Dec. 17. His topic was “Keys to Your Calling.” He is founder of Soma Games, a video gaming company with a Christian worldview. Soma and its sister company, Code Monkeys, both located in Newberg, have delivered software applications to some of the nation’s most known companies, including Intel, Comcast, Four Season and Aruba Networks. With a team of about a dozen programmers and artists, Soma Games moved into the mobile sector in 2009 and has delivered more than 60 apps since.

Scott Edinger (G99, ME03) and Natasha (Jabusch) Edinger (G00, ME03) left Jan. 6, 2012, for two years in Kigali, Rwanda, as VISA missionaries with Free Methodist World Missions. He is working with pastors, providing theological training in the form of Bible and seminary-style classes and instructing in how to lead congregations. She is working with Child Care Ministries, a child-sponsoring program, teaching English and helping with logistics at an area hospital. He left a position as family life pastor at Northside Community Church in Newberg, and she left a fifth-grade teaching position in Sherwood, Ore.

2000–09

Tyler Johnson (G00) has authored a new book, Devotion to the Adopted Country: U.S. Immigrant Volunteers in the Mexican War. It will be released this spring by the University of Missouri Press. The 192-page book, U.S. Immigrant Volunteers in the Mexican War. It will be released this spring by the University of Missouri Press. The 192-page

Mom Blogger Draws National Acclaim

Beth (McDonough) Woolsey (G94) is a self-described introvert. Rather than processing her daily observations with someone else, she started writing them down several years ago, alone at night in front of her computer screen.

Now the mother of five is anything but alone in her thoughts. Instead, she’s receiving national attention and acclaim for them. In October, Woolsey placed third in the Parents Magazine Funniest Mom Blog 2011 contest. Then in December, the popular website SheKnows.com named Woolsey one of the Top 5 Funniest Mom Bloggers in the country.

SheKnows.com wrote that Woolsey’s blog, Five Kids is a Lot of Kids, “keeps it real and inspires moms just as much as it makes them laugh and nod their head – it’s so funny ‘cause it’s true.” It added, “With a smart and witty take on life with five children ... Beth views the parenting journey as bumpy yet always entertaining.”

Woolsey’s blog – now read by more than 18,000 people a month – can be found at www.putdowntheurinalcake.com, which offers a glimpse into the humor injected into her posts. As Woolsey’s blog title indicates, she and her husband, Greg Woolsey (G94), have five children, ages 4 to 13. The first three are adopted – two with special needs – and the next are twin boys. They provide the inspiration for much of her content.

A history and religion major and former missionary kid who moved extensively, Woolsey started blogging in 2008. She and a friend were exasperated at the blogs they found about mothering, because all the kids were above average and perfect. “Our kids were not like that,” she laughs.

“I love to write. Even more than writing, I love to tell a good story,” says Woolsey. So, triggered by the prompting of her friend, she started writing them down several years ago, alone at night in front of her computer screen.

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Hewitt's Love of Broadcasting Leads to Long Career

On long rides to ball games in the back of a van in the 1970s, Tom Hewitt (G77) occupied his time (and the ears of his basketball teammates) by pretending to hold a microphone, giving make-believe play-by-play accounts of games.

Turns out it was just practice for his future career. These days, Hewitt is the radio voice of Portland State University athletics, having called 14 years of football and 11 years of basketball broadcasts.

Although it’s always been Hewitt’s strong interest and hobby, broadcasting was originally a side job to his full-time profession of teaching and coaching. He embarked on that career following a flashy four years on the basketball court, where the Bruin point guard compiled 404 assists (ninth all-time at George Fox). In one game he scored 36 points, which is tied for 11th on the university’s all-time scoring list. He’s also a member of the Bruin Sports Hall of Fame, inducted in 2008 for his career on and off the court.

Hewitt, who now serves annually as the master of ceremonies for the George Fox Golf Tournament, spent 25 years as the golf coach at Marshall High School in Portland. He was also the school’s head basketball coach for 10 years in addition to teaching social studies. He retired last summer when the school was closed.

His broadcasting career began in the summer of 1990 after he completed the Sportscasters Camps of America program. For the next few years he broadcast high school football and basketball games on Portland radio and was a fill-in sports talk show host. That led to two years of assisting with the Oregon State Beaver Sports Network and finally his current position at PSU.

After 15 years of teaching with the Sportscaster Camps of America, Hewitt last summer began teaching Introduction to Broadcast Communications at PSU, from which he holds a master’s degree in education.

The school’s sports information director, Mike Lund, says his broadcaster’s strength is his preparation: “He’s been a teacher, and he knows how to prepare. No one is better prepared.”

Hewitt acknowledges he’s always had a love affair with broadcasting, even when he was little. “I was always talking into a microphone or into a tape recorder every chance I got,” he says. Now that the microphone is real, Hewitt doesn’t want to release it.
**Former Bruin Point Guard Assists Kids with Reading**

The best playmaker in George Fox University basketball history is still assisting – only these days it’s not players on the court, but kids, encouraging them to read.

Brian Martin (G91) is a business manager, not a teacher. But his creation, Lunchbox Stories (lunchbox-stories.com), is getting children excited about reading from cards placed in their lunch boxes and bags.

The 5-by-5 inch cards – designed for readers ages 7 to 12 – each have a short chapter of about 200 words, which end with some suspense so the reader will look forward to pulling out the following card. Each card has the text on one side and an illustration by local artists on the other. The complete “book” is a deck of cards (45 to 50) packaged into a colorful box with a flip-top lid.

Do the book cards work? “It’s exciting when someone comes up to you and says, ‘My son hates to read – but last night he read 12 chapters of your book!’” Martin says.

Some teachers use the short chapters to regain the attention of their students after recess and lunch. Parents, he says, share the cards with their kids at lunch, provide them for reading in the car in between errands, and use them for bedtime reading.

The idea for encouraging reading came in 2007 from his own two children. Neither liked to read very much. “My daughter really did not like to read, but she loved to hear stories. So I thought, ‘there’s got to be a better way.’” Martin attributes the idea for the format to his mother. She packed Post-it notes, poems and pictures with his lunches. “I was always so excited to see what she had done. Even my friends would get excited to see what mom sent. It made me wonder if I could actually write a story on a little note ... and Lunchbox Stories was born.”

Ideas for his stories came initially from his own children, particularly from his son, Taylor. They sat down together early on and thought of ideas. “Everything from aliens to Westerns to Egyptian kings,” Martin says. Five books have been issued and a sixth, a Western, is expected to be out in late 2012.

Martin, who mainly writes at home in the mornings and on vacation time, has a full-time job as strategic work force planning manager for Intel in Hillsboro, Ore. He and his children and wife, Angel, live nearby.

Many Bruin basketball fans will connect Martin not with reading, but with an acclaimed basketball career that earned him induction into the Bruin Sports Hall of Fame in 2001. In two years he dished out 614 total assists, good for 9.59 a game, a career average more than double that of the next highest player. He is also one of only six Bruin players to produce a triple double in a game.

Now 41, Martin calls his hobby/second career “really fun,” adding, “I’m a kid at heart still.”

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**2010 –11**

Jamie Crandall (MA10) is the children and families director at Foothills Community Church in Santa Rosa, Calif. Attending the church since 1994, she joined the staff in 2007 and guides the KidZone program.

Rob Maslen (G10) has partnered with another longtime Newberg resident to establish Ridgeline Property Management, a company that works with real estate agents and rental property owners. The company specializes in residential property management with an emphasis on yard service, maintaining curb appeal, scheduling maintenance and repairs, and handling rental finances.
Joel Thomas (G10) has a two-part role at Twin Rocks Friends Camp and Conference Center on the Oregon Coast near Rockaway. He is landscape coordinator as well as coordinator of outdoor education programming. In addition to supervising the 120-acre campgrounds, Thomas serves as naturalist for summer camps and provides outdoor education assistance for schools in the surrounding four counties, traveling to schools for assemblies and in-class instruction.

Melissa Clarkson (G11) is spending this year in service in Atlanta with Mission Year, a Christian community development organization. She works four days a week at an after-school program for at-risk children, and two days a week she does community outreach in a lower socioeconomic neighborhood in Atlanta.

Barb Dewald (DMin11) is associate dean of spiritual formation at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa. At the college since 1995, she previously served at the University of Sioux Falls as director of residence life and assistant campus pastor. Her doctoral dissertation was titled “A Contemplative Vocational Discernment Model for Christian College Students.”

JUST MARRIED

Wayne Roberts (G44) and Norma Alberthal, Nov. 29, 2011, in Newberg.

Shelly Schultens (G03) and Danny Anslinger, May 21, 2011, in Welches, Ore.

Robert Bleetscher (G05) and Carrie Donne, June 18, 2011, in Beaverton, Ore.

Michael Heide (G05) and Saara Olesen (G06, MEd09), Oct. 1, 2011, in Corvallis, Ore.

Emily Thienes (G05) and Michael Dunay, Jan. 15, 2012, in Dallas, Ore.

Madeline Herman (G06) and Kory Knutz, Dec. 9, 2011, in Yamhill, Ore.

Jesse Lamm (G08) and Shannon Kifoi (student), Dec. 17, 2011, in Newberg.

Kimberly McGiven (G08) and Chris Harmon, Dec. 30, 2011, in Sherwood, Ore.

Lindsay McLemore (G08) and Tyrel Rawlins (G08), Sept. 17, 2011, in Black Butte, Ore.

Kyle Putnam (G08) and Julie Herr (G11), July 8, 2011, in Salem, Ore.

Candice Thiessen (G08) and Brandon Rhodes, Sept. 17, 2011, in Gresham, Ore.

Frederick Liddell (G10) and Jonelle Fodge (G11), Jan. 1, 2012, in San Diego.

Julie Townsend (G10) and Matthew Tarbutton, Nov. 11, 2011, in Phoenix, Ariz.

Amanda Werner (MAT10) and David Fettig, May 7, 2011, in Salem, Ore.

Keighley Patterson (MAT11) and Mark Barrett, July 30, 2011, in Bend, Ore.

Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Honors Smith

Brad Smith (G75) has received so many coaching honors it’s nearly impossible to track. Now he’s adding another – one that will top them all.

In March, Smith received the prestigious Morgan Wootten Award for Lifetime Achievement in Coaching High School Basketball, presented by the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass. The national museum of basketball will induct Smith as part of the 2012 McDonald’s All-American Game events in Chicago.

Smith, inducted into the George Fox Sports Hall of Fame in 1998 for meritorious service, coached at Oregon City for 27 seasons until he retired in 2006. He never had a losing season, compiling a 654-94 win-loss record (.874 percent), by far the best record among retired and current girls’ coaches in Oregon. His teams won 25 league championships, an unprecedented 10 state titles, and were named USA Today National Champions in 1995, 1996 and 1997.

Smith’s personal honors include being named National High School Coaches Association Coach of the Year, Women’s Basketball Coaches Association National Coach of the Year, and the Oregon Basketball Coaches Association National Coach of the Year and Citizen of the Year (2007). In a Feb. 8, 2008, ceremony he was named Oregon City Citizen of the Year and the mayor declared the day “Brad Smith Day.” In 2009, Oregon City High School’s main basketball court was dedicated as “Brad Smith Court.”

At George Fox, Smith was a psychology major who played baseball, but not basketball. After graduating he went into teaching (history) and coaching. These days, he keeps busy running his company, End of the Trail Basketball, which sponsors and hosts a variety of tournaments, clinics and camps.

As for his long list of awards and achievements, Smith had this observation: “It means two things: You’ve had very, very good players, and you’ve probably been around a long, long time.”

John Larsson, Oregon City News

Joel Thomas, Oregon City News
Amy (Duryee) Ocker (G01) and Jared Ocker (G01), a boy, Titus Younghui, born March 8, 2009, in Yunnan Province, China, and adopted Sept. 18, 2011, in Kunming, China.

Amy (Chapman) Porter (G01) and Tim Porter, a girl, Adelynn Maxine, Sept. 27, 2011, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Cheryl (Tucker) Verver (G01) and Kevin Verver, a boy, Logan Joel, March 22, 2011, in Edmonds, Wash.

Jeremy Johnston (G02) and Sara Johnston, a girl, Sadie Elizabeth, July 5, 2011, in Bellevue, Wash.

Jeff Kirksey (G02) and Sarah Welstad Kirksey (G04), twin boys, Everett Steven and Titus Jeffrey, Oct. 11, 2011, in Houghton, N.Y.

Carolina (Gervais) Warkentin (G02) and Aaron Warkentin (G05), a boy, Aidan Christian, Sept. 6, 2011, in Las Vegas.

Robin (Green) Spangler (G03) and Derek Spangler, a girl, Lexie Rae, March 13, 2011, in Grass Valley, Calif.

Rebecca (Holman) Friesen (G89) and Eon Friesen, a boy, Jesse David, Aug. 23, 2011, in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Laura (Rathkey) Goodfellow (G96) and Tim Goodfellow (G97), a girl, Sarah Louise Iris, Oct. 15, 2011, in Newberg.

Kailea (Curtis) Hunt (G97) and Edward Hunt, a girl, Isabella Patrice, Oct. 27, 2011, in Fairfax, Va.

Scott Wade (G97) and Jill (Meyers) Wade (n99), a girl, Eleanor Nadine, April 5, 2011, in Wellsville, N.Y.

Chris Smith (G98) and Emily Smith (G98), a girl, Abbey Christine, Sept. 16, 2011, in Fort Collins, Colo.

Amber (Lindsey) Goldapple (G99) and David Goldapple, a boy, Zander Langford, Nov. 20, 2011, in London.

Benjamin Kroon (G00, MAT02) and Sarah (Hopper) Kroon (G01), a boy, Cason James, March 25, 2011, in Torrance, Calif.

Kristina (Hanson) Findley (G01, Med04) and Sean Findley (student), a boy, Judah Benjamin, Nov. 3, 2011, in Newberg.

Erin (Shank) Kingsley (G01) and Matthew Kingsley, a boy, Lucas Allen, June 22, 2011, in Lone Tree, Colo.
What’s Bruin / events and announcements

**Classic Bruin 50-Year Reunion**
April 27-28
Class of 1962, it’s almost time for your 50-year reunion! Come back to campus this April to catch up with old friends, enjoy some good food, laugh, reminisce and march in the commencement ceremony. For more information, visit classicbruins.georgefox.edu or call 503-554-2134.

**Golf Tournament**
July 11
Join fellow golfers for the annual George Fox golf tournament at The Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha, Ore. We are seeking sponsors and players for the tournament, which supports George Fox athletics. Many sponsorship levels are available. For more information, visit golf.georgefox.edu.

**Portland Timbers Game**
July 14, 8 p.m.
Come on down to Jeld Wen Field and join the George Fox community in rooting on the Timbers when they play host to the LA Galaxy. Tickets are $42 each and can be purchased at alumni.georgefox.edu/events.

**The Ultimate Road Trip**
August 14-18
Connect with George Fox alumni in your area at a series of regional events, including stops in the Eugene area, Central Oregon, Boise, Spokane, Tri-Cities and Seattle. Watch for more information on a George Fox gathering coming to you! If you have questions or you’d like to send in ideas, contact University Engagement at 503-554-2134 or alumni@georgefox.edu.

**Broadway Across America**
Discounted tickets to Broadway Across America performances in Portland are now available to anyone in the George Fox community. Visit broadway.georgefox.edu or call 503-554-2134 for more information.

**Bruins Abroad**
Do you like to travel? Join others in the George Fox community for a trip abroad, led by a current George Fox professor, departing late May 2013. E-mail alumni@georgefox.edu for more information.

**Homecoming**
October 5-7
Throw on your old gold and navy blue and return to campus October 5-7 for Homecoming 2012. The weekend will feature events for the whole family in addition to reunions for the classes of 1952, 1972, 1982, 1987, 1992 and 2002. For more information and to help plan your reunion, email alumni@georgefox.edu or call 503-554-2134.

**Family Weekend**
November 2-4
Family Weekend is a great opportunity to take part in the classes, culture and faith that are helping to shape and define your student. Sit in on a lecture, have lunch with President Robin Baker, enjoy musical and theatrical performances and much more. For more information, e-mail nalmquist@georgefox.edu or call 503-554-2114.

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We Can Help With Estate Planning

Do you find estate planning complicated or have an estate plan that is out of date? If so, George Fox has the resources to help.

Call or write for your free “Will and Trust Planning Guide” and “Estate Inventory Form.” We can help provide you with information on:

- **Wills**
- **Powers of Attorney**
- **Living Trusts**
- **Property Disposition**

Have questions? Contact Gene Christian at 503-936-5350 or e-mail him at gchristian@georgefox.edu.
FOOTBALL IS BACK. A STORM IS BRUIN.

Three Ways You Can Get In The Game:

1. Bruin Backer Club
   By making a “Build and Play Pledge” of two $2,500 donations for the first two years of the program (2013-14), you’ll help finance operational costs.
   With your donation, you will:
   → Sponsor one of the 100 players who suit up the first season
   → Receive two season tickets/parking spot for first two seasons
   → Be invited to special tailgating events and opportunities to interact with players and coaches

2. Legacy Lockers
   Your name, your quote, your legacy. Inspire players for generations to come by purchasing a Legacy Locker ($1,500) and placing your favorite inspirational quote on a plaque on or above a locker. You’ll also get two season tickets to the inaugural 2014 season.

3. Buy a Brick
   Buy and name a brick in the football plaza ($200). By engraving a brick with your name or that of a loved one, you’ll honor memories of the past while paving the way for the future.

GIVE ONLINE: georgefox.edu/football
LEARN MORE: Contact Fred Gregory at 503-554-2103 or fgregory@georgefox.edu for more information.
Be Known as a Bruin Believer

Students cheer on the women’s basketball team during the Northwest Conference Tournament.