

LIFE

George Fox
University

VOL. XXXIII, NO. 2

APRIL 2003

Soul Survivor

Four years ago, war and ethnic violence threatened Mirsade Bejqi's life and faith; today the Kosovo refugee is finding forgiveness and peace as she approaches graduation

PRISTINA, KOSOVO (Spring 1999) —

They hid in the basement for five days, until three Serbian soldiers broke in the door and found them. The soldiers had guns. The ethnic Albanian families had no guns. Mirsade Bejqi could tell the soldiers were high on drugs. They wore masks. One had bloodstains on his uniform. They demanded money and jewelry.

They searched the 60 Albanians, taking what they wanted, and sending them out of the building. Bejqi was last. They tore her scarf from her head. Her long brown hair tumbled out.

"Pretty girl," said one soldier. They touched her. One ripped away her necklace — the one given to her by her mother. He dangled it for the others to see. They argued over who would keep the necklace.

Bejqi broke free and ran. "Even now I can feel the weight on my back," she says. "I thought, 'Any second, a bullet is going to go through my back.'" But no shot came.

NEWBERG, ORE., U.S.A. (Spring 2003) —

Mirsade Bejqi (pronounced Meer-saw-day Bay-ee-chee) is poised to become the first college graduate in her family. Bejqi is president of the International Student Club and works in an after-school program for elementary school children. She maintains a 3.2 grade point average as an international studies major despite studying in her third language.

Bejqi is beautiful. She wields a charming smile. She laughs frequently. She loves children. She effortlessly attracts friends ... and sometimes enemies.

Bejqi is not sugar and spice and everything nice. She is stubborn, defiant, and untamable. She has been through terror and agony. She endures. She is a survivor.

Ethnic Conflict

Bejqi became a teenager during fierce years in the Serbian province of Kosova — or Kosovo as it is known in English. For decades, conflict has occurred between the ethnic Albanians — who make up more than 90 percent of the Kosovar population — and the Serbians, who consider Kosovo their ancestral homeland. In 1989, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic began suppressing the Albanian language and closed the political and cultural institutions of Kosovo's ethnic Albanians.

"They wanted to make it as if no Albanians had lived there," Bejqi says. Bejqi's father refused to work for the hated Serbs and for a decade struggled to find manual labor jobs to support his wife, two sons, and one daughter.

To pay the family's living expenses, Bejqi's 12-year-old brother sold cigarettes. Bejqi worked at a pizza restaurant, an occupation

frowned upon for women in her culture. "Some people would rather die from hunger than lose face," she says. "I wasn't willing to die. I really wanted to go to college."

A Free Spirit

In her traditional Albanian Muslim culture, Bejqi was expected to marry young, stay home, clean, cook, and have baby boys. "I'm a free spirit," she says. "I'll die if I end up locked up in a house. I live to go out and experience things."

At age 15, Bejqi's family arranged a marriage for her. She refused by threatening to run away or kill herself. More than a dozen times her family brought suitors to her. She refused them all. "I don't believe in



KELLY JAMES

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Responding to War

Pop Parables

It was the gospel story like never seen before: Charlie's Angels carrying away Lazarus, herds of sheep and goats feuding on Judgment Day, and a disciple break-dancing for the Master.

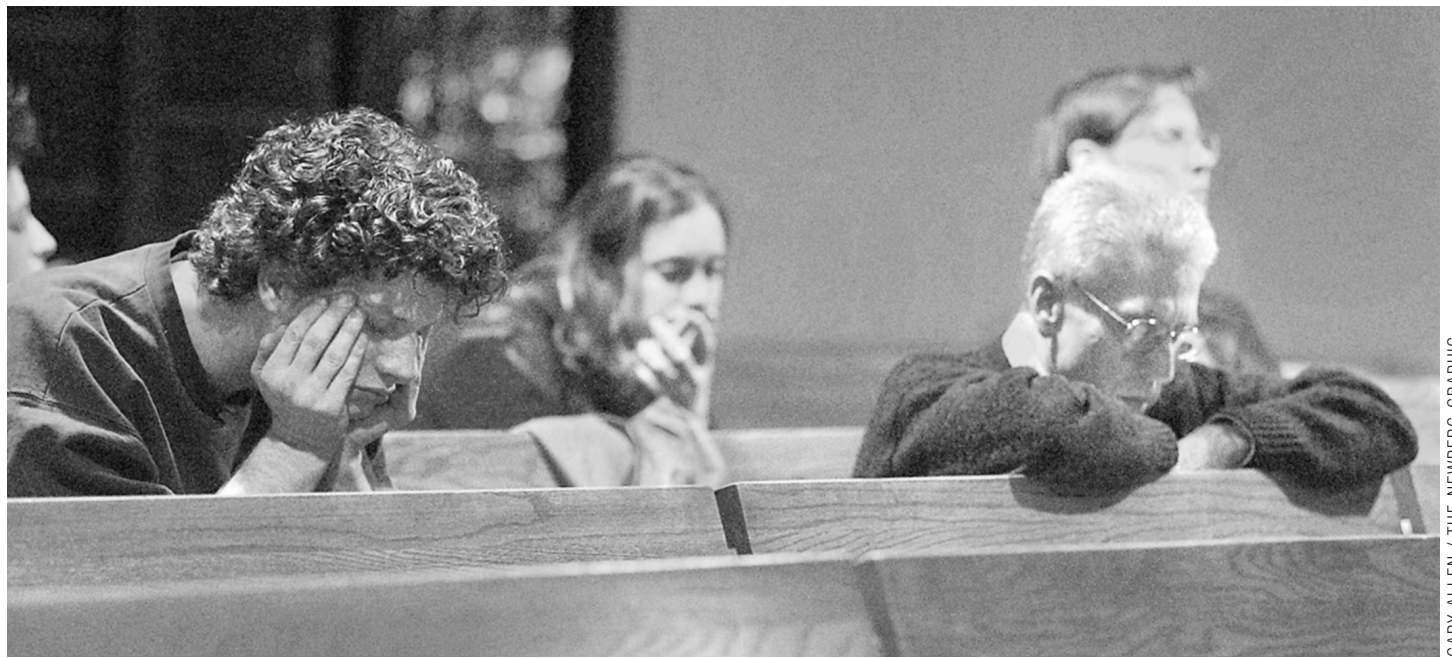
The George Fox University Repertory Theatre's updated version of the musical *Godspell* was a hit last fall. It sold out eight performances and impressed representatives of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. They selected the George Fox production as one of the top four college performances in the Northwest.

Twenty-nine productions at public and private universities and colleges entered the six-state competition. As a regional finalist, George Fox was invited to share biblical vignettes in February at the Northwest Drama Conference in Bellevue, Wash. The recognition is unprecedented in recent history for George Fox theatre.

Theatre professor Bryan Boyd said he was pleasantly surprised that a Christian college had been selected to present a production with a spiritual message.

"We were inviting an audience of our peers in the theatre to engage in the story of Jesus. That was something."

The week prior to the regional conference, the theatre partnered with the Portland Center for the Performing Arts to perform *Godspell* in the elegant Dolores Winnigstad Theatre in Portland.



Jacob Kuntz, a 2002 graduate of George Fox (left), and Charlie Kamilos, a GFU administrator (right), participate in a prayer vigil at Newberg's North Valley Friends Church the night after the United States went to war with Iraq.

GARY ALLEN / THE NEWBERG GRAPHIC

When Campus Pastor Gregg Lamm asked everyone with family in the military to stand, nearly one-third of those attending chapel rose to their feet.

It was just one sign of how the war with Iraq is having an impact on members of the George Fox community.

On the day the first bombs hit Baghdad, a special prayer service replaced GFU's regular chapel program. Students, faculty, and staff spent time in silent prayer and wrote notes of encouragement to both Iraqi civilians and American troops. The letters included prayers,

Scripture, and words of support. They will be delivered through military chaplains and members of Christian Peacemaker Teams stationed in Iraq.

Additional prayer services were scheduled for every Tuesday and Thursday at noon in the Prayer Chapel.

On the day before the war began, the George Fox Center for Peace Learning hosted its monthly Peace Supper. Speaking was a panel of local peacemakers: Ralph Beebe, retired George Fox professor of history; Bill Jolliff, professor of writing and literature; and Marilee Jolin, a senior from Clinton, Wash.

Throughout the crisis, university officials are staying in close contact with the university's 12 students studying off campus this semester. George Fox has students in Egypt, Russia, Kenya, England, Mexico, Spain, and Washington, D.C.

Emily Condie, a junior from Sumner, Wash., sent an e-mail from Cairo, Egypt, the day the war broke out. She reported an excursion had been canceled and the students were being encouraged to stay indoors as much as possible. A trip to a retreat center was being planned.

— Anita Cirulis

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George Fox University LIFE (USPS 859-820) is published four times a year by George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St., Newberg, OR, 97132-2697, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Newberg, Oregon. Postmaster: Send address changes to *LIFE*, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132-2697.

Please send letters, alumni news, and address changes to *LIFE*, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132-2697. Phone: 503-554-2126. Use our Web site: www.georgefox.edu/alumni, and click "Send Us Your News." E-mail: alumni@georgefox.edu.

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Higher Education for a Shrinking World

Most of us readily acknowledge and agree the world is getting smaller. In fact, sometimes it seems the world is too small. Few locations are far away. Our faculty members propose Juniors Abroad study trips to Kenya, South Korea, China, and other places that used to be far away. Now, they are simply another exciting option.

The size of the world depends in part on one's vantage point. I find that people living in those faraway places tend to know more world geography than I do. Until recently, many of us weren't very sure how far away Iraq is. My conversations with students at Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya, more likely were about politics in Rwanda or the Middle East than they are when I talk with students at George Fox University. People in smaller, less visible countries tend to live in smaller worlds than those of us who live in the United States — the world's most powerful country.

Reasons for such different perspectives are not secret or complicated. In the United States we don't have to learn and use other languages, because people in other nations are compelled to learn English. People tend to cater to and try to please those in positions of power and authority. It is easy and relatively comfortable for Americans to travel to faraway places. Those countries like U.S. dollars and are convinced we have many such dollars. Sometimes such countries are afraid to disagree with the United States for fear of losing foreign aid. Because those countries often pamper us, it's easy for us to become cocky in how we deal with such countries and their people. And so, Sept. 11, 2001, comes as a surprise and a shock. The perpetrators of those tragedies apparently didn't understand and had no respect for the conventional wisdom, which is to respect power and position.

Followers of Jesus should be people who understand what life looks like from a powerless position. In the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 22, Jesus identifies himself as "one who serves," in contrast with "the kings of the Gentiles" and "those who exercise authority." Service is a concept that is difficult both to define and to carry out. After all, someone has to be in charge and make decisions.

What does it mean in today's small world to be Jesus' disciple? There are many perspectives on this important question, and not all of them can — or should — be addressed by George Fox University. However, there are things we can and need to do. We must teach students the whole world belongs to our God and that all people are highly valued by God. The Christian university must engage the *whole* world and *all* people. At a time when our nation is at war and tensions are high between countries and people groups in many places, we, the people of George Fox University, should be among those who seek to understand others from their perspective. And we must know where and how others live in a world that is smaller than ever before.

I am pleased our students study in many other countries, and students from other nations study at George Fox University. Globalization is more important today than ever. It must be taught in the context of a genuinely small world and the gospel of Jesus Christ.



President David Brandt

Dave

Trading Spaces

President Brandt moves into renovated Wood-Mar Hall — the domain of his predecessors



KELLY JAMES

Sitting in his new office with its 11-foot-high ceilings and early 20th-century feel, George Fox President David Brandt notices more than his surroundings in newly renovated Wood-Mar Hall.

His thoughts are of his predecessors who occupied the southwest corner of the building for 80 years.

"I like to think I have this 'great cloud of witnesses' cheering me on," he says in a reference to the biblical passage in Hebrews, "and they can see me better from the vantage of their former office."

The eighth George Fox president to occupy the space, Brandt says the names of former presidents Pennington, Gulley, Carey, Parker, Ross, Le Shana, and Stevens "seem to be written all over this room, and I am privileged to carry on the tradition."

University presidents from 1911 to 1991 occupied Wood-Mar before a need for additional administrative office space made relocating to another building necessary.

Now, after a dozen years in "exile," the president's office is back in its original location, along with the academic affairs office.

The landmark three-story building has a new look and new life, thanks to an infusion of nearly \$2.5 million in two projects that have essentially gutted the 92-year-old building in a makeover to meet current needs. The transformation, which began in 1994, is taking its final steps this spring as the renovated offices are opened.

Once destined for destruction, the historic building is making its comeback in a dramatic fashion. The original west entrance has been embellished with a nearly two-story-high portico, architecturally designed to incorporate the look of the original cornice. The cornice was removed for nearly two decades after it deteriorated, then was replicated when the third floor was renovated.

Wood-Mar's restored front entrance was closed in the late 1950s and the space captured for additional offices. Entrance to the building then was gained solely through the north and south entrances, which during the first decades of the university were designated as men's and women's entrances. Now, both of those have been eliminated.

Inside, the building has a nostalgic feel. Unlike the concrete, metal, and glass of many modern buildings, Wood-Mar features wood. Oak floors have been restored and shined to highlight the second-floor hall space, entrance, and work areas.

While the flooring isn't original, workers discovered it is 65 years old, having been installed in 1938. A few pieces found underneath reveal the original floor was three-inch Douglas fir.

Golden-brown wainscoting continues the wood theme. And while the doors are new, they have the same dimensions and style of the original six-panel doors in the building and are finished to highlight the Douglas fir wood.

The old building — once the home for nearly all classes, administrative offices, library, and chapel — was recommended for razing in a 1991 long-range master plan report. An engineering study said saving Wood-Mar, weakened through the decades, would be too costly and not worth the effort. The study said a major concern was the apparent inability of the building to withstand a significant earthquake.

But the clamor that followed — led by alumni and Newberg-area residents — produced a new suggestion: buttress Wood-Mar by erecting a planned new science building alongside it. The latter would provide essential structural support and allow other conversion through the sharing of joint facilities. The Edwards-Holman Science Center was built on the east side of Wood-Mar, connected to the old building by the Ronald D. Gregory Atrium, and opened in 1994.

Wood-Mar Hall's 6,000-square-foot top floor, containing the original 150-seat auditorium, was gutted in 1994 in a \$1.2 million project that created a new 257-seat auditorium, opened in the fall of 1995.

Funds for renovation of the lower two floors, with 11,000 square feet of floor space, were raised in the university's Legacy Campaign that ended in 2001. The latest remodeling has been under way for nearly a year.

In January, engineering majors moved into their new labs on the bottom floor. Six engineering faculty offices on the second floor were occupied during spring break, the final step in the nearly decadelong effort to rehab the building.

The new home for engineering has labs for mechanics, energetics, electronics, microprocessors, robotic controls, computer-aided design, and mechanical and electrical engineering research lab, as well as a project engineering shop.

Wood-Mar Hall is named for two women who canvassed the Newberg countryside in a horse and buggy, raising funds for the building. Amanda Woodward and Evangeline Martin spearheaded the citywide effort that raised \$30,000.

— Barry Hubbell

A new two-story portico over its entrance is the most visible sign of the changes undergone by Wood-Mar Hall, new home to the offices of President David Brandt.

If These Walls Could Talk

Not a lot has changed, it seems, if you compare the conversation and concerns of today's college students with those of their grandparents or even their great-grandparents.

George Fox University has some new — rather — old evidence.

In a renovation of the university's 92-year-old Wood-Mar Hall, workers have uncovered a cache of old notes passed by students in their classes, and secreted in openings in the walls more than 80 years ago.

The topics?

- Clara complained about her professor's difficult class
- Vernon complained about the campus food
- Hazel shared news on the latest couple on campus
- Cora told of plans to invite Teddy and Ray to the beach for the weekend
- Helen told Cecil to wake Ralph before the professor caught him snoring in class

And, in one prophetic note, a student wrote: "If this building ever falls down, I bet they are going to find a bunch of papers in the walls."

The names on the notes match those of students registered for classes between 1917 and 1921. It's believed none of the senders is still alive to tell more about the note passing.

"Except for the obviously aged quality of the papers, the contents of the notes could have come from any college student today," says Charity Edwards, a George Fox sophomore from Newberg, Ore. A student employee with the university's Plant Services staff, she was given time to research and analyze the bits and pieces of paper, some of which had become parts of mice nests in the old walls.

Most of the old messages turned out to be on papers students were using to take lecture notes in a variety of classes, from English and history to geometry and civics. A handful of them carry the message: "Please destroy after reading."

Also among the items found in the walls: a grocery list, a prayer meeting schedule, a fragment of a newspaper (*The Newberg Graphic*), a fountain pen, an advertisement for fountain pen ink, and a variety of doodles and sketches.

Soul Survivor

continued from page 1

arranged marriages — not after knowing what love is all about. Love is about respect, honesty, and being able to communicate with each other. A woman is supposed to know her husband.”

Secret Schooling

After the Serbs closed the Albanian-language schools, Bejiqi began attending secret schools taught by Albanian volunteers in cold, unheated, private homes. Only traitors went to Serbian schools, she says. The students walked long distances to the homes.

“If the police stopped us, we had to lie and say we were going shopping,” she says. “We weren’t allowed to have backpacks. If I had a notebook, I hid it in the back or front of my shirt.”

For years, she worked in the morning, took classes in the afternoon and returned to work until 10 p.m. She was in her second year of an underground college program when the bombs began falling on Pristina.

Die or Start Living

The Kosovo Liberation Army and the Serbian army had been clashing violently since the mid-’90s. Thousands of ethnic Albanians were killed. Atrocities and ethnic massacres by the Serbian police were reported frequently. “I saw people cut open,” says Bejiqi. “A lot of people were killed or disappeared. We got used to living through the killings and shootings. Even if I died, it wasn’t a big deal. There was nothing to life. No hope. No faith. No God. I knew God then, but after what was happening to me and my family, I lost that. Why would God let this suffering happen?”

To stop the Serbian aggression, NATO intervened in Serbia and Kosovo. “Everybody was happy when NATO started bombing,” said Bejiqi. “There had to be an end. We all were going to die or start living.”

When the air strikes began, Bejiqi says the Serbs began shooting toward her home. Her family hid in different homes in the city. “The nights were the worst,” she says. “The shooting and the bombing. I wish you could feel what I felt at that moment. I can’t find words. You just want to pinch yourself and get out of that dream, but it’s a dream you have to live all your life.”

The Serbian troops began expelling ethnic Albanians from the country. It was then that the soldiers found Bejiqi’s family in the basement. After she made her escape, she found her family at the train station. “They just looked at me,” she says. “They didn’t ask me what happened then or now. They’re never going to ask what happened, even though nothing happened. Because you’re not supposed to talk about it. So many Albanian women were raped, but nobody talks about it, ever.”

War Refugees

At the train station, Bejiqi, her family, and other refugees climbed into a live-stock boxcar. They didn’t know where the train was bound. “If it went to Macedonia, we had a chance of living,” says Bejiqi. “If it went to Albania, we had a chance of living, but we might be killed by Albanian rebels. The worst was the train to Serbia. We would be tortured, massacred, raped, whatever.” The train stopped twice during the five-hour trip. “Both times, they took people out, especially young guys.” A cold rain fell as they reached



“After the nightmares were over, I found peace. The more I started to forgive, there was less hate in me. I liked the feeling of less hate. I was warm inside for the first time in a long time.”

the Macedonian border. They and 5,000 other refugees waited without shelter in a muddy field.

“I fainted or fell asleep,” she says. “I lay down on a pile of garbage. I slept for maybe 20 hours. I felt like I left my body. I saw my mother crying over my body. For some reason I decided to go back. I found hope. I wasn’t ready to die. My family needed me.”

After five days, Bejiqi’s family was bused across the border to a Macedonian refugee camp. Macedonian soldiers and barbed wire surrounded the tents and refugees. The tents leaked. Food lines were five hours long. They had to build their own toilets, and the nearest water was a 10-minute walk away. She volunteered with the aid providers. Five weeks later — when she and her family boarded a plane bound for the United States — she wore a shirt covered with the signatures of her new friends.

Red-Carpet Welcome

When Bejiqi arrived in New Jersey, a red carpet lay on the runway for the refugees. “We were numb,” she says. “No emotions left. We had just our bodies. We had gone two months without a shower. Not eating properly. Not sleeping properly. I saw the red carpet and thought, ‘Maybe we should walk on the side and not get it dirty.’”

The Bejiqis were sent to Boise, Idaho, where a family had volunteered to host them. After three months, Bejiqi applied to an organization that connected refugees with colleges that had agreed to accept and provide significant financial assistance to them. Her family wasn’t supportive. They thought she should find an Albanian man and get married. She persisted with her dream. Three weeks later, she was admitted to George Fox — the only West Coast college in the program. Private donors — including board member Roger Martell and his wife, Claudia — provided financial support dur-

ing her first year.

Bejiqi and three other Kosovar refugees enrolled at George Fox in the fall of 1999. Today, there are six on campus.

A Tough Transition

For the first time, Bejiqi was living apart from her family. Everyone on campus seemed to be smiling, but the language and culture were foreign. Most of the students couldn’t fathom her experiences. She had conflict with her roommate and felt insulted by a student’s heavy-handed attempts at evangelism. She was a 21-year-old European, and the campus expectations regarding alcohol and smoking felt restrictive. She suffered nightmares of the corpses and horrors she had seen.

Coming to a Christian college, Bejiqi felt she was being placed with “wolves.” The Serbs had been Christian Orthodox. “I thought, ‘Why do I deserve to end up at a Christian school, with a bunch of Christians who have tried to kill me all of my life?’”

After a month, Bejiqi packed her bags and asked her Boise host mother to come pick her up. But Bejiqi changed her mind. She had survived a war. She decided she could endure.

Bejiqi says she now understands the campus rules were created for a reason, but that didn’t stop her from pushing the boundaries. “Sometimes, I remind myself of a little kid. Mom tells you not

to touch, you want to.”

She got involved in a party lifestyle for a time. After partying through her sophomore-year spring break at a state school, Bejiqi says she stopped and looked in her mirror. Her grades were slipping. Her partying friends weren’t much of friends, and she had used up most of her chances with the university student life office.

“He Has a Plan for Me”

“I asked myself, ‘Is this how you’re going to screw up your life?’ A lot of people expect me to succeed — to graduate, to do something with my life. There was so much stress on me, so much pain. I was this creature that could do everything. I was always looked to as a strong person, but I always wanted somebody to help me. I think God wanted me to learn something. There’s a reason God didn’t let me die during and before the war. He has a plan for me. I need to put my faith and visions in him. I thought I did it by myself. I think he was always there. He’s always going to be there.”

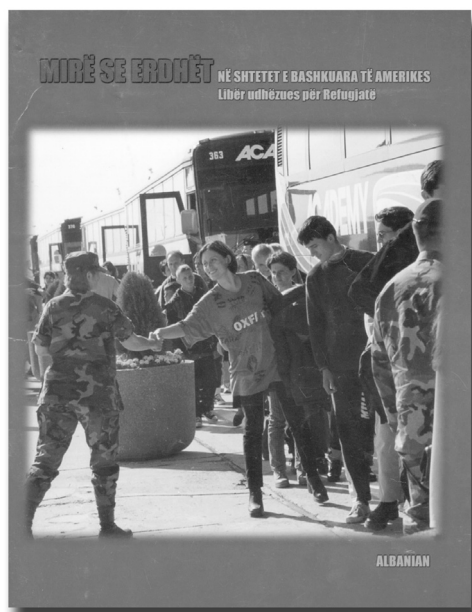
Bejiqi’s life began to change. Her sophomore-year roommate, Heidi Coley, was a positive influence. “She was just so patient with me,” says Bejiqi. “She wouldn’t tell on me when my clothes smelled like smoke. She just talked to me about it.” Bejiqi was touched by the care expressed by Martha Iancu, her English language professor. She says sociology professor Mike Allen believed in her. “I have so much respect for Mike Allen,” she says. “I think I’m his favorite. He calls me a deviant, and I call him dude.”

Bejiqi has friends across the world. Rosalee Burrell, who graduated from George Fox in 2002, spent spring break hosting Bejiqi, attempting to persuade her to join her in San Diego after graduation this spring.

Bejiqi isn’t sure what she will do. She speaks of going to a place where she can help, perhaps working at the U.S. Embassy in Kosovo, or assisting with the Red Cross or a humanitarian aid agency.

If she returns to Kosovo, the Serbs still will be there. When Bejiqi first arrived at George Fox, she was asked if she could forgive the Serbs. She replied, “No ... not right now.” As time passes, forgiving and forgetting are blending. “After three years — after the nightmares were over — I found peace,” she says. “The more I started to forgive, there was less hate in me. I liked the feeling of less hate. I was warm inside for the first time in a long time.”

— Rob Felton



The day Mirsade Bejiqi arrived in the U.S. she saw her first female soldier. The photo of their handshake became the cover image for a government handbook given to Kosovo refugees in the U.S.

Setting Up Camp

After founding George Fox University's retreat center and developing its academic programs in camping, retiring professor Gary Fawver will help develop Christian camping in Russia



For nearly 30 years, Gary Fawver has taught religion and camping courses, including a wilderness survival class that requires students to spend 48 hours in the woods living off the land.

College student. After earning his seminary degree, he directed a backpacking camp for juvenile delinquents in Oregon and a wilderness program at a camp in Colorado. In 1971 he read about property given to establish a camp in Oregon. He applied and was hired as the founding director of Tilikum, located seven miles outside of Newberg.

Fawver expanded facilities and added trails on the 93-acre property. By 1990, the year Fawver became a full-time professor at George Fox, nearly 250 children were involved in the day-camp program. Today Tilikum serves more than 2,400 children each summer.

"I think the day camp at Tilikum has become a national model and is a real jewel in the Portland area among the churches that participate," says Fawver, who lists his involvement with that program among the highlights of his career.

"I guess the reason it's so special to me," he says, "is you can see children's eyes just light up when they see a fish in the water or a frog or see a beautiful flower or a hummingbird, or they'll go

into the barn and pet a goat or hold a rabbit."

A Passion for Teaching

Fawver first joined the George Fox faculty in 1975 on a part-time basis, initially to teach a Bible literature course for a professor on sabbatical. Seeing a natural relationship between George Fox and Tilikum, which by then had become part of the university, Fawver started teaching courses in camping and eventually developed minors in camp administration and camp programming.

His other passions soon influenced his teaching, as well. Tutored in the Christian classics by Carl Lundquist, former president of the Christian College Consortium, and George Fox alumnus and author Richard Foster, Fawver developed a class in the Christian classics that became a popular upper-division capstone course.

His outdoor expertise led to a wilderness survival class featuring an unusual final: students were sent without food to spend 48 hours at Tilikum, equipped with just a few basic items.

Fawver liked to joke with his students: "I'm going to pray that it rains, and you can pray that it doesn't. We'll see who's got more pull with God."

Now that Fawver is retiring, his gift of teaching will find expression in other ways. As Dan DeGroat, one of Fawver's coworkers with CCI/Russia, explains, "Gary always keeps us mindful of the role of nature in outdoor ministry. Christian camping to him is more than 'church outdoors.' It is a rich experience of discovering — getting to know the Creator in his own museum. Gary draws us back to nature, to reflection, to solitude, and to the place to meet God."

That has been Fawver's message throughout his career, one he is carrying to the people of Russia.

— Anita Cirulis

KELLY JAMES

Gary Fawver is an unusual mix of rugged outdoorsman and contemplative mystic. Well-versed in the Christian classics, he counts Augustine, Bunyon, Teresa of Ávila, and Julian of Norwich among his favorite authors. Adept at wilderness survival, he enjoys spending days with friends in the mountains, miles from the nearest road or town.

Fawver's love for God and love of nature have fueled a lifelong commitment to Christian camping. The founding director of the Tilikum Center for Retreats and Outdoor Ministries, he retires this spring after teaching at George Fox University for nearly 30 years.

Retirement, however, won't mean an end to his involvement in Christian camping. Five days after participating in his final commencement, Fawver will fly to Russia to spend six weeks establishing a program to train, evaluate, and certify the nation's Christian camp administrators and counselors. The work is part of a three-year commitment to serve as dean of curriculum development for Russia's branch of Christian Camping International (CCI).

A World Perspective of Camping

Fawver's interest in international Christian camping was piqued in the late 1970s when he spoke to a Latin American conference in Costa Rica. "That was the first time I saw the excitement of people of another culture in the whole field of Christian camping," he recalls.

More opportunities followed when Fawver was named president of CCI/U.S.A., an organization with more than 1,000 member camps in the United States. Over the years, he has visited camps in the Philippines, Zimbabwe, New Zealand, and Australia.

Those visits reinforced his conviction that camping plays a vital role in the church.

"The camp is a temporary community; the church is a community of believers," he says. "You can go to

camp and in a week experience what this community feels like in living together, solving problems together, and worshipping together.

"We've traditionally seen Christian camping as a tool for evangelism, but in my judgment, it's a better tool for discipleship."

From Communist to Christian

Fawver's connection to Russia began in 1991, when he was asked to help develop a Christian camping program in the former Soviet Union.

"I was intrigued because it was still, technically, a communist nation," he says. "We ran the first all-summer residential Christian camping program in the former Soviet Union that we're aware of."

He has been back twice since, running a camp in Siberia during the summer of 1998 and training Russian camp counselors and administrators during a sabbatical in 1999.

So explosive was the growth of Christian camping in Russia that CCI established an office in St. Petersburg with a full-time Russian staff. Now, Fawver estimates, there are nearly 300 Christian camps in Russia serving between 50,000 and 70,000 children each summer.

Many of those camps are former Young Pioneer Camps, where Soviet youth were trained in the ways of communism.

"Camping is so much a part of the culture of the Russians that even though the camps were communist camps, parents and grandparents still remember them fondly," Fawver says. "So there's no lack of campers for the Christian camps, because parents say, 'Hey, camps are camps, and they're neat.'"

Laying the Groundwork

Fawver's first experience with Christian camping came while working as a camp counselor as a Wheaton

The Fab Five

Alumni awards honor state senator, writer, CPA, pastor, and historian

New Graduate Programs

Responding to a nationwide shortage of school counselors and school psychologists, George Fox University has established master's degree and certificate programs in both fields.

Teachers with at least two years of experience who want to make a career change can pursue a master of arts degree in school counseling. Non-teachers with a bachelor's degree in any field can also enroll in the program, but must take two additional courses.

A certificate in school counseling is available for individuals without teaching experience who hold a graduate degree in a behavioral or mental health field.

The school psychology program likewise consists of two options: a master of science degree for individuals with undergraduate degrees in any field of study, and a certificate program for those who already have a master's degree in a specified field.

The program also provides course work for moving from the Initial to the Continuing School Psychology License.

For both programs, the certificate can be completed either separately or in conjunction with the M.A. in school counseling or the M.S. in school psychology.

PDX's Top Cop

Since Sept. 11, Phil Klahn has catapulted from the school police beat to chief of



police for Portland International Airport (PDX).

Klahn, who earned a George Fox bachelor's degree in human resource

management in 1989, was offered an operations lieutenant position with the PDX police force just days before the terrorist attacks. This winter, he was promoted to oversee the Port of Portland's 54-member PDX police department. "It's been very unusual," says Klahn. "I've been taking on a lot of responsibility in a short amount of time."

Before coming to PDX, Klahn spent 18 years with the Portland Public Schools Police Department.

Klahn is earning high marks from Mark Crosby, the Port's general manager of security and public safety at PDX. "From scratch, he rebuilt the command staff and turned around morale through his leadership," says Crosby. "He's a rock-solid leader of high integrity."



2003 alumni award winners (clockwise from top left) Ralph Beebe, Betty Hockett, Mahlon Macy, Dave Schmidt, and Raymond Cheung were recognized for their accomplishments during homecoming festivities in February.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Dave Schmidt

Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Philosophy, 1978

■ Respected by his peers and constituents for his ability to work with others, for his commitment to honesty and integrity, and for his courage in presenting his views, Dave Schmidt has become Sen. Schmidt of the 44th District (Snohomish County) in the state of Washington — and George Fox's Outstanding Alumnus.

Election to the Senate followed four terms in the House of Representatives. Schmidt was named deputy majority whip, the only Senate freshman Republican chosen to serve in a caucus leadership role. He also will serve as vice chair of the Senate's Higher Education Committee, and on the Economic Development, Education, and Technology and Communication committees.

In the House, Schmidt served as chair of the Government Administration and Special Elections Committee and as vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee. In 1997 he was honored by the Council of State Governments as a Henry Toll Fellow, a designation given to just 23 state legislators across the nation. He was awarded the Veterans and Military Affairs Legislator of the Year Award in 2002.

After George Fox, Schmidt attended Multnomah Bible School and was a pastor for six years, then was in commercial bank management, a self-employed venture capitalist, and a political consultant prior to beginning government service in 1989 on the Washington House of Representatives staff before running for election.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AWARD

Betty Hockett

Bachelor of Arts in English, 1952

■ Betty Hockett is noted nationally for planning and writing interdenominational Sunday school materials for preschoolers. The materials feature interactive teaching and learning, rather than

passivity, with wide appeal because of effectiveness.

Author of 15 books, numerous articles, stories, and inspirational devotionals, Hockett teaches writing classes, workshops, and seminars for churches, Christian schools, and at the McMinnville (Ore.) site of Chemeketa Community College. Students there in the spring of 2002 selected her as Instructor of the Term.

Hockett is a member of Oregon Christian Writers and is a former member of the Northwest Yearly Meeting Media Commission and the Publication Commission of Evangelical Friends International.

Ten of Hockett's books are from the series *A Life Story from Missions*. Her book *Looking Through the Window* was chosen a Noteworthy Book in the 1996 C.S. Lewis Medal competition.

OUTSTANDING RECENT ALUMNUS

Raymond Cheung

Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics, 1996

■ Completion of college work in just three years set the pace for Raymond Cheung, now audit manager for Geffen, Mesher & Co., a large CPA firm in Portland. During the year following his graduation from George Fox, Cheung did postgraduate work and passed the test to become a CPA.

Today he oversees audits and other attestation services; manages, directs, and mentors staff accountants; performs technical research on a variety of accounting issues; advises clients on accounting and tax issues; and monitors job performances and budgets.

Previously, Cheung was a senior auditor for PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, and senior accountant for Jones & Roth, P.C. He is a member of the American Institute of CPAs, Oregon Society of CPAs, and Rotary International.

Cheung, who worked two summers as a marketing intern for Reebok in Hong Kong, speaks four languages: Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, and English.

SEMINARY ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Mahlon Macy

Bachelor of Arts in Religion, 1944
Master of Divinity, 1949

■ Fifty years of service as a pastor, evangelist, chaplain, and administrator has earned Mahlon Macy honors designation.

His national service began in 1955 when he joined the staff of the National Association of Evangelicals, serving as Midwest regional director, field director, and director of development. For many of those years he conducted evangelistic meetings in churches and camp meetings across the nation.

From 1967 to 1987 he pastored Friends churches in Portland, Ore.; Omaha, Neb.; and Bayshore, Texas.

After 45 years of active ministry Macy returned to Newberg in 1987 and since has served in pulpit supply ministry, as interim director of Friendsview Manor, and as a volunteer hospital chaplain.

HERITAGE AWARD

Ralph Beebe

Bachelor of Arts in History, 1954

■ Excellence in teaching, literary accomplishments, and untiring work for peace and social justice were cited in honoring longtime George Fox professor Ralph Beebe.

Beebe returned to his alma mater in 1974 to teach history, retiring 25 years later as professor emeritus. In that span he also was known both as an author and activist. He wrote George Fox's centennial history book, and in 1990 co-authored the book *Blessed Are the Peacemakers: A Palestinian Christian in the Occupied West Bank*.

From 1992 until his retirement, Beebe was assistant director of GFU's Center for Peace Learning. With his interest in the Middle East, he became noted as an expert on issues related to the struggle for peace in the area and has been interviewed numerous times by local and national media.

— Barry Hubbell

ALUMNI NOTES

Gordon Crisman (G69) works in Lake Oswego, Ore., as a vice president and regional operations manager for Washington Mutual.

Bertha (Thomas) Pickell (G69) was recognized as a veteran teacher of the Title I Program by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, Oakes, N.D.

John Booth (G72) was promoted to professor of music at Hannibal-LaGrange College in Hannibal, Mo. For 14 years, he has been at the college, where he teaches church music, history of music, voice, guitar, and handbells.

Kathy (Williams) Burke (G75) is area supervisor for the Seattle Public Schools Head Start program. For 13 years she was the child care director at Kinder Kampus, a ministry of Friends Memorial Church in Seattle, Wash.

Duane Smiley (n81) and his wife, Karen, live in LaGrande, Ore., where he is the senior pastor of New Song Community Church.

Kellie Carlsen (G85) is living in Lakeview, Ore., and is the assistant unit forester for the Oregon Department of Forestry. She is responsible for the supervision for the Wildland Fire Protection Program.

Randy Comfort (DPS85) is director of admissions for Spring Arbor University, Spring Arbor, Mich.

Matt (G86) and **Janet (Jordan) Carlsen** (G88) are missionaries with New Tribes Mission, stationed near Goroka, Papua, New Guinea. They are teachers at Numonotti Christian Academy, a boarding school, providing education to the children of missionaries who are located in remote tribal areas throughout Papua, New Guinea.

Chris De Villeneuve (G90) is administrator for Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health in Yakima, Wash.

Kirsten (Benson) Anderson (G92) is a special education and reading teacher at Highline High School in Seattle, Wash. She previously taught language arts at King's Schools in Seattle. She worked for two years in Vienna, Austria, at the Vienna International School, teaching language arts, drama, and music.

Andrea Fuller Goldsmith (G93) is development coordinator for the Rocky Mountain Survivors Center, a Denver nonprofit organization that provides counseling and social services assistance to survivors of torture and war trauma from other countries. In 2001, she received an M.A. in international human rights and a certificate in conflict resolution from the University of Denver Graduate School of International Studies. She was in Iraq twice in 2000 doing humanitarian observation and supplies distribution.

Michael (G94) and **Heidi (Schneider) Pender** (G94) are missionaries doing family development work in Cap Haitien, Haiti, with Family Life Outreach. They came home for two months for the birth of their child and then returned to Haiti in February.

Paul Carlson (G95) is an investment representative with Edward Jones, Canby, Ore.

David Coulombe (DPS98) has joined the staff of Fewel & Brewer law offices in Corvallis, Ore. He is a 2002 graduate of Willamette University. He will be handling prosecutions for the municipal courts of Corvallis and Philomath, as well as receiving new private-sector clients.

Josephine Smith (G98) recently earned the Certified Marketing Director certification from the International Council of Shopping Centers. She has been marketing director with Macerich Company for nearly four years, one of the leading owners and operators of shopping centers in the nation.

Lynsey (Shontz) Turek (G98) is manager of Windsor Nature Discovery, a 24-year-old Eugene, Ore.-based company that creates fish, bird, and other animal illustrations for regulation handbooks, and posters for schools, fish hatcheries, and aquariums. She began working for Windsor two years ago.

Jane (Seale) Gramenz (G99, MAT01) and **Paul** (G02) recently moved to Denver, Colo., where he is attending his first year of medical school.

Trevor Hurley (G00) has been promoted to manager of Wells Fargo's Community Banking Store in Woodburn, Ore. He will oversee customer service, sales, and staff training.

Faith Curammeng (G01) is the producer for the 5 p.m. evening television news for the CBS television affiliate in Anchorage, Alaska.

Kristin (Campbell) Church (G02) is life-span respite coordinator for Columbia County Community Action Team's Caring Option in St. Helen's, Ore. The program was developed to meet the needs of families or caregivers by providing long-term care to children and adults.

Andrea Herboldt (G02) is a bilingual service representative for the Social Security Administration at the Portland downtown office.

MARRIAGES

Chris De Villeneuve (G90) and Elizabeth London, Oct. 8, 2002, Yakima, Wash.

Dan Bale (G96) and **Holly Miller** (G97), June 22, 2002, Troy, Mont.

Kylie Conner (G98) and David Brost, Aug. 17, 2002, Darby, Mont.

Cari Hogan (G98) and Juan Manuel Arias, Jan. 18, 2003, Portland.

Jane Seale (G99, MAT01) and **Paul Gramenz** (G02), Aug. 3, 2002, Canby, Ore.

Jason Schilperoort (G00) and Ginger Kooistra, Sept. 22, 2002, Bellingham, Wash.

Andrew Coleman (G01) and **Marisa Merritt** (G01), Nov. 23, 2002, Portland.

Ben Larson (G01) and **Shaura Neil** (G01), Nov. 16, 2002, Greenbank, Wash.

Joshua Speulda (G01) and **Rebecca Martin** (G01), Sept. 14, 2002, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Keith Wade (G01) and **Camille Hansch** (G01), Nov. 23, 2002, Gig Harbor, Wash.

Brandi Martin (n02) and Christopher Ware, May 24, 2002, Gresham, Ore.

Benjamin Laro (current student) and Karyn Reed, June 15, 2002, Aumsville, Ore.

BIRTHS

Brad (G86) and Denise **Grimsted**, a girl, Amelia Rose, Sept. 13, 2002, Olympia, Wash.

Larry (G87) and Silvia **Kading**, twins: a boy, Nicholas Lorenzo, and a girl, Francesca Megan, Dec. 18, 2002, Weston, Fla.

Corey (G91) and **Jill (Jamison)** (G92) **Beals**, a son, Jonathan Jamison, March 3, 2003, New Haven, Conn.

Andrea Fuller Goldsmith (G93) and Chris Goldsmith, a girl, Safia Elizabeth, June 26, 2002, Littleton, Colo.

Jeff (G93) and **Kristen (Gouger)** (G94) **Kosmicki**, a girl, Ashley Belle, Sept. 27, 2002, Newberg.

Rachel (Fonda) (G94) and **Michael** (G96) **Kellar**, a boy, Aiden Rhys, Oct. 31, 2002, Hillsboro, Ore.

Michael (G94) and **Heidi (Schneider)** (G94) **Pender**, a girl, Grace Elizabeth, Jan. 1, 2003, Tualatin, Ore.

Paul (G95) and Stefani **Carlson**, a girl, Adrienne Larine, Dec. 12, 2002, Tualatin, Ore.

Marchand (DeChenne) (G95) and **Greg** (MAT98) **Lewis**, twins: a boy, Samuel Roy, and a girl, Elizabeth Cathy, Oct. 30, 2002, Medford, Ore.

Stephen (G95) and **Melinda (Fox)** (G96) **Mickelson**, a girl, Kendall Renee, Nov. 11, 2002, Tualatin, Ore.

Trevor (G95) and **Elizabeth (Monlezun)** (G95) **Smith**, a girl, Elise Gwendolyn, Sept. 4, 2002, Springfield, Ore.

Shawn (G98, MAT99) and **Becky (Austin)** (G98) **Shelley**, a girl, Hannah Noelle, Sept. 28, 2002, Eugene, Ore.

Shaun (G99) and **Faith (Garner)** (G00) **McCloud**, a boy, Micah Joseph, Oct. 1, 2002, Grass Valley, Calif.

Tiffany (DPS00) and Steve **Bouchard**, a boy, Jackson Cross, Feb. 13, 2002, Corvallis, Ore.

John (DPS00) and Tabatha **Braden**, a boy, Ian Josiah, Dec. 31, 2002, McMinnville, Ore.

Susan (MBA00) and David **Cloud**, twins: a boy, Ethan Fischer, and a girl, Makenna Raeann, Oct. 19, 2002, Portland.

Sarah (G02) and Jeremy **Nielsen**, a boy, Taylor James, Dec. 9, 2002, Portland.

DEATHS

Marie Chapman (G41), Feb. 18, 2003, Newberg.

Norma (Dillon) Piersall (G51) March 7, 2003, Eugene, Ore.

Eugene McDonald (G60), Feb. 14, 2003, Inverness, Fla.

Alvera (Sawyer) Alley (n73), Dec. 23, 2002, Anchorage, Alaska.

Frederick Alley (G76), Dec. 23, 2002, Anchorage, Alaska.

Rita Crisman (n78), Nov. 26, 2002, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Elizabeth Julison (MA02), Dec. 24, 2002, Portland.

Rescue Mission

Jason Overstreet ('96) is still on the road, singing.

As a former baritone-tenor in DaySpring, George Fox University's touring vocal ensemble, Overstreet performed from California to Colorado. After graduation, he formed Rescue (www.rescuemusic.com), a four-member Christian a cappella group. Two of the



George Fox alumna Jason Overstreet (center) is touring nationally with the Christian a cappella group Rescue, which opened for Avalon earlier this year.

other original members — Matt Lusk ('97) and Chad Krober ('97) — are George Fox alumni.

The newest member of Rescue, Tim Storms, holds the Guinness World Record for the lowest note ever recorded. Storms can hit a low note about two octaves below the lowest note on the piano.

Rescue now tours nationally year-round and performs three to five concerts a week. Earlier this year, they opened for Christian music group Avalon. The Portland-based group just released its fourth album, *The Difference*.

In 2001 and 2002, Rescue was named favorite religious group by the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America. "2,000 Years Ago," a song written by Overstreet and Lusk, was named 2002 Contemporary Christian Song of the Year by The Music Resource Group.

In addition to singing, Overstreet works full time as president of Rescue Ministries. "I do the producing and the arranging," he says. "I do about four full-time jobs. There are so many people out there who are more talented, but the Lord allowed me to do this for a living. It's an incredible blessing."

Making Amends

"The report of my death was an exaggeration," wrote Mark Twain in 1897. **Dwight Fanno** (n78) could have used the same line when he called the university to politely inform us we had exaggerated his death in the January issue of *LIFE*.

Aaron Fuller (G01) reports he did not enter into matrimony as announced in *LIFE*.

And a January article implied George Fox had no health care programs. George Fox does offer athletic training, which is recognized as an allied health profession by the American Medical Association.

Key

| | |
|-------------|---|
| G | Traditional graduate |
| n | Traditional nongraduate |
| DPS | Department of Professional Studies graduate (MHR, MOL, and MBIS majors) |
| GFES | Seminary graduate |
| PsyD | Doctor of psychology graduate |
| MAT | Master of arts in teaching graduate |
| MBA | Master of business administration graduate |
| MA | Master of arts graduate |
| MEd | Master of education graduate |

Ghosts of the Gridiron

George Fox University football made its last tackle in 1968, but the memories are still fresh for football alumni

They came back to remember. They came back to tell tales of their youth, their friendships, and football. More than 60 of them — from Lewis Hoskins ('35) to Bill Jackson ('71) — returned in February during George Fox's homecoming weekend to remember playing football at their alma mater.

They came back with graying hair and stories of concussions, National Football League contracts, and a bowl game. They laughed about their juvenile antics and solemnly called out the names of teammates no longer living.

Some returned with dreams of breathing new life into a sport whose last days at George Fox came in the spring of 1969. In large part because of financial difficulties, the college administration disbanded the team after a series of losing seasons.

In the sport's last year, George Fox had fewer than 400 students, making it the smallest college in America with a football team. Players frequently played nearly the entire game, sometimes with injuries. Lloyd Pruitt ('64) recalled starting games with as few as 13 players. "We never ended with fewer than 11. Guys wouldn't quit; we wouldn't let 'em." Pruitt recalls one game where the coach told the players who were ineligible because of grades to wear their uniforms to the game. "Just to make it look like we had more players."

"This Good Quaker Boy"

Steven Wilhite ('61), a fullback and cornerback during his playing days and now a surgeon in Eugene, Ore., told how he hit a much-bigger Linfield College player so hard that his opponent had to be taken to the Newberg hospital.

"Now here I am, this good Quaker boy, and I know I'm supposed to be worried about hitting a guy like that — but I was so happy inside."

Several years later, that same Linfield player came to Wilhite for a hernia operation. "I wasn't sure if he remembered me," says Wilhite, "but we got to talking about our college football days and this fellow says, 'Man, the hardest I ever got hit was against George Fox. It put me in the hospital.' I sure didn't tell him who I was then, but it was nice to hear that. Then I fixed his hernia — and charged him my regular rate."



Dick Zeller's 41-yard punting average was third in the nation in 1954.

who led the team in passing, rushing, and punting.

"(Zeller) punted one at Linfield that got caught in a strong tailwind and sailed 76 yards," recalls John Adams ('56). "That ball hung up so long, we beat it downfield. Someone popped the guy that caught the ball, it came loose, and I picked it up and raced for the end zone, but they tackled me just before I got in. That was the only time I ever carried the ball at George Fox."

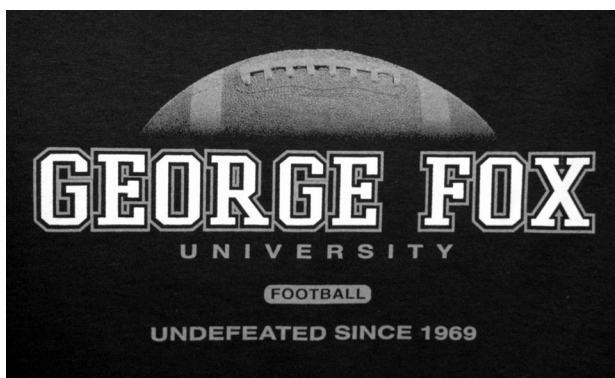
Zeller finished that season with a 41-yard punting average that was third in the nation behind two major college players.

The Crusader Bowl

Although George Fox suffered through numerous losing seasons, there were some bright spots. The 1960 squad



The 1905 George Fox (then Pacific College) football team. George Fox played its first football game in 1894, when a squad from Willamette University took a steamship down the Willamette River to Newberg.



With its ironic boast, the above T-shirt design has become a popular purchase in the University Store.

was invited to California for George Fox's only bowl game, a Christian college matchup called the Crusader Bowl. After a scoreless half, George Fox lost 28-0 to Los Angeles Pacific College.

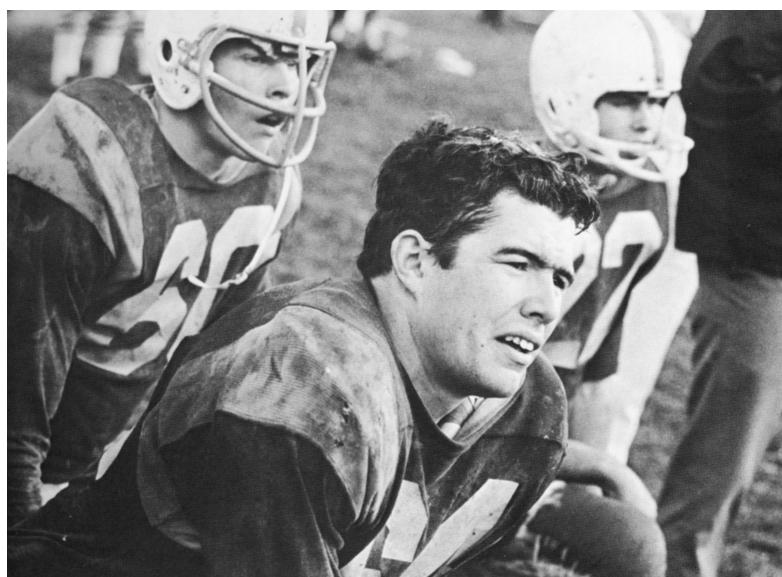
Brush With Greatness

Despite a winless final season in 1968, the campus was abuzz when Bob Hadlock ('70) and Randy Casey ('69) became the first George Fox players to sign contracts with NFL teams. Hadlock was a 12th-round draft pick of the Detroit Lions, while Casey signed as a free agent with the Dallas Cowboys.

"Casey never played, but Hadlock had a real chance; he played in several preseason games," remembers Gary Brown ('68). Hadlock played semiprofessional football briefly before going into full-time youth ministry. He died in 1995 on a mission trip to Nepal.

Bob Armstrong ('50), served as master of ceremonies for the football reunion. He reminded the players of their injuries. "Separations. Contusions. Protrusions. No face mask," he says. "Would I do it again? I sure would. I've got a whole closetful of memories."

— Blair Cash and Rob Felton



Larry Craven ('69), center, was captain of the last football team to play for George Fox.

BRUIN SPORTS

Women's Basketball

Posting their 10th consecutive winning season, a young George Fox women's basketball team went 15-10 for the season, 10-6 in Northwest Conference play.

The Bruins finished fourth in the conference, missing the playoffs for just the second time in the last 10 years.

George Fox led the conference in rebounding (41.8) and rebound margin (+6.8) and was one of its top defensive teams, allowing just 56.4 points per game. Only one of the team's losses was by double figures.

The Bruins lose just one senior and no starters as they plan for next season.

Three Bruins received All-Conference honors. Wing Kellie Thomas, a freshman from Medford, Ore., and post Darby Cave, a junior from Portland, were First-Team selections, while wing Liz Clark, a sophomore from Elbe, Wash., was named honorable mention. Thomas finished fourth in conference scoring (12.6) and was a Conference Player of the Week selection. Cave led the conference in field-goal percentage (.549). Clark was second in rebounding (7.8), including two games with 17 rebounds.

Coach Scott Rueck improved his coaching record to 130-49 (.726 percent). He has never had a losing season in his seven years at George Fox.



Sophomore wing Liz Clark

KIRK HIROTA

Men's Basketball

It was a step in the right direction. With just one starter returning from last season's 5-20 team, the men's basketball team improved to 7-18 overall. The youthful Bruins snapped a 25-game conference losing streak with a 72-69 win over Pacific Lutheran University — their lone win in conference play.

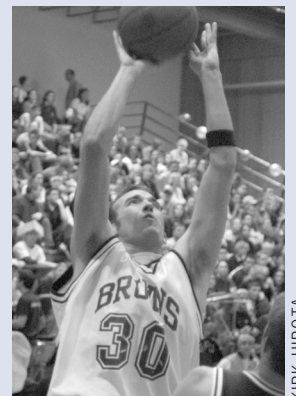
The Bruins started the season strong, going 4-2 and posting a four-game win string, all on the road. They finished 6-3 versus nonleague opponents.

In conference action, rebounding proved the team's undoing, with the Bruins out-rebounded 6.8 per game by their bigger league opponents.

Health issues hurt the Bruins. A heart condition sidelined senior Jered Gritters, a 6-5 post from Oregon City, Ore., for the entire season. Then, midway into the season, second-leading scorer Nate Tyler, a junior from Sweet Home, Ore., was lost due to a broken wrist.

Post/wing Mark Gayman, a sophomore from Hillsboro, Ore., led the team in scoring at 15.7 points per game and in rebounding at 7.1. He received All-Conference Honorable Mention honors and was a Player of the Week selection in December.

Point guard Trevor Person, a freshman from Battle Ground, Wash., had 111 assists and led the conference in assist-to-turnover ratio (1.71).



Sophomore post/wing Mark Gayman

KIRK HIROTA