

# LIFE

*George Fox  
University*

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## Gina's Gift



*"You know at once when you read a fiction writer who has the Big Gift... Gina Ochsner unmistakably has the Big Gift."*

— Robert Olen Butler, Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction

KELLY JAMES

**R**emember the name: Gina Ochsner. She's the most critically acclaimed fiction author ever to come out of George Fox — and she's only 32.

In the last four years, her short stories have won nearly two dozen national and international literary awards.

"The list is stunning," says George Fox Professor of English Ed Higgins. "This kind of thing is nearly impossible."

One of her biggest awards was the Flannery O'Connor Award that the 1992 graduate received for her first book of short stories, *The Necessary Grace to Fall*, published this year by The University of Georgia Press. A glowing April review of the book in *The Oregonian* newspaper describes her as "perched to become Oregon lit's new It Girl."

What makes Ochsner's accomplishments even more remarkable is the fact she alternates between dialogue and dia-

pers as a stay-at-home mother. While raising three children severely limits her writing time, it also provided her inspiration. A near-death experience during the birth of her first child transformed her from a frustrated graduate student to a rising young star in the literature world.

### Undergraduate Drivel

Ochsner's George Fox classmates might remember her as Gina Withnell, a quiet, freckled, academically minded language arts teaching major who participated in drama and choir.

Ochsner recalls her George Fox experience with fondness and her undergraduate writing with horror. She expresses gratitude none of the "drivel" from that era remains in her mentors' possession.

Her professors tell a different story of a talented writer who was unique for pursuing independent study of the daunting works of Irish author James Joyce. Pro-

fessor of English Becky Ankeny remembers Ochsner dazzling an audience at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference with one of her short stories. Afterward, many approached to ask where Ochsner got her ideas.

The ideas continued to come. During her senior year student teaching at St. Paul High School, Ochsner decided she wasn't called to the classroom. She wanted to write.

### Learning by Failing

"No one can teach you how to write," says Ochsner. Still, she pursued further academic study after George Fox because she says she needed to have someone continue to critique her work. "I learn what's most helpful by failing."

She says her lifelong struggle with dyslexia resurfaced during her road trip to graduate school. She was headed to the University of Iowa in Iowa City until

her traveling companion reviewed her acceptance letter while they sped through Nebraska. Ochsner's friend discovered she had been accepted not at the University of Iowa, but at Iowa State University in Ames. They changed their trajectory.

After earning a master's in English at Iowa State, she returned to the Northwest to pursue a master of fine arts degree in creative writing at the University of Oregon.

She says her father, Dick Withnell, wasn't so sure of her chosen career track. Her grad-school professors didn't help out by cautioning the George Fox board member his daughter might not be suited for academia.

"I don't write stories that workshop well," she says, describing the sessions where writers meet to critique one another's work. Sometimes the feedback is

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## Ankenys Named Volunteers of the Year

### Change of Heart

One of the 21 new members of the Henry Mills Society was so rebellious as a student she says religion professor Ron Stansell "would probably pass out" if he knew she is leaving her entire estate — currently worth \$400,000 — to George Fox.

The 1960s George Fox graduate requested anonymity for her gift. Her contribution will fund an endowed scholarship for Seminary students majoring in pastoral ministries. Her desire to give back to her alma mater came as she matured and realized George Fox was the place that shaped her.

The society is named after the man who established the endowment with a gift of \$1,200. In 1902, Henry Mills deeded his home to what was then Pacific College with the stipulation that when he died the college sell it and use the proceeds for an endowment. Today there are more than 400 Henry Mills Society members who represent more than \$19 million in future gifts to George Fox.

For more information about the Henry Mills Society or if you have already included George Fox University in your estate plans, please contact Todd Newell, director of estate and planned giving, at 503-554-2117.



Peanut brittle may seem like a rather strange legacy for which to be noted. But then you may not have had any of Harold Ankeny's annual homemade treat.

That yearly contribution to the holiday season at George Fox University helped Ankeny — and his wife, Betty — in being named the University's 2002 Volunteers of the Year.

The Ankenys were cited for their involvement at the 16th annual Volunteer Thank You Luncheon June 18 on the Newberg campus.

"The delicious peanut brittle Harold makes for the (George Fox) Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar" was on the list of contributions made by the Newberg couple. The proceeds from its sale go to auxiliary projects on the campus. Betty is one of the workers for the annual fund-raising event.

Both help with the planting of the University's summer hanging flower baskets.

The list of contributions also includes Harold's recruitment of volunteers for Volunteers on Wheels (VOW), a group that travels the West helping churches and nonprofit groups with construction projects. At George Fox, VOW has helped with concrete work, sidewalk construction, and painting.

Harold coordinated the alumni portion of George Fox's \$16 million Cen-



The peanut brittle Harold Ankeny makes for sale each Christmas by the George Fox Auxiliary is just one of the reasons he and his wife, Betty, were named the University's Volunteers of the Year for 2002.

their children were in school. She was a local floral shop designer, with many donations of her arrangements over the years for various fund-raising events.

The couple met while attending Pacific College (now George Fox) and were married in 1948. He is a 1950 graduate, and she was a member of the class of 1951. Harold, then known as "Spud," was a three-sport athlete. In 2001 he was inducted into George Fox University's Sports Hall of Fame.

Harold became a minister after graduation, and the couple's first pastorate was at Agnew Friends Church near Port Angeles, Wash. After three years,

the family moved to Timber, Ore., where he built and pastored the Timber Friends Church. They then moved to Idaho, where he taught at Greenleaf Friends Academy and Betty was an office secretary. Other pastoral positions followed over the next decade.

In 1968 Harold began a 23-year career as a George Fox administrator, serving six years as dean of students, then becoming director of financial aid in 1974. In 1981 he moved to George Fox's development office as annual fund director, then as director of planned giving. He retired from George Fox in 1991, and in 1992 was named Alumnus of the Year by the University.

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## PRESIDENT'S PEN

### Help Wanted

Since I am committed to personally interviewing each candidate for a full-time faculty position at George Fox University, a significant amount of time each spring semester is given to that activity. At the end of the season, I find it helpful to think about the recruitment process as well as the profile of the new class. Who are the people joining us in August, and did the process work?

The procedure we follow in a nationwide search for faculty members is long and, sometimes, cumbersome. Position openings usually are posted sometime between November and January. Campus interviews begin as early as February and continue through May, with a few occurring as late as June.

The process is centralized in the provost's office, with the undergraduate and graduate deans coordinating each search. The academic department is the first, and primary, screen for applications that are received, but no person is hired without interviews with the appropriate dean, the provost, and me. Outstanding secretarial support in the academic affairs office coordinates this lengthy, complicated process.

One reason I take time to reflect on this process is that it is also expensive, both in dollars and in time and effort of many people. Much of the work needs to be done away from standard business hours.

So, is it worth it? The answer is complicated. In an institution the size of George Fox University, we hire approximately a dozen new faculty members each year. When I consider this question, I see mental images of the people we hire and know the answer.

If I shared with you summary statements for each person hired, you would have a more detailed picture of the results of the process. But what can I tell you in a few lines? I will

share a couple generalizations and observations from outside the process.

Recently, a team of three scientists from three institutions outside the Pacific Northwest visited George Fox University. They commented generously about the high quality of new, young faculty members we have in our science and engineering areas.

Likewise, each fall semester Tom Johnson, professor of biblical theology, teaches a Christian theology course to all our new faculty members. He sees these people in an academic setting and reports high interest and ability in these new faculty members.

The most important evidence I see of a successful search process is that faculty members at George Fox University come because they are called by God to serve here. A part of every interview I have with prospective faculty members is a discussion of their walk with the Lord. We hire people who are here because God wants them here. This results in faculty members who support and further our George Fox mission and who take seriously the call to high-quality education and the centrality of the integration of Christian faith with learning.

The process works and is definitely worth it.



President David Brandt

*Dave*

# Something Old, Something New

*The University's engineering program will get a lift from a major remodel of Wood-Mar Hall*

The new and the old are merging as George Fox University's expanding engineering major gets a new home in historic Wood-Mar Hall.

The three-story Old Main, constructed in 1911, is being renovated on two floors to house a growing engineering program that will graduate its first seniors in 2004.

The program is the only one at a Christian college in the western United States that offers both electrical and mechanical concentrations.

Development of the engineering program is receiving significant financial support through a \$500,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation for equipment and a \$400,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust for building renovation.

The building's new use undoubtedly would please Herbert Hoover, the nation's 31st president, who was an engineer by training and a student of Friends Pacific Academy, which became George Fox University.

Hoover visited the building, and for decades Wood-Mar Hall housed a large bronze plaque honoring the former student and president.

Engineering program director Bob Harder likes to point out that Hoover considered engineering a most noble calling.

"To the engineer falls the job of clothing the bare bones of science with life, comfort and hope," Hoover once said.

The renovation will recycle the once-doomed building back into teaching and laboratory space — something it housed for decades. In recent years, the first and second floors have contained administrative and service areas — and no classrooms.

The building's third floor was renovated in 1995 and houses the remodeled (but historically themed) Wood-Mar Auditorium.

The estimated \$1.2 million construction project to convert the more than 11,000 square feet of space is expected to be completed in January 2003. Already, campus crews have gutted the interior of the bottom two levels, with the project now awaiting contractors to rebuild the interior for the new use.

That new use will include first-floor labs for mechanics, mechanical engineering research, energetics, electronics, microprocessors, robotic controls, and computer-aided design, as well as a project engineering shop. Six faculty offices and an electrical engineering research lab are on the second floor, along with new space for the Office of the President and the Office of Academic Affairs.

The Wood-Mar Hall location for expansion of the engineering program made sense: the 91-year-old building is literally buttressed by the adjacent Edwards-Holman Science Center, which currently houses the initial engineering program.

In the current renovation, the original westside access to the landmark building will be reopened. Originally designed as the main and front entrance, the doors have been closed since the late 1950s, replaced by the north and south entrances as the only access points.

The original entrance space was converted into administrative and service offices on both the first and second floors. That space is being recaptured for the entrance, and the side doors will be closed to allow for construction of additional laboratory and office space.

George Fox University's 3:2 engineering program was started in 1987. Under that plan, students attend



FRANK MILLER

Junior engineering majors Matthew Mickelson and Melissa Workman are members of the first class of students who will graduate with bachelor of science degrees in engineering in 2004. In January 2003, the first and second floors of gutted Wood-Mar Hall will house new engineering classrooms and labs, thanks to a \$1.2 million portion of a recent capital campaign effort. The Office of the President will also be located on the second floor.

**"To prepare engineering students for a lifelong ministry of designing, manufacturing, and marketing products that serve and preserve God's creation."**

— Goal of the engineering program at George Fox University

George Fox for three years, taking most of their general education, mathematics and science, and lower-division engineering courses.

In doing so, they qualify to then transfer to any engineering school, where they spend two years in any one of several engineering curricula, including aerospace, chemical, civil, computer, electrical, or mechanical engineering, or engineering management.

Students completing the five-year program receive two bachelor of science degrees: an applied science degree from George Fox after

their four years, and an engineering degree from the engineering school after their fifth year. More than 100 students have completed degrees in this way.

Now, George Fox is offering a four-year bachelor of science degree in engineering (B.S.E.), with concentrations in either electrical or mechanical engineering.

According to Harder, about 45 students are expected to be enrolled in the program this fall, which began accepting students in the fall of 2000.

Students take a total of 129 credit hours to earn their degree, with core engineering courses offered the first two years, after which they concentrate on electrical or mechanical engineering as juniors and seniors.

An eventual enrollment of 90 students in the engineering major is projected. While the majority of engineering students are choosing the four-year major, the 3:2 applied science program will still be an option.

The four-year phase-in of the major includes the hiring of three additional engineering faculty. Dr. Harder, the University's professor of mechanical engineering, is the engineering program director and has been teaching at George Fox since 1988. In 1995, John Natzke, who earned a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, was hired as associate professor of electrical engineering.

This fall, Mike Magill, who has a Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University, will join the department as professor of mechanical engineering. Dr. Magill comes from Purdue University, where he has been a faculty member for the past seven years. Also this fall, a search will be conducted for two more engineering faculty, one of whom will be from the electrical engineering field.

— Barry Hubbell

## Administration News

### Cook Takes Indiana Post

Andrea Cook, vice president for enrollment services, has accepted the position of vice president for institutional advancement at Goshen College in Indiana. Her last day was July 3.

Cook served at George Fox for 15 years in several positions in continuing education and enrollment services. During her tenure, enrollment almost quadrupled. About 100 employees gathered to say goodbye at her farewell reception in June.

### Vice Presidents Alter Titles and Duties

George Fox's top administration this summer has been reorganized to allow President Dave Brandt to spend more time on external affairs.

Mike Goins, vice president for financial affairs, will continue to oversee all financial matters and is adding

Student Financial Services to his responsibilities.

Robin Baker, formerly vice president for academic affairs, is now provost and will oversee all internal functions of the University. His responsibilities include student life as well as academic personnel and programs. Brad Lau continues as vice president for student life and will report to Baker.

Dana Miller, formerly vice president for university advancement, will oversee all external affairs as vice president for marketing and advancement. In addition to his previous advancement responsibilities, he is responsible for admission and marketing functions.

As part of the change, President Brandt this fall will begin meeting monthly with representatives of approximately 10 university-wide committees such as technology, marketing, facilities, registration, and enrollment. Other committees will be formed later this year.

# Top Teachers

*Caitlin Corning and Steve Delamarter earn the 2002 Faculty Achievement Awards*

## Faculty Achievement Award for Undergraduate Teaching

*"Queen of History" Leads Crusade Against Historical Misperceptions*

On special occasions — such as her birthday or when she teaches about the last Russian czars — history professor Caitlin Corning wears her tiara to class. It's costume jewelry given to her by students who have christened her the "Queen of History."

At age 34, she's youthful royalty and one of the youngest-ever winners of the Faculty Achievement Award. Cheerful and lively, she enjoys showing modern feature films in class and ripping them apart. You can rile her by mentioning *Braveheart*.

"I hate that movie," says Corning. "I can't watch it. There are few historical films worse than that one." She can list dozens of inaccuracies, including the costuming and sequence of events. "If you want history," she says, "don't go to Hollywood. There's a big difference between the popular notion of history and reality."

Corning became infatuated with history in grade school as she studied ancient Egypt. She considered a career in archaeology but found she was allergic to dust. "Now I get to work with it after they've cleaned it up."

After finishing her undergraduate degree at Seattle Pacific University, she earned a doctorate at the University of Leeds in England, where she examined the relationship between the early Celtic and Roman churches in the seventh and eighth centuries.

She finds there's a tendency to romanticize and project modern ideals on the early church, just as people like to idealize the values of the American founders.

"Everybody likes to think there was a time that things were perfect," she says. "If we went back and talked to people then, we'd learn it wasn't perfect. We want to go back to something that never really existed. It's more helpful to go



FRANK MILLER

One is a young scholar who completed her doctorate in medieval history. The other is a veteran pastor and professor who's pioneering the Seminary's use of technology in teaching. Both share the distinction of winning George Fox University's \$2,500 Faculty Achievement Award in 2002. Caitlin Corning, chair of the Department of History and Political Science, was honored for undergraduate teaching, and Steve Delamarter, assistant professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, was the graduate teaching award winner.

back to what really happened. Truth is much more helpful than fantasies."

Corning has found her dream job as a professor. "They pay me to talk about history," she says. "I do it all the time anyway. I really love working with the students — challenging them to ask, How do we know what we know about history when we can't always trust our sources?"

Corning shares her enthusiasm for seeking historical truth in both general-education Western civilization classes and specialized, upper-division courses that cover subjects such as English history and medieval Europe.

Her students appreciate her narrative approach to teaching. "We are not there to absorb facts but to relive stories that have shaped our present day world," says one student who nominated Corning for the faculty award.

"Historians have a knack for making our subject horrifically boring," Corning admits. "It shouldn't be, because it's about people ... thousands of years of stories about people. It's fascinating."

## Faculty Achievement Award for Graduate Teaching

*Seminary Professor Steve Delamarter Finds His Place*

For four years, Steve Delamarter was a seminary professor Monday through Wednesday and a pastor Thursday through Sunday. But the multitasked Delamarter didn't just swap jobs twice a week. He also crossed state lines, driving four hours between Portland and his church in Everett, Wash.

That commute ended in 1997 when George Fox asked him to choose one vocation or the other. After 26 years in pastoral ministry as a youth, music, associate, and senior pastor, he stepped out of the pulpit. Teaching at George Fox Evangelical Seminary became his ministry. As the 2002 Faculty Achievement Award winner for graduate teaching, it appears his choice has been rewarded.

"I tried for a lot of years to keep one foot in academia and one in pastoral ministry," he says. "Then the Lord showed me that it's OK for me just to be a professor. Frankly, I think I'm a much better professor than I was a pastor."

His students appreciate his decision. "Dr. Delamarter goes out of his way to aid and assist students at all levels," says one student who nominated him for the award. "He devotes time to all students, not simply those in his instructed classes."

The spiritual formation course he designed and taught on spirituality and creation was raved about by Seminary students for months after the class ended. One said the class "should be a required course for all who seek to know God."

The Old Testament professor also is the high-tech visionary at the Seminary. He's the director of the Seminary's Lilly Grant Endowment, a \$300,000 gift being used to bring technology into the Seminary's education programs. He's guiding the creation of an Internet component for the Doctor of Ministry Program that will use Web pages, chat rooms, and e-mail.

Whether it's in the class or online, Delamarter has found his place of ministry.

— Rob Felton

## Alumni Invited to 9-11 Serve Day

George Fox's fourth annual Serve Day will have special significance this year. Always scheduled on the second Wednesday after classes begin, the university-wide outreach this year falls on September 11.

The Serve Day theme this year is "Remember, Reflect, Respond," which will focus on service as one of many constructive responses to the tragic events of 9-11.

Alumni wishing to participate can contact the Office of Student Life at 503-554-2310.

## Bill Jolliff Wins Research Award

What matter, I or they?  
Mine or another's day,  
So the right word be said  
And life the sweeter made?  
— From *My Triumph* by John  
Greenleaf Whittier

Concerned that college students weren't being exposed to the work of John Greenleaf Whittier, an American poet and Quaker popular during the 19th century, Bill Jolliff produced a reader's edition of Whittier's poems.

But it wasn't just editing a book of poetry that garnered Jolliff, professor of writing/literature, the University's Faculty Research Award for 2002. Jolliff himself is a prolific writer. He researches and writes about contemporary poet Walt MacDonald and Appalachian music. He also pens his own poetry.

"He publishes poems at just an incredible rate," Professor of English Becky Ankeny says. "It's hard to get published, but he publishes poems frequently."

The annual \$2,500 award is given for significant contribution to a professor's academic field during the past academic year.

## Five Retire as Faculty Emeriti

When five professors retired this past year, they left having served George Fox a total of 149 years.

**Mike Allen**, professor of sociology, twice was named the University's professor of the year for his skill as a teacher. An expert in the field of gerontology, he was a member of the George Fox faculty for 26 years with a special aptitude for helping college students gain an appreciation for other cultures.

**Rich Allen** retired in December as an associate professor of management and health and human performance and as the assistant director of the Department of Professional Studies. During his 32-year tenure at George Fox, he was athletics director and a successful coach of the cross country, track and field, and men's basketball teams before becoming involved in the University's degree-completion program.

**Bob Lauinger**, associate professor of music, was part of the fine arts department for 33 years. The longtime conductor of the University's Jazz Ensemble is remembered for his talent on the clarinet and his informal stage presence at concerts.

**Dale Orkney**, professor of biology, was the botanist of the science department for 38 years. Known for his crew cut, he was fearless when playing intramural flag football against college students more than 40 years his junior.

**Mel Schroeder** leaves a legacy of elaborate set designs he created for George Fox theatre productions. Soft-spoken and gentle, he traveled the West Coast as director of the University Players for 15 of his 20 years at GFU.

All five were named faculty emeriti this spring by the board of trustees.

## Gina's Gift

continued from page 1

useful and other times “it’s the blind leading the blind and not being very nice about it.”

### “Everything Came Together”

In 1996, Ochsner brought her son Connor into the world and nearly lost her own life. Complications from the birth caused extensive bleeding, and two weeks later her doctor told her she was dying. She signed a will and was asked if she’d like to meet with a priest before going into a last-chance surgery.

“I said, ‘This can’t really be it. I’m only 25.’”

She says the experience made her reconsider what kind of a life she wanted to live.

“God is so good,” she says. “I had no idea what purpose he had for me — probably to be the best mother possible to this little boy.”

“Since I’ve had children, everything has come together,” she says. “I attack things with a greater sense of urgency. I realize now the horizon could be a lot closer than most people realize.”

Mortality became a theme in her stories. “Maybe I’m trying to write my way to an understanding of death,” she says.

Ochsner earns praise for her treatment of what might be a rather morbid, depressing topic. She “is playful and fearless in her search to understand life through suicide, terminal illness, violence and war,” says the reviewer for *The Oregonian*. “Yet, she possesses an innate lightheartedness that takes the edge off the Grim Reaper’s scythe ... Her lack of intrusiveness is refreshing; it conveys a profound wisdom that’s almost spooky coming from a writer who’s barely 30.”

She describes herself as a writer of faith. “I have a deep abiding and intense faith in a benevolent and personal God who’s in charge. I do think it comes through.”

### Children and Writing

She and her husband, Brian, raise their children in a tree-shaded cul-de-sac in Keizer, Ore., a suburb of Salem. She seems an unflappable mother. Sitting on her deck on a recent June day, she calm-

ly watches Soren, her 2-year-old, stir her coffee with his toy kitchen utensils freshly discovered in a nearby crib. She drinks the beverage, but halts him when he attempts to plop Mr. Potato Head’s ear into the cup.

des child care two nights a week. Most of her work is accomplished then. Although she can’t write much while watching children, she snatches every opportunity to read. Ochsner picked up the love of literature from her mother, Gayle, a substitute English teacher with a passion for Shakespeare. Ochsner recalls reading even during childhood house-cleaning chores. “I remember I had a book propped up on the toilet while bowl swishing,” she says. “I’m still like that.”

### All Things Russian

Walk into Ochsner’s kitchen and the book lying open near the stove is as likely to be a Russian grammar book as a cookbook. In preparation for a monthlong trip to Russia, she spent this spring brushing up on her Russian language skills — just one of the Slavic languages she studied at Iowa State. She’s also teaching the language to her children, figuring it’ll help them “think around a problem in a couple different ways.” Her fascination with the Russian and other icy northern cultures appears frequently in her work and in her everyday life. Her biological family

— she was adopted as an infant — is mostly Danish, but includes some Russian heritage. Her 1-year-old daughter bears a Russian name, Natasha, and the family attends a Russian Orthodox church.

### Family and Business

After years of unsuccessfully entering about 50 writing contests annually, her writing began winning awards. Ochsner’s New York-based agent — who also handles the works of influential Czech writer Franz Kafka — approached her after she won her first major award in 1999, an international short-story contest sponsored by an Irish publishing company. A book of the prize-winning short stories was published using the name of her contribution: *From the Bering Strait*. Ochsner used her prize money to travel to Ireland with her husband to meet the editors.

Despite his initial concern, her father is now her No. 1 fan, Ochsner says. Still, he wishes she’d write a story Brad Pitt could star in. “He tells me, ‘This literature is all fine, but where’s the action?’”

Withnell, a successful Willamette Valley auto dealer, followed her book sales ranking on Amazon.com closely and did his part by buying numerous copies and funding the printing of book posters.

Ochsner says she doesn’t want to know about the sales numbers. “To me, it’s a superstitious thing.”

### Paying the Bills

Writing short stories is rarely lucrative. Most writing prizes are less than \$2,000 for stories that can take months to write and rewrite. Ochsner handwrites all her work two or three times before typing it and revising it another three to four times.

“God has taken such good care of me,” she says. “Just at the point the water



KELLY JAMES

*After nearly dying six years ago during the birth of her first child, author Gina Ochsner has become a rising literary star. “Since I’ve had children, everything has come together,” she says, here with 1-year-old daughter Natasha.*

heater breaks — and every other major appliance is broken — a story sells.”

Ochsner also has worked as an adjunct professor at George Fox, the University of Oregon, Western Oregon University, and Chemeketa Community College. In one hectic semester of pinballing between three campuses, she remembers grading papers at a rest stop.

“I feel strongly that artists are called to mentor along the way,” she says. “It’s absolutely necessary. There are just too many people discouraged.”

She also occasionally returns to do detail work at her father’s body shop.

“It’s good work for a daydreamer,” she says.

### Just Having Fun

To Ochsner, writing is about more than paying the bills. It also lets her explore a more spiritual world. She writes in a genre called magic realism, where she says “the divine brushes with the very ordinary.”

“Most people don’t examine their lives until absurd, baffling things happen to them,” she says. “A lot of people read because they don’t want to examine their lives. It’s an escape. Yet they’re willing to examine someone else’s life.”

She’s asked if she thinks about how the reader will respond to her work as she is writing.

“No, never,” she says. “I’m just having fun. I tell my husband if it stopped being fun, I would stop. Life’s too short to not do what you love.”

— Rob Felton

Excerpts from “Cartography of a Heart,” a short story included in *The Necessary Grace to Fall*

“Because O’Neil’s heart had been skipping and had threatened to give up altogether, the doctors decided to give him a new one. O’Neil was not a very important man. He had fought in a war, an unpopular one, and had in fact already nearly died several times. For these reasons and a few more he would have been hard-pressed to name, O’Neil was tempted to call off the replacement procedure. ...

“Finding a perfectly fitting heart proved to be even harder than the doctors thought it would be. For several months O’Neil waited, trying not to think about the tightness in his chest or the person who would have to die in order for him to have a new heart. But when the phone rang beside his bed one afternoon he knew before he even picked up the receiver that it was the hospital calling, that someone, the right someone, had at last died.”

All rights reserved © 2000 Gina Ochsner

### Selected Awards

Gina Ochsner has won 23 literary awards, including:

- William Faulkner Award
- Robert Penn Warren Fiction Prize
- Raymond Carver Fiction Prize
- Fish Short-Story Prize
- Ruth Hardman Award for Fiction
- Flannery O’Connor Award (for her first book of short stories *The Necessary Grace to Fall*)



ly watches Soren, her 2-year-old, stir her coffee with his toy kitchen utensils freshly discovered in a nearby crib. She drinks the beverage, but halts him when he attempts to plop Mr. Potato Head’s ear into the cup.

On this day, she has had about 20 minutes of writing time to work on her current projects — a novel and a piece about polar explorers that will blend history and fiction. Tomorrow, she hopes for about the same. Her husband — who works in construction and occasionally provides feedback on her writing — han-

# Peacemakers See Conflict Spiral

*A George Fox alumnus raised in the Middle East returns to open warfare in the West Bank*

## Alumni Board Elects Melum

**B**renda (Bagley) Melum attributes her involvement in George Fox's alumni board to a relative — albeit a distant one.

Melum says it was the encouragement of Steve Hockett, whose aunt — Beth Bagley — is her grandmother, that first convinced her to volunteer. Hockett is the alumni association's past president, and now, two years after joining the board, Melum is following in his footsteps. She will guide the board in its major objectives for the next two years: engaging nontraditional alumni and developing regional alumni chapters.

Melum's role involves ensuring the board's initiatives are accomplished as she leads quarterly meetings of the 21 members and of the board's executive committee. She'll also make committee appointments and participate in alumni events such as homecoming.

Melum is a program manager for Mentor Graphics in Wilsonville, Ore. As a student at George Fox, she participated in basketball and tennis while earning a bachelor's degree in business and economics.

## Family Weekend '02

**S**ave the date for George Fox University's 22nd annual Family Weekend, Nov. 1–3, 2002, an exciting event for parents and families of George Fox students.



- Attend some classes and meet the professors you've heard so much about.
- Enjoy the Wind Ensemble concert or see a musical.
- Join your student for some great meals and laugh at the night of improvisation with Comedy Sports.
- Don't miss the fantastic Sunday morning chapel service.

For a list of local hotels offering discounts to George Fox families, visit [www.georgefox.edu/parents/helpful\\_info/newberg/index.html](http://www.georgefox.edu/parents/helpful_info/newberg/index.html).

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**S**hells exploded outside the compound near Nablus in the West Bank, where Allyn Dhynes and other Christian Peacemaking Team members stayed for several nights in April.

Dhynes, 28, of Tigard had taught at a Quaker school in nearby Ramallah with his wife, Holly, from 1997 to 2000. He had seen tensions escalate between Palestinians and Israelis in the West Bank during those three years, but he saw open warfare in April.

The Dhyneses returned to Tigard in 2000 so that Holly Dhynes could complete a college degree.

Allyn Dhynes is working for Atiyeh Bros. The couple continued to follow events in the region they had come to know well.

Allyn Dhynes, who was born in Beirut and baptized in his mother's Greek Orthodox church when his Indiana-born father taught at American University, moved to Tigard with his parents in 1985.

He later became a Quaker, majoring in international studies at George Fox.

War has been abhorrent to him since his early childhood in Beirut, where he experienced Lebanon's civil war, he said. As shooting escalated on the West Bank earlier this year, Dhynes said, he felt a calling of faith to return there.

The calling is based on the premise that Christ wasn't passive in speaking out against the injustices he saw. To bring change, Dhynes said, "we must be actively engaged in nonviolence."

He contacted the Chicago-based Christian Peacemaking Teams, a project of the Mennonite Church, Church of the Brethren and Friends United Meeting, also known as Quakers. These churches, in the 500-year-old Anabaptist tradition, oppose military service and violence.



Allyn Dhynes (right) and Aaron Froelich, Christian Peacemaker Teams delegation members, carry a sign as they prepare for a march into Bethlehem's Manger Square. The goal of the delegation was to deliver food to those under curfew in and around the Church of the Nativity.

COURTESY ALLYN DHYNES

## "Grandmother Effect"

He joined a team that was in the West Bank between April 15 and 29. In theory, the teams have "the grandmother effect," he said. "If your grandmother is in the room, you don't misbehave."

However, his team and other international aid workers weren't always treated like sweet, little, old ladies. Ambulances in the region often were riddled with bullet holes, Dhynes said, and some aid workers were warned by Israeli soldiers that their cameras would be smashed if they took photographs.

When members of his team joined a van driver to travel from one section of Nablus to another one night with food for 30 families, they were stopped to await a signal to proceed. The signal came, but they were stopped at a second checkpoint by Israeli soldiers who thought Dhynes, whose mother is a Christian Palestinian displaced from Jerusalem in 1948, might be a Palestinian bent on destruction.

Dhynes and the driver were ordered out of the van and told to raise their shirts to reveal any weapons or explosives. When they realized he was an American, Dhynes said, the soldiers seemed embarrassed and told him to put his shirt down

while they inspected the vehicle.

The soldiers didn't permit the van and its food supply to proceed, Dhynes said, citing "security reasons" without being more specific.

He saw physical destruction in Hebron and Ramallah, where the infrastructure is virtually gone in the city of 200,000 where he had lived two years ago.

Yet, Dhynes said, he saw simple humanity in the tears welling in the eyes of an Israeli soldier standing guard near buildings reduced to rubble.

The destruction is feeding resentments that already were high because of Israeli occupation of territories that Palestinians regard as their land, Dhynes said.

"It's a cycle of violence that leads to suicide bombing, which then gives Israel the motivation to respond with military action," he said.

He has a feeling of pessimism about the future of the West Bank, Dhynes said, but he also carries feelings of hope.

"Hope is keeping faith in the future and trusting that justice will prevail," he said.

— Janet Goetze

## Alumni Association Seeks Award Nominations

The George Fox University Alumni Association urges alumni, friends, and students to submit names of people they believe should be considered for recognition of their contributions to church, society, and George Fox University.

### I nominate . . .

Name of Nominee(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Heritage Award (one per year)

Must have graduated before 1978. Outstanding lifetime achievement academically, professionally, and personally.

#### Outstanding Alumnus/a (one per year)

Must have graduated before 1993 or a nontraditional graduate. Distinguished academically, professionally, in community service, or by outstanding personal achievement.

#### Outstanding Recent Alumnus/a (one per year)

Must have graduated after 1992. Distinguished academically, professionally, in community service, or by outstanding personal achievement.

#### Christian Service Award (one per year)

Faithful service to the Lord in vocational ministry in the local church, parachurch organization, or in the mission field.

### Seminary Alumnus/a of the Year (one per year)

Must have graduated before 1978. Extraordinary accomplishments in ministry: church growth, community ministry, and involvement in the evangelical cause beyond the place of service.

Name of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees must be graduates of any GFU program, including those from the former Western Evangelical Seminary, George Fox College, and Pacific College; reflect the ideals of GFU in their commitment to profession, church, and community; and demonstrate support for and sympathy with the mission, goals, and purpose of George Fox University.

To be considered for the 2003 alumni awards, this form must be completed and returned to the Office of Alumni, Parent, and Church Relations by Aug. 15, 2002.

Please call, write, or e-mail the alumni relations office at George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6049, Newberg, OR 97132, 503-554-2114, [sphilips@georgefox.edu](mailto:sphilips@georgefox.edu)

Final selections will be made by the Alumni Board of Directors.

# ALUMNI NOTES

**Lana Thurston** (G74) is the administrative officer for the Boise National Forest in Boise, Idaho.

**David Baker** (G77) is a real estate agent with Premiere Properties in Post Falls, Idaho, and also works as a trainer with Dakotah, a division of West Corporation in Spokane, Wash.

**Judy (Morris) Williams** (n78) has recently received her real estate license for the state of Washington. She and her husband, Dennis, are top-producing realtors with Prudential Northwest Properties in Battle Ground, Wash. Prior to selling real estate, Judy was a substitute teacher for Hockinson School District.

**Judith (Karnes) Casey** (GFES80) is assistant professor of psychology at Palm Beach Atlantic College in West Palm Beach, Fla. Her responsibilities include teaching graduate-level students for the mental health, marriage and family, and school guidance specialization tracks, with primary emphasis on the school guidance students.

**Lee Riley** (G81) is deputy probation officer for the Imperial Courts Housing Development in Compton, Calif. He works specifically in the juvenile justice crime prevention department. Previously, he served in probations in Downey, Calif.

**Richard Drury** (G83) was promoted to corporate communications production for Pendleton Woolen Mills, where he designs and manages the print production of sales collateral and retail displays for Pendleton's four divisions. Richard also received an M.S. in management communication from the University of Portland in May 2000.

**Dianne Ellis** (G83) works in Portland as a desktop publishing specialist for Lingo Systems, which translates technical manuals into nearly 50 different languages. She also enjoys teaching 2- and 3-year-olds at Four Summits Community Church in Vancouver, Wash.

**Ron Wolfe** (G92) was recently hired as Columbia River Bank's commercial loan officer for the Newberg branch.

**Joe McKenna** (G94) is now a full-time staff member with Young Life in the Tenderloin district of San Francisco.

**Scott Jensen** (G96) was named Region 5 Photographer of the Year by the National Press Photographers Association. Scott is a photojournalist for KARE-TV, the NBC affiliate in Minneapolis, Minn.

**Erika Lasater** (G96) is working as a Web designer for the Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District in Pendleton, Ore.

**Changzheng (Thomas) Peng** (MA96) is dean of cultural and cross-cultural studies at Central China Normal University in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. He has authored or co-authored three books, including *English for International Business: International Marketplace, Marketing Strategies, and Practical Language*.

**Benjamin Spotts** (G96) is in India for one and a half years doing work in the high-tech sector but with companies that are designed to make an eternal difference.

**Jennifer Sarduy** (G97) graduated from Oregon State University's College of Veterinary Medicine May 26, 2002.

**Scott Goodwill** (MBA98) is principal of EYP Mission Critical Facilities Inc. in New York City. His responsibilities include project management, business development, and client maintenance.

**Marisa (Salinas) Mandujano** (G98) graduated from Willamette University College of Law May 12, 2002, with a doctor of jurisprudence



The 2002 Classic Bruin inductees attended their 50-year reunion May 4, 2002. Members of the class of 1952 participated in a celebration dinner, a breakfast sponsored by the Office of Estate and Planned Giving, a campus tour, a Celebration of Memories reception, and a banquet sponsored by Friendsview Manor. The highlight of the weekend occurred when 16 alumni donned regalia to lead the procession of graduates in the 7 p.m. commencement ceremony, where they were honored by President David Brandt.



- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Paul Stanfield        | 5. Donna Jefferson       |
| 2. Elizabeth Adams       | 6. Ruth (Harris) Mills   |
| 3. Howard Harmon         | 7. Frank Starkey         |
| 4. Bethlin (Judd) Harmon | 8. Lesta (Lewis) Hockett |

- |                               |
|-------------------------------|
| 9. Paul Puckett               |
| 10. Betty (Street) Hockett    |
| 11. Gerald Lemmons            |
| 12. Bud Mardock               |
| 13. Priscilla (Doble) Jeffrey |
| 14. Larry Wyman               |
| 15. Carol (Gossard) Cobleigh  |
| 16. Bill Field                |
| 17. Clifton Ralphs            |
| 18. Harold Antrim             |
| 19. Hubert Thornburg          |
| 20. Bill Bales                |

degree. Starting in September 2002, she will begin a two-year Equal Access to Justice Fellowship at the Legal Aid Farmworker's Program in Woodburn, Ore.

**Jonathan** (G01) and **Jessica (White)** (G02) **Kershner** live in New Jersey, where Jonathan will be attending Princeton Theological Seminary and Jessica will be attending Rider University.

**Julie R. Smith** (G01) will be leaving in early August to teach in a small school for the children of missionaries working among the Turkana in northwest Kenya.

## MARRIAGES

**Theodore Baldwin** (G91) and Kathleen Goode, March 16, 2002, in Bremerton, Wash.

**Sally Johnson** (G95) and Kent Moore, March 16, 2002, in Hillsboro, Ore.

**Jennifer Hawkins** (G97, MAT98) and Bernard Maurer, Dec. 16, 2001, in Portland.

**Amy Daulton** (MAT98) and Shane Robinson, Nov. 10, 2001, in Pendleton, Ore.

**Christy Regenfuss** (G98) and Joshua Brooks, July 14, 2001, in Kennewick, Wash.

**Lisa Bertalotto** (G99) and Quinn Mulvany, Aug. 4, 2001, in Vale, Ore.

**Anna McInturf** (G99) and James Cherian, Nov. 10, 2001, in Ithaca, N.Y.

**Jonathan Williams** (G99) and **Carol Walter** (G01), June 8, 2002, in Battle Creek, Mich.

**Eric Beasley** (G00) and **Kareena Combs** (G02), July 21, 2001, in Newberg.

**Carrie Russo** (G00, MAT01) and Karl Thienes, Jan. 13, 2002, in Portland.

## BIRTHS

**Spencer** (n87) and Jill **Jones**, a boy, Ryan Leamen, March 20, 2002, in Salem, Ore.

**Jeffrey** (G90) and **Barbara (McCuen)** (G90) **Lincoln**, a girl, Jessica Janay, Jan. 1, 2002, in Hillsboro, Ore.

**Scott** (G91, MAT94) and **Leslie (Herrick)** (G93) **Curtis**, a boy, Mitchell Scott, Sept. 28, 2001, in Newberg.

**Kirk** (G91) and **Debbie (Sitz)** (G93) **Mylan-der**, a girl, Ashlyn Kay, May 26, 2002, in Portland.

**Tina (Palaske)** (G92) and Matthew Lee, a girl, Hannah Joy, April 8, 2002, in Portland.

**Lisa (Ruvo)** (G93) and Jeff Knipe, a girl, Noelle Nicole, April 1, 2002, in Portland.

**Brian** (G93) and Kathleen **Thomas**, a boy, Isaac MacKay, Jan. 29, 2002, in Portland.

**Wendy (Summers)** (G95) and Robert Beuter, a boy, Keldon Julius, Jan. 4, 2002, in Kirkland, Wash.

**Christina (Monckton)** (G96) and Bryan Woodward, a boy, Peter Andrew, Nov. 24, 2001, in Portland.

**Heidi (Hughes)** (G98) and Justin Monuteaux, a boy, Elijah Truth, Jan. 22, 2002, in Burien, Wash.

**Stephanie Jones** (G98), a girl, Beatrice Myeisha, born Feb. 13, 1994, adopted Feb. 4, 2002, from Monrovia, Liberia.

## DEATHS

**Margaret (Coulson)** Dicus (G36), March 31, 2002, in Newberg.

**Cora Sanders** (G46), April 27, 2002, in Duncanville, Texas.

**Jack Snow** (n53), March 12, 2002, in Vancouver, Wash.

**Ned Wheeler** (G63), March 24, 2002, in Casa Grande, Ariz.

**Bev Cook Rupp** (GFES95), May 21, 2002, in Dallas, Ore.

## Oldest Alumnus Turns 100

This summer, Florence Lienard (G27) became the only George Fox alumnus to hit triple digits. On June 3, the McMinnville, Ore., resident became one of an estimated 50,000 to 75,000 American centenarians. But even at 100, Lienard isn't the record-holder in her family. Her brother, Arthur, lived to the age of 102.

## Tim Graham and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

This spring, Tim Graham (G90), principal of Chapman Grade School in Sheridan, Ore., faced a day so bizarre *The New York Times Magazine* sent out a reporter to ask him about it.

On Feb. 21, Graham's school was hit with an outbreak of the "mystery rash" that was receiving intense media attention. Schoolchildren — mainly girls — in two dozen elementary and middle schools across the United States were breaking out simultaneously with itchy red rashes that disappeared soon after they left school and reappeared when they returned to school the next day.

The first day, about 50 Chapman children complained of the rash — which the children attributed to everything from anthrax to frogs to "mad cow disease" from a raw cafeteria hamburger.

The itching was contagious. "Teachers who couldn't stop scratching themselves — it's very hard when you're seeing all these kids scratching — kept telling kids to stop scratching," says Graham. "It was crazy."

At first, Graham quarantined the children indoors, but later was forced to move them outside as the numbers grew. "News trucks were here, and the kids started following them around trying to get on TV. And I started getting conspiracy calls — people thinking it was a government cover-up. Something to do with 9-11."

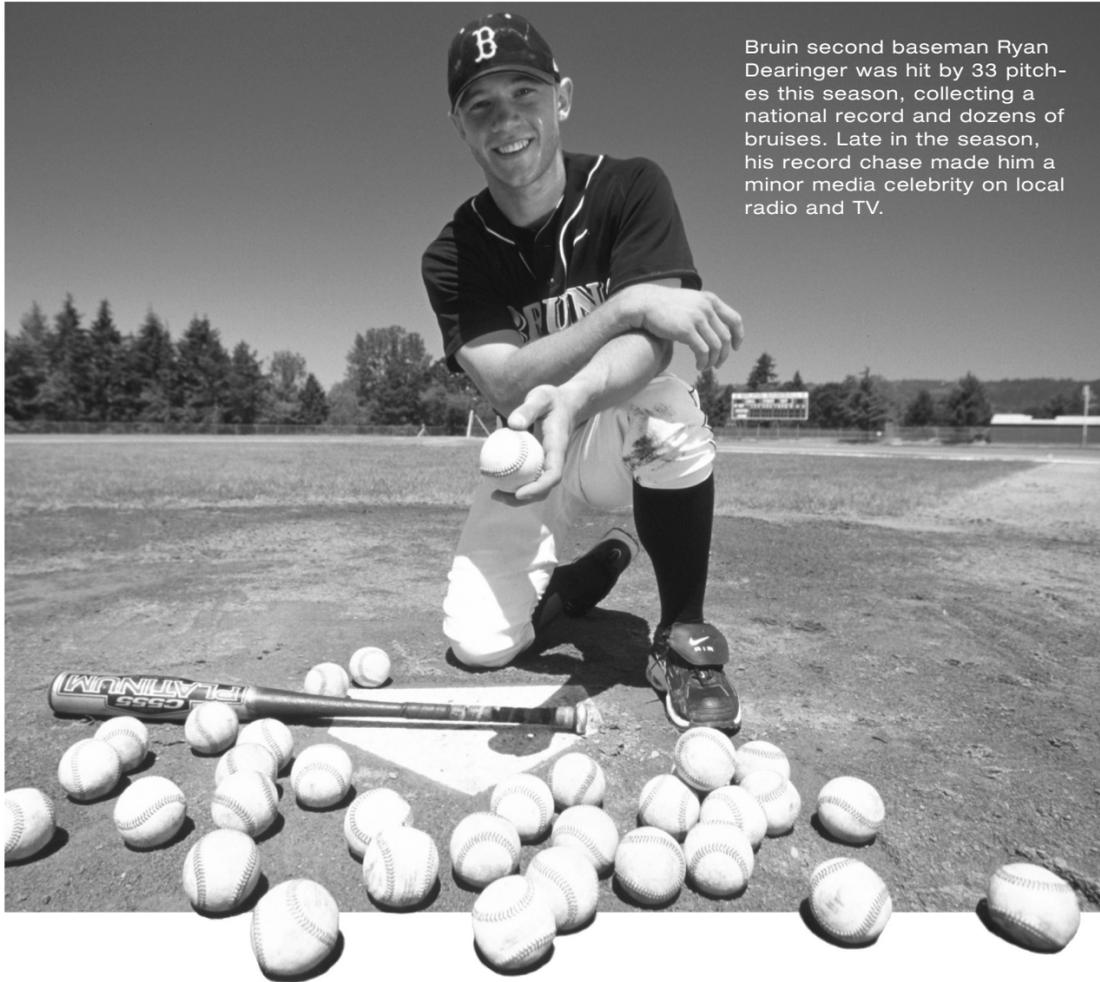
Overwhelmed with calls from concerned parents, Graham closed Chapman for a week of scrubbing. Two days after reopening, the rash was gone.

### 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

# A Bruised Reputation

Ryan Dearinger earned an odd national record by not having the good sense to dodge pitches that whiz at him at up to 90 miles an hour



Bruin second baseman Ryan Dearinger was hit by 33 pitches this season, collecting a national record and dozens of bruises. Late in the season, his record chase made him a minor media celebrity on local radio and TV.

## BRUIN SPORTS

### Baseball

**Proving the old axiom** that “good pitching beats good hitting,” the Bruins rode a strong pitching staff to a 27-15 season record, a Northwest Conference title at 16-7, and a first-ever win in regional competition. The team finished fourth in the NCAA Division III Midwest Regional Tournament.

Cory Dixon, a sophomore from Springfield, Ore., earned all-regional tournament honors.

The NWC Coach of the Year award went to coach Pat Bailey, the fourth such honor for him. His overall record stands at 191-97, making him the winningest baseball coach in Bruin history.

Second baseman Ryan Dearinger earned First Team All-Conference honors for the second year in a row, as did junior designated hitter Eric Bell of Spokane, Wash. Other Bruins named to the NWC First Team included Dixon, senior center fielder Travis Maffey of Boise, Idaho, and freshman pitcher Scott Hyde of Grants Pass, Ore.

Bell was named to the All-West Region First Team and went on to be Academic All-American.

### Softball

**A season that began with promise** and an early 5-2 record soured as the Bruins struggled to score. The women finished at 9-17, with a 6-14 sixth-place Northwest Conference mark.

Junior first baseman Cori Wulf of Salem, Ore., was NWC hitter of the week for her home run and six RBIs in the Pacific twinbill, and junior pitcher Laura Steenson of Milwaukie, Ore., earned NWC pitcher of the week honors for allowing only one earned run in three games in the SunWest Tourney.

Sophomore center fielder Sarah Camp of Hubbard, Ore., received all-conference honorable mention after leading the league with 15 stolen bases, while Steenson was second in the league with 132 strikeouts.

Tim Hill completed his second season as the Bruins head coach with a 25-31-2 record.

### Men's Tennis

**The men's tennis team** finished with a 2-13 record and eighth place in the Northwest Conference tournament.

No. 1 singles player Joe Gonzales, a junior from Roseburg, Ore., earned First Team All-Conference honors. No. 2 player Dave Neagle, a freshman from Canby, Ore., posted the best singles record on the team with a 6-7 mark.

Rick Cruz completed his fourth year as the team's coach with a 16-44 overall record.

### Women's Tennis

**A midseason van accident** slowed but did not stop members of the women's tennis team in their drive toward the best tennis season in Bruin history.

The women were 6-3 when the left rear tire of their van blew out during a road trip, injuring seven players and coaches Rick and Rob Cruz. Three players missed the rest of the season; two others returned only in time for the Northwest Conference Tournament.

The Bruins finished seventh in the tournament. They were 8-9 overall.

No. 1 player Lisa Trefts, a sophomore from Spokane, Wash., was 4-11 and earned First Team All-Conference honors.

Rick Cruz, after two seasons as the women's coach, has a record of 11-24.

### Cross Country

**Freshman Jo Boatright** of Coos Bay, Ore., was named the Northwest Conference women's track Athlete of the Year, and junior Kelsey Baron of Nehalem, Ore., earned All-American honors to highlight George Fox's women's 2002 track and field season.

Boatright captured the Northwest Conference championship in the 100 and the high jump, and was all-conference in the triple jump, long jump, and heptathlon. She was an NCAA national meet competitor in the 100 and the high jump.

Baron was the NWC winner in the long jump and the triple jump and placed third in the 4x100 relays, earning all-conference. She set Bruin records in the long jump (18-06) and triple jump (30-01).

In the nationals, she long jumped 18-05.75 to finish seventh for All-American honors and also competed in the triple jump. She was named to the Verizon Academic All-District VIII (West Region) Team.

On the men's side, freshman Matt Gassaway of Washougal, Wash., tossed the javelin 193-07 in the nationals to finish ninth, one spot short of All-American recognition. He was an all-conference performer in the javelin. Sophomore Ben Salisbury of Bellingham, Wash., won the NWC 200, competed in that event at the nationals, and was all-conference in the 400 and the 4x100 relay.

As a team, the Bruin women placed fourth and the men placed fifth in the NWC championships. Coach Wes Cook completed his 15th season as the Bruins' track and field mentor.

Ryan Dearinger this spring became known as the hitter who kept getting hit by pitches. Most college baseball players get hit fewer than five times in a season. Dearinger got smacked five times in one doubleheader.

By the time the 2002 season ended, the senior second baseman had been hit 33 times, collecting dozens of bruises and a curious national record. The previous NCAA Division III single-season record of 29 was held by an unfortunate fellow named Luther Headley of Ferrum College (Va.).

“It’s not the kind of record you go after intentionally,” says Dearinger. “Hey, sometimes it hurts.”

### Black-and-Blue Baseball

It takes something between courage and recklessness to stand in one place while a man hurls a very hard projectile at you. Baseballs leave marks.

Baseball season is a tough time to be Ryan Dearinger's mother. “The left side of his body took a beating,” says Glenda Dearinger. “One time I saw his arm and it was swollen up and down. It does bother you as a mom, but I trust he knows what he’s doing. He’s always been such a competitor.”

### Taking One for the Team

Opposing pitchers didn't try to hit Dearinger. When a pitcher hits a batter, he is penalized by having the batter advance to first base.

That's why Dearinger's unique ball magnetism was useful to the Northwest Conference champion Bruins. His on-base percentage was a highly successful .500 — half the time he faced a pitcher, he ended up on base.

Dearinger was one of the best hitters in the conference, finishing with a batting average of .346, seven home runs, and 45 runs batted in. He was selected First Team All Conference, Third Team All Region, and First Team Academic All District.

### The Art of Getting Hit

A batter cannot try to get hit. Umpires who sense a batter leaned into a pitch — or didn't try to get out of the way — will not send the batter to first base.

“There's an art to getting hit,” says Dearinger, “but it's not something most players actually work on.”

Bruin coach Pat Bailey doesn't teach his players how to get hit. “We talk about how to get out of the way,” he says. “When I got hit [as a player], it wasn't fun. You have to be pretty tough to stand in there and get hit. He got hammered a couple times.”

In 2001, even as a part-time starter, Dearinger led the conference by getting hit 10 times. In 2002, for every five times he went to bat, he got hit once. Obviously, Dearinger has the technique down.

He starts by positioning himself almost on top of home plate. “I do crowd the plate,” he says. “But that's always been my hitting style. Pitchers just have to know that if they come inside on me they're taking a chance.”

Pitchers who see Dearinger so close to the plate often try to back him up by throwing to his side of the strike zone. “You can't back out,” he says. “You've got to be willing to hang in there if a pitch is coming at you. That's not easy when some of the guys in our league can bring it up there at 90 miles an hour, but I've always had a little of that bulldog mentality.”

“And finally, you've got to make some sort of effort to get out of the way — or at least make it *look* that way to the umpire. I don't dive into the ball, as some people have accused me of doing. You've got to twist your body away from the pitch or turn your back on it, but you don't jump back from the plate. You take it in the back or on the upper arm.”

### The Scholar-Athlete

Dearinger transferred to George Fox from Tacoma Community College. “George Fox has the whole package,” he says. “Athletically, spiritually, academically. I came here because of good coaching and a strong baseball team, a Christ-centered approach to everything that happens here, and a challenging academic program that stimulates your thinking and learning. I have grown so much personally that I can't imagine having gone anywhere else.”

A history major and political science minor, Dearinger this fall will pursue a doctorate at Purdue, focusing on 19th-century political history. He hopes to pursue a career as a journalist, author, or professor.

### The Unsoothable Sting

It's debatable what takes more mental toughness: allowing yourself to get hit by a sizzling fastball or having the self-discipline to obey one of the sport's odd traditions. In baseball's macho culture, peer pressure forbids a struck player from doing what every instinct in his body is crying out for him to do — soothe the sting by massaging the point of impact.

Each of Dearinger's 33 trots to first base was accompanied by a cheerful dugout chorus of “Don't rub it.”

Ryan Dearinger never did.

— Blair Cash and Rob Felton