

GEORGE FOX

Journal



RETHINKING EVANGELISM

*Interview with Todd Hunter,
national director of Alpha USA*

Page 10



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their journey at
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Journal

Spring 2008 | Volume 4 | Number 1

Rethinking evangelism | 10

by *Tamara Cissna* | Todd Hunter (DMin '05), national director of Alpha USA, emphasizes the connection between getting the gospel right and getting the gospel out.

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by *Rob Felton* | A story about the mascot that got eaten and a school's long obsession with a leather pillow named Bruin Jr.

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by *Abby Haight* | Decades after the school song fell out of fashion, alumni perform the alma mater for a new generation of students.



EDITOR

Tamara Cissna

EDITORIAL STAFF

Rob Felton
Scan Patterson

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Molly Meadows
Barry Hubbell
Lynn Otto

ART DIRECTOR

Darryl Brown

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WRITE US

Please send letters to Journal, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132-2697. You may also write to journal@georgefox.edu. Letters for publication may be edited for length and clarity. Writers should include an address and daytime phone number.

PRESIDENT

Robin Baker

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT

Dana L. Miller

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At the bottom of this muddy pile is a century-old tradition ... [PAGE 16](#)



Readers Forum

We enjoyed your responses to our back-page “Tell us more” contest so much, we decided to share some of them.

>> The brawls for the Bruin bear were so memorable that one quick glance was all I needed to recognize the picture on the back of the most recent *Journal*. In fact, my wife recognized the picture and she didn't even attend Fox, but she heard me talk about the legendary battles for the leather bear. Great fun! Thanks for the picture and the memories it brought with it.

Jerrie Lyda ('93)
NEWBERG, ORE.

>> I tried for four years to get that Bruin off campus and just couldn't get it done. I had plenty of assists, and I think you'd be hard-pressed to find someone who worked harder and was more dedicated. Finally, at the last brawl of my senior year, I ran it off campus. I think I remember that even more than graduation. So, of course, I took the Bruin across the stage with me to receive my diploma. I was announced as “Nathan Holmes, with Bruin Junior.”

Nathan Holmes ('04)
PORTSMOUTH, VA.



>> During my senior year, when I was dating the young lady who is now my wife, I kept Bruin under the seat in which she usually sat. She was a member of the sophomore class. When she finally found out what had been going on, it bothered her quite a bit to have been so close to Bruin Jr. and not know it. She forgave me eventually, and now we have celebrated more than 48 years of life together.

Thanks for the memories. Somehow, some of us would like to do it again. I don't think we would come out so well, and the bruises and bumps would last longer. But the competitive spirit still lingers.

Earl Tycksen ('57)
NEWBERG, ORE.

>> I remember several upperclassmen absconded with a Plant Services “Gator” vehicle and proceeded to don hoods and shoes (nothing else). The “flash” was made by driving through the quad area and tossing the Bruin into the waiting throng. Problems occurred when the naked driver of the Gator took a sharp turn and one of the unsuspecting passengers standing in the rear bed of the vehicle tumbled out as the Gator continued on into the night. After scrambling to his feet, the hooded, dazed, and naked “flasher” didn't know which route of escape was best. His ultimate departure route consisted of running in the direction of the fewest number of spectators, across the quad, hurdling hedges and kicking up turf as his white derriere faded into the darkness.

Ryan Evans ('03)
GRANTS PASS, ORE.

Survey results

Thank you to the 396 people who responded to the *George Fox Journal* e-mail survey.

Readers tell us they enjoy the magazine – more than 80 percent of you read it regularly or always. You especially enjoy human-interest stories about George Fox students, alumni, professors, and employees. The highest-ranked (67 percent) subject of interest is “matters of faith.” Along these lines, your responses reflect the diversity of the readership we represent – some of you feel the magazine's slant is too uncritically conservative, while some feel it skews too liberal. We appreciate your feedback and will do our best to incorporate your opinions as we seek to produce a magazine that connects you well with your alma mater, and reflects the university's commitment to keep Jesus at the center of what we do.

Valerie (Crooks) Jackson ('71) won the \$100 Amazon gift certificate. Winners of the \$25 Starbucks gift cards are Ben Longstroth (MDiv99); Michael Bigley ('83); Nancy (Banta) Morrison ('80), mother of junior Jessica Morrison; and Rhonda Evenden, mother of freshman Travis Evenden.

Tell us what you think

We'd like to hear your opinion about the *George Fox Journal* or any articles printed in the magazine. Please send letters to *Journal*, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132, or e-mail us at journal@georgefox.edu. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include an address and daytime phone number.

Cloud of witnesses



On March 6, I was inaugurated as the 12th president of George Fox University. I was honored and humbled as an entire community stopped to recognize and pray for my new role in leadership of the university.

The occasion also provided me with an opportunity to reflect. Left to my own dreams,

I would not be here. When I was in my late teens, I envisioned myself as a great basketball player or perhaps a championship coach like my father. It never entered my mind that I might become a professor or even a college president.

When I look back on my upbringing, I believe there were four things that shaped my world: faith, family, education, and competition. My parents were teachers and dedicated their lives to shaping and educating young men and women, especially their three children. In rural Arizona towns that didn't exceed 2,000 people, we experienced community in ways that we rarely know now. We had a television, but stations were few. Computers did not exist. After our studies were complete, we played in parks and on ball fields. We traveled with my father on his basketball coaching trips and learned early in life the importance and joy of competing. We ate well. My mother always fed us with chicken, roast beef, mashed potatoes, and vegetables galore. More than anything else, we learned nothing came before the Church and honoring our Lord. At any extended family gathering, we knew Scripture would be read and Jesus honored. When I left home, my mother wrote often of her great faith that if I let the Lord work in my life, he would use me in a special way to build the kingdom.

At college I found professors with deep faith. It was because of their time and commitment that I came to believe that I could teach. They helped me understand God's call on my life and that I needed to listen to his voice to recognize where he wanted to use me. I saw in them the kind of person I wanted to be.

I am not self made. I am the product of the investment of dozens of caring people who took the time to mentor and shape me. For me, they are the "cloud of witnesses" in Hebrews 12:1-2.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Since 1891, George Fox University has helped young men and women find their own callings, empowering them to participate with God in bringing kingdom values into our world. There have been 11 presidents prior to me and hundreds of professors, administrators and staff dedicated to that task. Together we have built a place where students encounter God and earn a first-class education. I am privileged to serve here today.

**"I am the product
of the investment
of dozens of
caring people."**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Baker". The signature is stylized and written in cursive.

Robin Baker
President



Bruin Notes

The Inauguration of President Robin Baker



Robin Baker, the 12th president of George Fox University, addresses faculty, staff, board members, community citizens, students, and more than 25 delegates from institutions nationwide at the March 6 inauguration ceremony. A fast-changing world will require students to understand cultures beyond their own, he says. “If we are going to prepare students for the world that they will live in, we must help them become global people.”



Tite Tiénou, dean of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Illinois, gives the inaugural address.



Former President David Brandt presents Bruin Jr. — calling it a “symbol that unites Bruins, past and present”— to President Robin Baker at the inauguration ceremony.

The festivities bring together many people who helped shape the president. He reflects on their contributions.



Doug and Patsy Baker, parents — “I appreciate many things about my upbringing — high standards for grades, performance in sports, and integrity. You could miss the

mark at times, but there were two things that you were never to do: cheat or quit at anything. Mostly I remember two people deeply committed to the cause of Christ. They both loved the church and they took me and my brother and sister every time the doors were open. When we weren’t at school or sports we were in the church. I am deeply grateful for their love and for developing a home where Christ was at the center of everything.”

Bill Robinson, president of Whitworth University — “Bill is my newest colleague and has proven to be a wonderful friend. When I became president, he invited me to his campus. He had me come to cabinet and share a devotional. It was very meaningful to me. When he took me on a tour of campus, it was obvious that he is deeply connected at Whitworth and that he is a beloved president.”

Ken Austin, board member — “I have come to know Ken more personally in the last few months, and I am proud to call him a friend. He is thought-

ful and caring, and he loves the community of Newberg. His life is a model of service. He and wife Joan have reached out to Ruth and me and provided important support during the first months of my presidency.”

Mark Sargent, provost, Gordon College — “I first met Mark in 1998 at a Council for Christian Colleges leadership meeting. Mark was a former track athlete, and shared a concern for the liberal arts and the place of faith in higher education. We are both advocates for globalization and for diversity issues. He is outstanding leader who walks closely with the Lord. Mark is one of the people I write or call when I have things I need to discuss.”



Scott Barton, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, East Central Oklahoma University — “Scott and I were in graduate school together at Texas A&M University and had the same advisor. We were also both Christians and knew that faith was central in our lives and work. Scott and I worked together and commiserated often. He has remained a close friend after graduate school as we have both gone on to become leaders at institutions.”

Rick Ostrander, dean of undergraduate studies, John Brown University — “Rick was one of the first persons I hired at Grand Canyon University. He and his wife, Lonnie, were wonderful additions to our faculty at Grand Canyon. Rick has a passion for sports, and we always connected well. Our young families shared many things and our wives became good friends as well.”



David Maas, professor of history, Wheaton College — “David is one of the most talented teachers and caring persons I know. When Ruth and I arrived at Wheaton for our first job, it was David who took us under his care and watched over us. David and his wife are



Ruth Baker, wife of 28 years — “We have been partners through much change and travel and she has been a consistent support to me. She has a strong commitment to Jesus and prayer, and her faith has always helped strengthen me. She has helped me grow in wisdom and see that sometimes it is better to judge with the heart than with the mind alone. I look forward to many more years at her side.”

Jacob, Rebekah and Tara Baker, children — “These three are the joy of my life. They are not perfect by any means, but they are wonderful. I have been able to watch them play sports, to listen to them play instruments, and to share in the joy of family play. Each has come to know Jesus, and I pray they find God’s calling on their lives as they grow and come to know more of Christ.”

deeply committed Christians and they continue to serve God well. David mentored me in the classroom, helped us as we became parents for the first time, and he encouraged me in my scholarship efforts. He is a great colleague.”

David Brandt, president emeritus, George Fox University — “Dave is a great mentor and friend and gave me many opportunities to lead at George Fox University.”

Aunts and uncles — Donna and **Dan Reid** — “Dan is my mom’s brother and he was an important influence on my life. He was a great coach when I was growing up and he also carried his Christian tes-

timony with him.” Leona and **Sharkey Baker** — “Sharkey and my dad coached my all-star game when I was a senior in high school. Like the rest of my dad’s family, he and Leona have a great testimony for the Lord.” Alice and **Charlie Baker** — “Charlie was a baseball coach at Paradise Valley High School and later an athletic director. He and Alice are faithful servants of the church and their leadership role in church and school was a testimony to me.” **Sue and Gene Kantola** — “We visit them often in Grants Pass, sharing holidays and family gatherings. They are very faithful Christians and also wonderful educators.”



Keith Baker, brother — “Keith and I were always competitors, which meant that at times we were fighting rather than sharing. We were on the same basketball and track teams. My brother has gone on to serve at Grand Canyon University for the past 26 years as athletic director. He is also an elder in his church. Their son, Brandon, graduated from George Fox University this past year.”



Deanna Haliburton, sister — “My sister is a high school administrator in Glendale, Arizona. She has become an outstanding leader and a constant supporter of my efforts. I admire her as much as she does me.”

Chris Osborne, former pastor — “Chris was our pastor when we were at Texas A&M. We served as the college directors at the church and came to love Chris and his wife, Peggy. Chris was someone with whom I enjoyed discussing theology. He has become one of the leading Baptist pastors in Texas. Like many others, he has encouraged me to live a life that is worthy of my calling in Christ, and his support was essential at a difficult time in graduate school.”

Allen fills top academic post

Upon learning George Fox had an open provost position, Patrick Allen knew he had found his dream job.

"I saw the announcement in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, cut it out, took it to my wife, Lori, and said, 'Now this is the kind of place I've been talking about,'" he says.

Allen, a chief academic officer at three universities over the past two decades, had reason to apply. "In several institutions where I led strategic planning efforts, George Fox was listed as a peer or aspiration institution — the kind of institution we desired to be like if we could," he says.

The 57-year-old Allen was hired in



December, culminating a search that began when Robin Baker vacated the provost position to become president in July 2007. The provost is the chief academic

officer of the institution and is responsible for all academic staff and resources.

Allen had been provost at Southern Nazarene University in Oklahoma since 2005, and before that served 10 years as provost and chief academic officer at 4,000-student Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego. Other universities at which he has served include

Anderson University, Friends University, and MidAmerica Nazarene University.

He earned a doctorate in higher education from the University of Oklahoma,

and also holds master's degrees in management (Southern Nazarene University) and liberal arts (Southern Methodist University). He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Olivet Nazarene University.

"I feel that the provost has the second best job on campus and the president has the third best job — the best job is teaching and shaping students," he says. "I get my kicks when I can recruit, equip, develop, encourage, challenge, and support the true heroes of the institution."

Allen has taken more than 25 student groups to Europe; has played guitar in a bluegrass band in San Diego; and speaks in churches, conferences, and retreats on the value of community and Christian higher education.

Allen will begin July 1.

Executive Team Expands

President Robin Baker's executive team expands to include two newly hired vice presidents



Dale Seipp, executive director of admissions, last month stepped up to oversee admissions, student financial services, and registrar as vice president for enrollment services. Seipp has worked at George Fox for nine years and previously worked in admissions at Linfield College, where he earned undergraduate and graduate degrees. Seipp is currently president of the North American Coalition for Christian Admissions Professionals.

Rob Westervelt, director of brand management at Biola University in La Mirada, Calif., will start as vice president of marketing and communications in May. Westervelt has spent



the last 10 years at Biola, where he oversaw advertising, media relations, publications, brand portfolio management, and the university magazine. He earned a master's degree in philosophy of religion and ethics from Biola's Talbot School of Theology and a bachelor's degree from Weber State University in Utah.

The president's executive team includes the provost, the associate provost, the chief technology officer, the executive director of university relations, and the vice presidents for student life, marketing and communications, external campus operations, enrollment services, advancement, and financial affairs.

Conniry named seminary dean

Former pastor helped develop seminary's hybrid-learning programs



Chuck Conniry, director of the doctoral programs at George Fox Evangelical Seminary since 1998, has been named vice president and dean of the seminary.

Conniry, a former pastor who also has taught at Bethel Seminary in San Diego, helped pioneer the seminary's hybrid classes that use both online and in-person interaction. The new format attracts students who live around the world.

"One thing that energizes me is the chance to be one of the architects of the present and future shape of theological education," Conniry says. "I get the opportunity to work with top-quality faculty and be in dialogue with the influential leaders of the church. I look forward to seeing our students find all that God has called and gifted them to be."

Conniry has been instrumental developing relationships between the seminary and those associated with the emerging church movement, including Leonard Sweet, Brian McLaren, and Jason Paul Clark.

Conniry earned a doctorate in systematic theology from Fuller Theological Seminary and a master of divinity degree from Bethel Seminary. His areas of expertise include systematic theology, pastoral ministry, modern and postmodern philosophy, American religious history, and New Testament Greek.

Conniry's appointment comes as he releases his second book, *Soaring in the Spirit*.

Former dean returns to Kansas as president of Tabor College

Jules Glanzer, dean of George Fox Evangelical Seminary since 2001, has left the university to become president at his alma mater, Tabor College in Hillsboro, Kan.

Under his leadership, the seminary grew 85 percent, to 320 students, and added three programs — a master of arts degree in ministry leadership, a master of arts degree in spiritual formation, and a second doctor of ministry track. The seminary became a pioneer in the use of hybrid courses, which use both online and in-person learning formats. Glanzer also oversaw the successful 10-year accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools and the seminary's 2003 addition of a Friends Center for the training of Friends (Quaker) leaders.

Car accident claims student's life

Police rescue three students from nearby flames



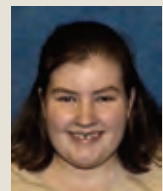
From left, Kim Cullen, Arianne Reagor, and Faven Yirdaw honor police officers Jason Newton and Ben Humphrey at a chapel in February.

Just days before graduating in midyear commencement ceremonies, senior Cara Moran of Chandler, Ariz., died in a Nov. 18 two-car accident in Sherwood, Ore.

Moran, 22, was with three other female George Fox students returning to campus from a friend's birthday celebration. They were hit by a car driving the wrong way on a one-way stretch of Highway 99W. The 26-year-old driver of the other vehicle died on impact, and her car was engulfed in flames. Sherwood police officers Jason Newton and Ben Humphrey arrived on the scene, and despite the intense heat and several explosions, pulled the other three students from the car. The officers later realized heat from the nearby car fire had melted portions of their uniforms. Both received the Sherwood Police Department's Medal of Valor — the first in the city's history.

Moran was remembered on campus as a hardworking student with a quick wit and a joyful spirit. She was known for her love of her family, her friends, and pop singer Justin Timberlake. With her family in attendance at commencement, the university honored Moran with an honorary bachelor of arts degree.

The other three students — Faven Yirdaw, a senior from Portland; Arianne Reagor, a senior from Kelso, Wash.; and Kim Cullen, a senior from Kelso, Wash. — were hospitalized. All three returned to class this spring.



Cara Moran

A simple gift

A board member's no-frills invention continues to benefit tens of thousands worldwide

Four decades ago, board member Ken Austin created an invention that — with the help of several George Fox alumni and many others — has improved the health of thousands in the Third World.

Not long after Ken and his wife, Joan, founded Newberg-based A-dec, now one of the world's largest dental equipment manufacturers, Ken designed a portable dental unit for missions organizations to use where there is little or no dental care available. Austin downsized and simplified his company's commercial product to the very basics. Designed to run off an air compressor, it included a suction vacuum, an air and water syringe, and connections for powering drills (handpieces).

"That's what a dentist needs," says Stephen Gilroy (72), a Newberg dentist who helped with assembling the units in the 1980s. "It's all built into one unit."

Made of lightweight metals, the invention weighs less than 40 pounds and can fit in a large suitcase-sized carrying case.

To help with distribution, Austin turned to the Newberg Rotary Club. The partnership — and the invention — became

known as Rota-Dent. Former George Fox trustee LeRoy Benham is chair of a five-member board that directs the Rota-Dent efforts. The units — 135 were distributed last year — have been shipped mainly to Central America, but also to Africa,

Southeast Asia, and Eastern Europe. Some are used in rural areas of the United States where teams of 40 to 100 dentists can serve more than 2,000 over a long weekend. Benham says tens of thousands have been helped across the globe.

The units are supplied — at a 70-percent discount from retail cost — to individual dentists and organizations including Medical Teams International, Samaritan's Purse, Dentists Without Borders, and World Gospel Mission. "Almost all of the mission organizations have used it in some way," Benham says.

Also available are portable dental chairs and low-cost handpieces. To be eligible for the Rota-Dent program, recipients cannot use the equipment for profit and must ensure that services will be provided by certified practitioners with minimal downtime.



Noteworthy

Apples for all

Beginning next fall, George Fox will supply every incoming traditional undergraduate student with a MacBook laptop. The university has provided a computer to each undergraduate since 1991. Students in PC-dominated fields will still be able to operate a Microsoft Windows Operating System with the MacBook's dual-boot option.

Antislavery lecture

Religion professor Irv Brendlinger traveled to the Bahamas in December to give several lectures on the 200th anniversary of the ending of the British slave trade. The author of two related books, he spoke on the anti-slavery movement.

President-elect

Daniel Sweeney, director of the university's Northwest Center for Play Therapy Studies, was named national president-elect of the Association for Play Therapy during its October conference in Hollywood, Calif.

Salem Center

The university's Salem Center last fall moved to a new and larger teaching facility at the Capitol City Business Center at 4600 25th Ave. N.E., Suite 150. George Fox University opened a center in Salem in 2002 for its expanding graduate and degree-completion programs in the mid-Willamette Valley.

Hoover Symposium

Historian George H. Nash and Bert Patenaude, Research Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, were among the panelists who discussed the humanitarian legacy of former president Herbert Hoover at the university's Hoover Symposium Oct. 6.

Woolman Peacemaking Forum

Lisa Schirch, professor of peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University and author of five books on peace, was featured speaker at the annual John Woolman Peacemaking Forum March 3-4.

Former coach dies

Sam Willard, who coached the men's basketball team to five post-season appearances in six seasons (1976-82), passed away Jan. 11 in Phoenix, Ariz. He was 72.

Best documentary

Junior Eric Mortinson won the Best Documentary award at the annual Reel Spirituality/Los Angeles Film Studies Center Film Awards for his video, *Journey for Jenna*.

Speech champions

Freshmen Dustin Kameron and Jennifer Salame won the novice parliamentary debate title at the National Christian College Forensics Invitational on March 7-9 in Nashville, Tenn. Salame also won the individual novice impromptu and persuasion categories.

Want to read more?

For more in-depth coverage, go to georgefox.edu/journalonline



Women's basketball returns to 'Sweet 16'

Relying on the nation's top defense, No. 21-ranked George Fox won its second consecutive Northwest Conference championship and advanced to the NCAA Division III "Sweet 16" for the third time since 2000.

The Bruins (25-5) led the nation in fewest points allowed per game (45.3). After two NCAA tournament wins — including a win at conference co-champion Puget Sound (Wash.) — the Bruins fell 47-40 to No. 1 Hope (Mich.).

The seven seniors on the team completed their careers with three conference titles, four consecutive top-25 seasons, and won nearly 80 percent of their games (85-24).

Team records

Most wins in a season.....	25
Longest win streak.....	12
Fewest points allowed per game....	45.3
Margin of victory (single game).....	98
(111-13 vs. Multnomah)	

Northwest Conference honors

Katy Campbell (Sr., Springfield, Ore., post/wing) Player of the Year

Melissa Marek-Farris (Sr., Glide, Ore., post) First Team

Tiffany Behary (Sr., Lake Oswego, Ore., point guard) Honorable Mention

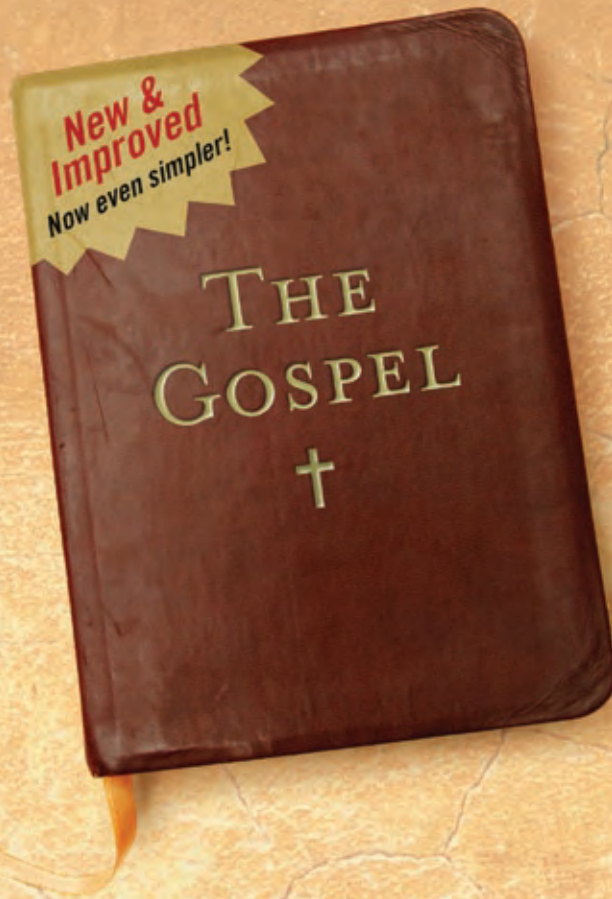
Scott Rueck Coach of the Year

Satern stars

Men's basketball senior point guard **Brent Satern** of Silverton, Ore., was named to the Northwest Conference first team after leading the conference with 5.8 assists per game. He also led the Bruins (9-16) with 15.3 points per game.

Bend it like Tsohantaridis

Tim Tsohantaridis has replaced the man who replaced him as men's soccer coach two decades ago. Manfred Tschan resigned last fall after 20 years at the university to go into business with three of his former players at Newberg-based Action Equipment Company. Tschan's teams won several national and regional championships, and his 224-189-26 men's soccer career record ranks him among the top-50 active NCAA Division III coaches in career victories. Tsohantaridis previously coached the George Fox team from 1986 to 1989 and led the Bruins to a National Christian College Athletic Association national title in 1988. He will continue to teach in the Department of Religious Studies.



RETHINKING EVANGELISM

by Tamara Cissna | tcissna@georgefox.edu



Todd Hunter (Dmin '05), national director of Alpha USA, believes an oversimplified sharing of the gospel hinders serious Christian discipleship, and consequently, evangelistic efforts. A George Fox Evangelical Seminary alumnus and adjunct professor, Hunter says a life-changing relationship with Christ in community is the only witness that speaks to today's 'post-Christian' culture.

George Fox Journal: How are traditional evangelism methods working today?

Todd Hunter: We now have 30-40 years of data demonstrating that systematic or mechanistic approaches to evangelism do not work as far as producing actual followers of Jesus. All the research I'm aware of concerning the church growth movement – from David Kinnaman in *UnChristian*, George Barna's *Revolution*, The Pew Research Center, and Gallup – agree that the systematic, marketing approaches to evangelism haven't really worked, not in terms of making genuine disciples.

People who developed these approaches were doing the best they knew to do at the time. But having said that, something really tragic happened when a reductionist rendering of the gospel got married to the American marketing machine, which by definition demands fitting concepts into sound bites, slogans, and banners. So there was a perfect storm of reductionisms that basically said: Say this prayer so that when you die you can go to heaven. Or when the gospel got reduced to a bumper sticker that said: Christians aren't perfect, just forgiven. Really? That's all Christians are – just forgiven? No Holy Spirit, no Kingdom, no serving others, no personal growth, just forgiven? Then that makes one ask: Why is forgiveness so important? And the standard answer is: So you can go to heaven when you die.

GFJ: How does that standard response miss the mark?

Hunter: If you think about it, we've basically given people a religion for death. We've said this is all about making it to heaven when you die. When, instead, what we need is a more full-bodied gospel that gives people a vision for life – life in the Kingdom. I love the way Eugene Peterson gets it in *The Message*. He often translates *eternal life* as: life, life and more life. I think he really nails it because in the New Testament the Greek term for *eternal life* has nothing to do with space. It's not just about going to heaven – heaven construed as out there beyond the stars somewhere. And it doesn't have anything to do with chronology – as in, heaven out there sometime after you die. *Eternal life* in the Bible is a qualitative term, it's a different kind of life. It's life derived from and lived in the Kingdom of God.

GFJ: What approach to evangelism does work?

Hunter: What can and will work is telling a more full-bodied

Christian story that begins with the intention of God, not with our sin. The question is not: Did you sin and how can you be forgiven? The question is: What did God intend for you when he created you? Sin needs to be seen within that story. Sin only has real meaning when you embed it in a story, a story of what God intended for humanity. And putting it simply, sin is living contrary to God's will or intention for humanity. That's why forgiveness is so important. Of course, we do go to heaven, but I think a big message we need to get across is that in this story heaven is not the goal; heaven is the destination. The goal of Christianity is spiritual transformation into Christlikeness.

GFJ: What's the difference in heaven as the goal versus the destination?

Hunter: There is a big difference. Someone could get drafted by the New York Yankees and say, "I'm going to New York City." But that's not the goal; that's the destination. The goal is to play baseball in the major leagues. So, yes, Christians are going to heaven when they die, but that's not the goal; that's the destination. The goal of Christianity is spiritual transformation into Christlikeness for the sake of others.

The reason God created Adam and Eve was for them to work with him in his creation. Then we have the fall, and God creates Israel to fix that. But Israel sins and fails dramatically to be the people of God. Then God fixes that in Jesus. The

continuity is, God has always wanted a people who would be his cooperative friends – people who would live consistent lives of creative goodness for the sake of others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

So if we can tell that story, that starts undoing the stuff that Kinnaman is seeing – that people feel Christians are hypocrites and all the studies that show Christians don't live any different from non-Christians. To put it succinctly, I think the number one thing that can get the attention of the world is for people to actually be Christians.

GFJ: What effect will this have on people in the postmodern culture?

Hunter: We hear a lot that the culture today is postmodern and post-Christian, but there's another very important "post" going on. The vast majority of Americans are post-secular – meaning they know that a purely materialistic, secular view of the world is bank-

I think the number one thing that can get the attention of the world is for people to actually be Christians.

RETHINKING EVANGELISM

rupt. Studies all show that most Americans believe in God and they know that there's a nonmaterial world that's every bit as real and important as the material world. They just don't know how to access it or what it means. That's why there's a lot of pluralistic, relative thinking going on.

Underneath this is an opportunity; this is not just a threat. The opportunity is that people genuinely are seeking what it means to be fully human. And they know that to be fully human involves their spiritual selves and the spiritual side of life. And that's often gone out of Christians' imaginations because we have talked about Christianity as if it only had to do with sin and death. We haven't been very good about giving people a vision for *Christian life*. So spiritual formation has always been the right thing to do; it just so happens that it's now become strategic. If Christians don't begin to pursue spiritual formation into Christlikeness, we will completely lose our voice in our culture. It doesn't matter how great our marketing schemes or church-growth schemes are; they're going to connect less and less.

GFJ: Some Christians are feeling a void in churches.

Hunter: I don't mean this cynically, but if we're going to keep it real and get honest, I think we have to say that in some cases the church has actually become a barrier to authentic spirituality. And this is why the focus of evangelism swings back on to the church being the church. Leslie Newbigin, the famous British missiologist, said that he thinks the greatest explanation for the gospel in our lifetimes is a community of Christians living as if they believe the gospel is actually true.

There are many churches that aren't really practicing Christianity, and they feel so bankrupt, empty, and vacuous to people. It just feels like a disconnected church service, and people don't know what to make of it. There's often not a real life that's being practiced. It's kind of a mental religion that's all about going to heaven when you die versus an embodied religion that's actually changing lives.



A RELIGION
FOR DEATH

GFJ: *How can churches keep it real?*

Hunter: Donald Miller, author of *Blue Like Jazz*, says the two biggest questions he hears in culture today are, first: Do you like me? Because what people suppose is that if we like them — and they can generally see it in our eyes and our body language — then they suppose maybe our God will accept them and forgive them. The second thing Donald says they want to know is: Are you becoming a better person because of your religion? That gets to the whole question people ask these days; instead of asking if it's true, they ask if it's real.

When people ask if it is real, I don't think they mean to say they don't believe in truth. But the way they access truth is asking: How is it working for you? Is it healing your heart? And if they can see that it's real, then they start supposing it's true. So it's not that they've thrown out truth, it's just that they don't access it so much mentally. They access truth socially and embodied. They need to see it embodied in a person, and they need to see

it embodied in a community of persons who are practicing their religion in a way that others experience as good for them.

GFJ: *This need is more critical now than 20 years ago?*

Hunter: Our mechanistic approaches worked when you had a vaguely Christian world. In some of Billy Graham's latest interviews, he says he realizes in hindsight that he basically went around to the Western world saying, "Come on home to what you know to be true." Back then he could say, "the Bible says," because everyone knew the felt-board Sunday school stories of the Bible. But now in a more post-Christian world, we don't have the luxury of doing that anymore. People don't know our story or doctrine. There's no Christian home for them to come back to. So it requires us dropping approaches that seemed sensible in a Christian world and adopting post-Christian ways of doing evangelism — which has more to do with faithfully being the people of God.



A VISION FOR LIFE

RETHINKING EVANGELISM

I always want to be quick to say that your average person at a coffee shop or the local grocery store doesn't say you have to be perfect for them; they just want to know if it's real. And I think we have to be honest and admit that so much of the time it hasn't been real. It's been mental, and it's been disembodied rather than embodied. And it's not been communal. Many Christians just go to church for an hour a week, and there's no real community of faith where you see this being worked out.

GFJ: *How has this happened?*

Hunter: Most churches end up being pseudo communities because everyone is driving from 20 to 60 minutes away. They might get to church five minutes early and say hi to a couple of people, go through the service, maybe have lunch with their family and a friend, then go home. Then the best of the best go to home group on Wednesday to meet in a living room with several people who again have commuted to get there. That's a step in the right direction, but what if in the places of our lives where we have most organic and natural forms of community — typically where we work, or a gathering around a hobby, or in a retirement home if you're an elderly person — that was our place where we do both discipleship and missional engagement with the world? And then we happen to come together once a week for a service. That changes the whole emphasis, and it allows us to have authentic community.

GFJ: *What does the world need most right now?*

Hunter: One of the things we need is an overall life-orienting story. If I were to ask you: What is the meaning of your life? If you can't answer that question, you can't organize your life. But if you know that the meaning of humanity in Christ is to be his cooperative friends living lives of creative goodness for the sake of others through the power of the Holy Spirit, well, now you can start answering moral questions.

What the modern world did in an effort to put science in the center and marginalize religion of all kinds, was to boil life down to what an autonomous human being can know. What that does is leave us with no basis of ethics because that basically means you can do whatever you want — in terms of your sexuality, your

economic ethic, your relational ethic — you can do whatever you want as long as you don't harm me.

But as soon as you say humanity exists in a story that's bigger than merely our sexuality, bigger than our money, and bigger than our relationships, now you have a basis to understand what it means to be human. That's gone in our society, and we need to recapture that for the world.

GFJ: *How can we share that story without fueling postmodern people's sense of our arrogance?*

Hunter: The basic things postmodern people would want us to acknowledge are that we are sharing our perspective within an American 2008 context and that our language about this isn't perfect.

But we can be natural about sharing our passion. When I was a kid anybody who knew me knew that my whole life was oriented around wanting to be a major league baseball player. Nobody took it as though I was forcing that on them, or that I was somehow being arrogant. They could just see a simple childlike passion to be something. And it's possible for us to do that, to just say we're followers of Jesus, and to the best we know, our family story is in the Bible.

To borrow a principle from New Testament scholar N.T. Wright, the Bible

to us is something like a symphony that is 60 minutes long, and the composer has left the last eight or 10 bars for us to finish. So now to the best of our ability, we try to finish that symphony in harmony and continuity with the symphony he wrote.

You see how that seems open and inviting? It has to be something you can embody, a narrative that pulls you in rather than propositions that we're putting on people. That's where it starts feeling proud like we've got it all figured out.

GFJ: *Paul said he's to be pitied above all men if there is no resurrection.*

Hunter: Again, heaven is the destination, but it's not the goal. The goal is to be God's people, healing and redeeming the earth.

The meaning of humanity in Christ is to be his cooperative friends living lives of creative goodness for the sake of others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

And it's almost like a spiritual discipline; it's not so much that we'll win. You could with all your whole heart pick one country in Africa and determine to alleviate AIDS or to make sure everyone has clean water. Well, you would probably die before you could do that, and that doesn't mean you're a failure. You were a rousing success because, even if you weren't able to eradicate AIDS, you became a different human being. You aligned yourself with the will or the story of God.

Another way to think about this is that our projects are hardly ever God's projects. You're God's project. Even if you do brilliant work, it's not going to last in the new heaven and the new earth. But the kind of person you become is what you will take into eternity. So it doesn't matter that you should have built five more wells before you died. It's not that. It's not this neurotic pursuit of perfection.

GFJ: So eternal destiny is not the complete end goal?

Hunter: If you think about it, you can't tell me one passage where Jesus ever tried to help somebody go to heaven when they die. It's just not there. He just never said anything like the way we talk. The way he talked was: Change your life. God's Kingdom is here. Renew your plans for living. He called people into alignment. Now again, I'm not questioning heaven; you do go to heaven when you die. I'm just saying that was not Jesus' agenda. Jesus' agenda was how you can be faithfully human. And he was the model and teacher for that. And, of course, his death made it possible for us to become the humanity God intended. So in the story that I'm telling, he made it possible for us to enter this new life that's now energized and animated by the person and work of the Spirit.

Now the course of life includes our eternal destiny as people like to talk about. It's just that eternal destiny has become everything, and life has just shriveled away to nothing. So people are saying: I don't get it. And that's why I'm saying Christian *life* is what's going to help people get it. People are looking at us and saying, I don't get it, because there's not much to get.

They look at us and say, You've got some beliefs in your head that I can't see. And you tell me that because of those, you're going to heaven when you die, and I can't see heaven. But I could see how you live. I could see changes in you. People don't expect us to be perfect; they just want to see that we are real.

And that's going to be a huge evangelistic power. To circle back to where we were at the beginning, if the mechanistic type things are losing importance, what's gaining importance is a real life, lived in God, that other people can see is real. I think that's sort of a new evangelism. And that's why just having relationship, and conversation, and inviting people into communities is so vital. You get 90–100 people together who really care for each other, trying to become real-life Christians ... lots of people would just go bananas for that.

Todd Hunter's upcoming book with Intervarsity Press describes the inseparable link between spiritual formation and effective 21st century evangelism. Prior to working with Alpha, Hunter was involved in church planting and leadership development for 25 years with the Association of Vineyard Churches.

An evangelism tool for today's culture

More than 10 million people worldwide have attended the Alpha Course, a basic introduction to the Christian faith commonly advertised as “an opportunity to explore the meaning of life.” The course allows people to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting over 10 weekly sessions, with a day or weekend away. Each session begins with a meal, followed by a talk, and then discussion in small groups. “We try to create an atmosphere that's emotionally, intellectually, and relationally honest,” says Todd Hunter, director of Alpha USA. “We also say no question is naïve. So if someone has no Christian background, we make it OK for them to ask anything.”

The Alpha course, which originated with the Church of England, is currently offered in more than 160 countries and in many Christian denominations and runs in tens of thousands of churches of all denominations, and at universities, in prisons and on military bases around the world. There are more than 5,000 Alpha courses running in the United States (AlphaUSA.org).

Bruin Brawl

A 110-year-old school tradition keeps creating new memories ... and a few bruises too

by Rob Felton | rfelton@georgefox.edu

Soon after arriving on campus, most George Fox freshmen get a lesson on the university's oldest and oddest tradition

The instructions are simple. Be vigilant for a flash, the moment the leather pillow-shaped Bruin Jr. is exposed on campus. Then, grab it and run for the nearest exit.

It would be a lot easier if students from the other three classes weren't trying to tackle you, tear the leather prize from your hands, and carry it off themselves. Today, students call this Bruin Brawl, but previous generations remember it as Bruin Flash or B.J. Fight. Yes, George Fox University is affiliated with the pacifist Quaker movement. And yes, the irony is undeniable.

Although disdained by some as a testosterone-soaked mix of mud wrestling and tug-of-war, no one can deny Bruin Jr.'s ability to spark a memory.

"When you ask people about Bruin Jr., you always get a story, even if they've never touched it," says Greg Woolsey, a 1994 graduate whose father battled for Bruin Jr. while a student in the late 1960s.

Alumni still tell about the first airborne flash in the late 1970s when Bruin Jr. dropped from a helicopter into a crowd on the old football field. Dennis Sturdevant ('81), owner of Precision Helicopters outside Newberg, estimates he's airlifted Bruin Jr. to campus six to eight times over the last three decades.

The grand tour

Those weren't the only times Bruin Jr. picked up frequent-flier miles. The younger Woolsey took it on a George Fox study tour to Italy, Germany, Switzerland, France, and England. While at the Tower of London,



Bruin Jr.'s belly picked up the signature of a member of the English royal guard.

Most of Bruin Jr.'s travels are local. Jeff Rickey (76), now dean of admissions and financial aid at Earlham College, remembers Bruin Jr. taking a trip down the Willamette River during the annual George Fox raft race. A student in the race flashed Bruin Jr. as he passed under spectators on the Highway 219 bridge.

"Of course, everyone was waiting for him when his raft made it to shore."

Bruin Jr.'s appearance has always caused a stir, sometimes at inappropriate locations. It has appeared on the court at halftime of varsity basketball games, at a Christmas candlelight ceremony, and, of course, at the biggest student gatherings on campus: chapel.

"The numerous chapel flashes were in poor taste, but very entertaining," says Rickey, "especially when done on the stage behind a speaker who was invariably running late."



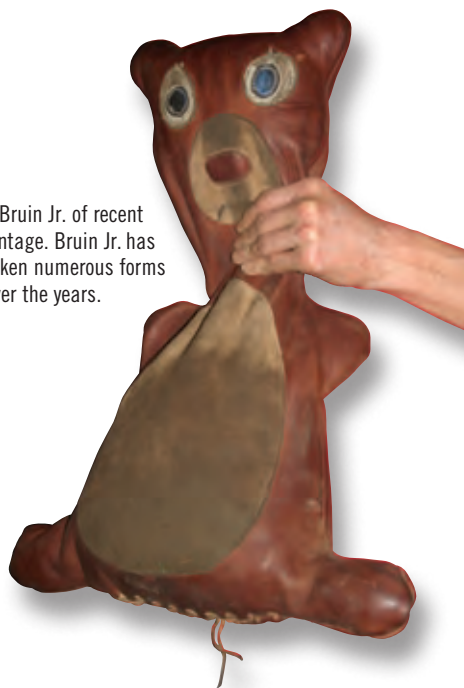
Bruin Jr. — shown here in Australia — has been dragged across campus behind a bicycle, floated down the Willamette River, and toted around the globe.

Object of obsession

How seriously do some students take Bruin Jr.? Early in the school's history, students were known to chase each other through Newberg, even stopping traffic. The school newspaper reported a struggle "amid falling trees" during the legendary 1962 Columbus Day storm.

Age may not dampen Bruin Jr. fever. The class of 1957 brought a vintage version of Bruin Jr. to last year's 50-year class reunion. "They wouldn't even let me touch it," says Alumni Director Robby

A Bruin Jr. of recent vintage. Bruin Jr. has taken numerous forms over the years.



Larson. Kara Newell (57) warned Larson to keep his distance. "She told me: 'If you try to take it, we'll get you.' I think she was serious."

Gary Brown, former alumni director, remembers the reaction of fellow student Ken Kumasawa (63) when a group of friends spotted Bruin Jr. from the second story of Minthorn Hall.

"Bruin Jr. was flashed outside, and we headed for the stairway," Brown says. "Ken threw open a window and bailed out. He was on the ground and in hot pursuit before we were."

The amazing part of the story is Kumasawa dove out the window with a cast on his already broken leg.

Dancing in the street

Bruin Jr. appeared this fall following the university's annual all-campus Serve Day. Encircled by more than 100 cheering spectators, about 50 young men surged back and forth for more than three hours. At the center of the scrum, one student clenched Bruin Jr. While the nearest students attempted to tear Bruin Jr. from his hands, a third layer of students struggled to peel away the second layer of students. Grass turned to mud, which in turn covered shoes, pants, shirts, hair, and faces. Finally, at 10:30 p.m.,

Bruin beginnings

Before there was a Bruin Jr., there was Bruin. In the autumn of 1887, a student at Friends Pacific Academy (the university's predecessor) brought to campus the cub of a black bear his father shot in the nearby Coast Range. A professor, George Hartley, adopted the bear, called it Bruin, and kept it in a pit in Hess Creek Canyon next to campus.

When Hartley was about to leave Newberg in 1892, he tried to find the now-grown bear a new home. The Portland Zoo had enough black bears, and apparently Hartley could find no other options. After an offer from a local meat market, Bruin was turned into bear steaks.

The skin was preserved, stuffed, and mounted on an iron frame in the academy's meager museum. Over time, moths and decay took their toll, and the hide came perilously close to destruction. The skin was sent to the furnace, but was rescued by students. The senior class made Bruin its unofficial mascot, taking the hide on class outings. After graduation, the senior class traditionally passed Bruin down to the juniors. Apparently, the junior class grew impatient one year and swiped the skin from the class of 1898. And so the tradition began.

The fragile hide was kept in a metal milk can, which was occasionally padlocked and chained to protective students. In 1934, Bruin's bearskin retired again to the museum and was replaced by a small canvas replica dubbed "Bruin Jr."



The original Bruin bearskin, circa 1929.



The class of 1957 brought Bruin Jr. and many stories to their 50-year reunion.

Bruin Jr. came free, and a senior sprinted to the edge of campus with dozens of classmates. They swarmed him and his prize. “We all danced in the middle of the street and took a group picture with our Bruin,” says senior Sarah Reid.

A 1968 flash may hold the record for the longest Bruin Jr. contest. Mike “Biggs” Wirta (74), now a George Fox custodial supervisor, recalls the epic struggle that raged across campus.

“It started in late morning and ended at dusk,” he remembers. “Guys would go in shifts. They’d wrestle for it, then leave to go to class or to eat.”

Larry Herrick (72) remembers how exhausting a Bruin Jr. flash was.

“They got pretty brutal. Once when I walked away, I could hardly hold up my arms, they got pounded so much.”

Not surprisingly, administrators have occasionally tried to quash the tradition to prevent injuries. Other times, Bruin Jr.

has been confiscated temporarily. Levi Pennington — who served as president from 1911 to 1941 — was said to “charge into the fray” in an attempt to keep excited students under control.

Today, Bruin brawls are restricted to outdoors and announced in advance, and they require supervision by representatives from the student government. Modern Bruin brawls often leave large patches of mud on the campus lawns, but few permanent scars. “Nobody’s gone to the hospital in a couple years,” says senior Heather Eslinger, a student government officer who oversees Bruin brawls.

Things have gotten so civilized that recently retired George Fox President Dave Brandt helped start the tussles several times during his tenure. His favorite flash occurred when he faked an ankle injury in the middle of the campus quad. A group of concerned students gathered as an ambulance arrived, siren scream-

ing. When the paramedics reached him, Brandt reached into their gurney and pulled the blanket back to reveal Bruin Jr.

Tradition

The descendant of a black bear that lived on campus in the late 1800s (see sidebar), Bruin Jr. has had numerous reincarnations in canvas or leather skin. Sometimes the struggle is too much, and the faux bear must be replaced. Other times, Bruin Jr. disappears during the summer vacation, going into hibernation in some alumnus’ closet or garage.

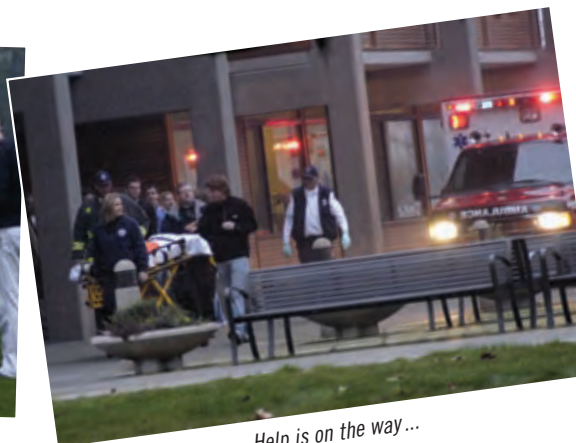
Somehow Bruin Jr. always returns to campus. Psychology professor Kris Kays (BA ’87, PsyD ’94) admits she doesn’t really understand the allure of Bruin Jr., but says she’s glad for the stories and the tradition. “It’s helped me feel part of



Although open to anyone willing to dive on a dog pile, female participants historically have been rare. However, in recent years, the student government has scheduled all-women Bruin brawls once a semester.



President David Brandt’s ankle “injury” ...



Help is on the way ...



The gurney arrives ...

Before the “brawl” comes the “flash.” Perhaps no flash is as popular as the helicopter drop.



something bigger than me, my class, and my generation. It helps give us a sense of community, and that’s one of the richer parts of being at George Fox.”

Steve Bury (’83) spearheaded a student government effort to bring back the tradition in the early ’80s after a period of dormancy. New students were educated on Bruin Jr. etiquette at dorm orientation meetings, and a leather worker created the new Bruin Jr. based upon a retired Bruin Jr. found in a museum display case.

Bury improvised the inside filling. “We stuffed it with cotton and my mom’s nylons.”

Another story out of the 1970s tells of the worn-out remains of an old Bruin Jr. being placed inside a new leather Bruin Jr. Wherever Bruin Jr. went, it carried inside a part of its pre-

decessor, a link with the past.

If not always so symbolically, Bruin Jr. lives on at George Fox.

Bruin Jr., online

To view more Bruin Jr. photos (or to share a few of your own) go to alumni.georgefox.edu.



The victors often record their success by signing Bruin Jr., a practice that has covered the skin with layers of ink.

George Fox Bruins

George Fox’s athletic teams can trace their Bruin nickname and mascot to the same bear that began the Bruin Jr. tradition.



Although sports-writers called the college’s athletic squads “Quakers” in the 1950s and ’60s, the Bruin nickname was used in the 1940s and officially adopted in 1970 by a vote of students and faculty.



... and the brawl is on

Bottom: Emily Seregow Left: Nathan Holmes



The flash ...



'Comrades, come and raise your voices'

by Abby Haight

Reprinted with permission
of *The Oregonian*

They stood in a knot of nervousness near the Bauman Auditorium stage at George Fox University.

Most of the 38 George Fox alumni were residents of the Friendsview Retirement Center across the street from the university. Several wore school sweaters. One man tugged a faded beanie over his silvery hair. Navy and gold, everywhere.

They were there to sing a special song before a recent Wednesday chapel service. Their audience was 1,000 undergraduates — who probably didn't know or care that their university had a school song, written 103 years ago. Would the young people laugh, the singers worried. Were today's Bruins too sophisticated for the heartfelt — but slightly corny — earnestness of "Close Beside Chehalem's Mountain"?

The piano tinkled the opening notes and some in the audience laughed. A moment of silence, and then they began — a cappella, as they had decades ago.

*Close beside Chehalem's Mountain
Is the college we adore;
Like an ever-flowing fountain,
She will stand forevermore.*

Robby Larson, the university's director of alumni relations, was visiting Friendsview Retirement Center, where about 100 of the 400 residents are alumni of the Christian liberal arts school and

many others have connections to the university.

Did Larson know the school song? someone asked.

"And, just like that, 60 people started singing," Larson said. "It almost brought us to tears, it was so powerful."

The song hadn't been sung on campus since the 1991 centennial celebration.

Emily Rastovich, a junior from Camarillo, Calif., who is president of the Bruin Heritage Society, helped arrange the performance.

"For students, it's so amazing," Rastovich said. "We have four years here, and here are people whose four years were a long time ago. But they still love the school and want to sing the song."

*'Tis the good old Quaker College,
And we'll shout her worthy name;
Where we gained our store of knowledge,
In her halls of honor's fame.*

Rosa Hester could never forget the words. She sang it so often back then, when George Fox was known as Pacific College — at daily chapel, at sports contests, at almost every special event, it seemed.

At 100, Hester (29) is George Fox's oldest alumna. She sat in the front row, her silvery hair carefully waved, her clear soprano joining with the 30 singers on stage.



Paul Thornburg ('46) leads the singing.

Arthur ('44) and Fern ('42) Roberts met at George Fox. They sang the school song at pep rallies every Friday.

By the 1970s, the school song had faded into oblivion.

Arthur Roberts, who taught for more than 50 years at George Fox, attributed the song's demise to youth disenchantment during the Vietnam War, among other cultural influences.

"Pop music came in, and the song sounded old-fashioned, dumb," Roberts said.

*When the four loved years of college
Shall have long since slipp'd away,
When with worldly care and knowledge,
Many a head is turning gray.*

The words flashed up on the big screen. Tentatively at first, voices from the hall joined in. Nineteen- and 20-year-olds, singing with 70-year-olds.

Then it was over.

The singers on stage grinned, some laughing in relief.

The applause started. Then the George Fox students of today rose, clapping and cheering.

*And we'll always in this manner
To our mother school be true,
'Neath the George Fox College banner
Of Old Gold and Navy Blue.*

'Close Beside Chehalem's Mountain'

*The official song
of George Fox University*

Verse 1:

Close beside Chehalem's mountain,
Is the college we adore;
Like an ever-flowing fountain,
She will stand forevermore.
Where she stands we'll ne'er forget it,
Near the old Willamette's banks,
And in years we'll ne'er regret it,
That we entered in her ranks.

Chorus:

'Tis the good old Quaker College,
And we'll shout her worthy name;
Where we gained our store of knowledge,
In her halls of honor's fame.
And we'll always in this manner
To our mother school be true,
'Neath the George Fox College banner
Of Old Gold and Navy Blue.

Verse 2:

Comrades, come and raise your voices,
Let us praise our college, dear,
While with her your heart rejoices,
Spread her glory far and near,
Then a rousing cheer we give her,
'Tis the least that we can do;
G.F.C. we'll love forever,
Her Old Gold and Navy Blue.

Verse 3:

When the four loved years of college
Shall have long since slipp'd away,
When with worldly care and knowledge,
Many a head is turning gray,
Still we'll shout her praise the louder
And our hearts give echo true,
As we cheer our Alma Mater,
Our Old Gold and Navy Blue.



Alumni Connections

1960-69

Charles Mylander (G64) has coauthored (with Neil Anderson) a new book, *Experiencing Christ Together*, subtitled “Finding Freedom and Fulfillment in Marriage.” It offers practical tools and steps to safeguard marriages against threats to destroy them. After 17 years as superintendent of Evangelical Friends Church Southwest, Mylander is in his seventh year as executive director of Evangelical Friends Mission, the national missionary-sending agency for evangelical Friends churches in the United States.

Dan Stahlnecker (G65) retired in September after more than two years as landscape maintenance coordinator for Twin Rocks Friends Camp and Conference Center on the Oregon coast. Previously he was with Wilco Farm Stores. He and **Linnea (Chapman) Stahlnecker** (G64) have moved to Spaulding Oaks in Newberg.

Larry Fast (G69) has been a Salem (Ore.) mass-transit system driver for 35 years. But his interest in another form of transportation was featured in a December story in the city’s *Statesman Journal* newspaper. Over the last 15 years he has purchased more than 130 old bicycles to refurbish and resell to subsidize his real passion: classic bicycles for display — even riding. His restored classics were on display at the Oregon State Fair last fall and now are on display in a Salem grocery store. He also has collaborated with an Alabama collector to write a book on classic bicycle collecting.

1970-79

Gena Nieuwendorp (n76) is a special education teacher for Brookings Harbor (Ore.) High School and Azalea Middle School, teaching students with disabilities. She has been teaching for 13 years and previously taught elementary students in Yamhill (Ore.) for one year.

Paul Koch (G79), professor of economics at Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, Ill., presented a paper, “Monetary Policy and



Counterclockwise from upper left (unless noted, all positions at Baylor): **Kevin Dougherty** (G93), assistant professor of sociology; **Sharia Hays** (G02), director of Brooks Flats Community (student residence); **Scott Wade** (G97), director of student activities; **Jeff Bilbro** (G07), graduate student in English; **Peter Smart** (G99), director of Penland Residence Hall; **Kelsie Dalke** (G07), MEd graduate student; **Karin Klinger** (G97), assistant director for Student Organization Development; **Jill (Meyers) Wade** (n99), director, Curves, International; **Beth (Ehli) Smart** (G98, MAT02), Professional Development School coordinator; **Charity Joecks** (G05), assistant director of North Russell Residence Hall; **Kim (Cain) Dougherty** (G95), teacher and full-time mother; **Melissa Noyd** (G07), MEd graduate student. Not pictured: **Ian Sheppherd** (G07) and **Lacey (Holman) Sheppherd** (G07).

Together in Texas

Longing to spend an evening without hearing “y’all” or “fixin’,” Waco, Texas, residents **Peter Smart** (G99) and his wife, **Beth (Ehli) Smart** (G98, MAT02), had an idea. They began contacting George Fox alumni in the area, creating an unofficial reunion of relocated Northwesterners now 1,700 miles from their alma mater.

The Nov. 17 gathering brought together 14 recent-era classmates (several of them also former George Fox employees) who now have something else in common: Baylor University. All but two are employees or students at the Big 12

★ university. They met at the home of **Sharia Hays** (G02).

Around a potluck dinner, they spent the evening “sharing how the Lord led us all to Baylor,” according to Beth Smart. Mostly they reminisced: Bruin brawls; roomies; chapels; and the variety of activities in which they participated, including DaySpring, University Players, Spring Serve, Winter Serve, student government, cheerleading, athletics.

Was it a success? Will they repeat? “Hopefully this spring,” says Beth.

★

Economic Nationalism at the Beginning of the 21st Century,” at the 2007 Free Market Forum in Hillsdale, Mich., in September.

Jack Lyda (G79) is operations manager for the School of Professional Studies at George Fox’s Portland Center. He completed 21 years as a pilot in the Air Force, then worked as a financial assistant, loan officer, and instructor pilot.

1980-89

Diana Crane (G87) is hospital chaplain for Irwin Army Community Hospital at Fort Riley, Kan.

1990-99

James Fischer (PsyD90) is campus director for Indiana Tech in Elkhart. He was named in September. In the position he also is responsible for admissions, academic programming, and operations for Indiana Tech’s South Bend, Warsaw, and Merrillville locations. The locations offer associate, bachelor’s, and master’s degree programs in an accelerated format through the College of Professional Studies. He previously was campus director for Tri-State University in South Bend, Ind.

Jeff Larson (G92) in December was named George Fox’s new assistant cross country and track coach. He ran for the Bruins with a best cross country time of 25:43.2 in 1991. He was a member of the 1990 team that won the NAIA District 2 title and placed fifth in the NAIA national meet. Coaching is in addition to teaching United States history and American government at Willamina (Ore.) High School.

KEY

G Traditional graduate
n Traditional nongraduate
MA Master of arts
MS Master of science
MAT Master of arts in teaching
MBA Master of business administration
GFES George Fox Evangelical Seminary
MDiv Master of divinity
DMin Doctor of ministry
MEd Master of education
EdD Doctor of education
PsyD Doctor of psychology
SPS School of Professional Studies

Carlos Sequeira (G92) is assistant principal at Wilsonville (Ore.) High School. He moved from a one-year position as dean of students at Liberty High School, Hillsboro, Ore., but previously had been with the West Linn–Wilsonville School District for five years as a Spanish language teacher at West Linn High.

Charles Harrell (G93) is an attorney with the law firm Gunn Cain & Kinney LLP in Newberg. His practice is focused on land use, real estate, and business planning. He joined the firm in 2005. He was admitted to law practice in Oregon in 2001 after receiving a law degree from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College.

Jeff Boyer (SPS95) in January started graduate school for a master of education degree through the World Campus program of the Pennsylvania State University. He is studying half time, emphasizing adult education and family literacy, and working half time.

Ann (Basden) Dunlop (G95) has been appointed to the board of directors of Christian Youth Theatre in Vancouver, Wash., part of a national group for children 8 to 18. A stay-at-home mother of two small boys, she works with CYT as an acting teacher, directing one musical a year.

Deborah (Sartwell) Rajhansa (G95) teaches English to speakers of other languages in the public schools of Warminster, Pa.

Margaret Boutell (SPS96) has been named Jefferson County (Ore.) community development director. She began in August after three years as community service director in Veneta, Ore., near Eugene. She and her husband live in Madras, Ore.

Shera Kindall (G96) has been named human resources manager for the Marion County Jail II in Indianapolis.

Linda Simmons (PsyD96) has been promoted to clinical director of Midwest Christian Counseling Center, Kansas City, Mo. Her second book, *Becoming Your Own Emotional Support System: Creating a Community of One*, was published by Haworth Press in November. The foreword for the book was written by Clark Campbell, George Fox professor of psychology and director of the Clinical Training Program.

Bonnie Mills (G97) is director of the English language program at Qingdao Baishan School, a private K-12 school in Qingdao, China.

Cynthia Reynolds (SPS98, MATS04) is parish administrator for the St. James Lutheran Church in downtown Portland.

Yvette Ward (PsyD99) is the new program director for the Training Institute of the Children’s Home Society of Idaho and the Warm Springs Counseling Center. Previously she was chief of deployment and reintegration health for the 366th Medical Group at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. She is former president of the Idaho Psychological Association and serves on the board of directors for the Mental Health Access to Children and Faith in Action organizations in Boise.

2000-07

April (Herron) Anson (G00) teaches English at Forest Grove (Ore.) High School where she was named teacher of the month for October. In her seventh year of teaching, she is JV volleyball coach and advisor of the school’s Earth Club.

David Barbee (G00) is in his third year of doctoral work in religious studies at the University of Pennsylvania, focusing on the history of Christianity. He has two master’s degrees (in church history and in theology) from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (Mass.).

Jenifer (McAlister) DeWolfe (G00, MAT04) has opened a photography studio, Okapi Photography, in Tigard, Ore. She specializes in portraits, both in studio and on location. The new venture provides more time for her to be at home with a 1-year-old son after teaching middle school for three years.

Jonathon Roberts (G00) is at Portland Christian High School, where he recently was named head of the social studies department. He teaches Bible, government, economics, politics, and journalism classes; coaches the mock trial team; and is assistant coach for the football and track teams.

Julie Handyside (G01) is librarian at Faith Bible High School, Hillsboro, Ore. She received a master’s degree in library science in May from Emporia State University.

Jennifer (Englizian) Henshaw (G01) and **Matthew Henshaw (G01)**, after six years in Seattle, have moved to Spokane, Wash., where she continues to work for Microsoft as a marketing manager and he works in staff development for Spokane Public Schools.

Melissa Mock Rawat (G01) in June received a master's degree in theatre from Western Washington University and now teaches theatre and the introduction to medical sciences course at Hayfield High School in Alexandria, Va.

Randy Rice (MA01) has moved from Riverdale High School (Portland) to become a counselor at La Salle Catholic College Preparatory School, Milwaukie, Ore. Previously he was an English language teacher in Taiwan.

Charyce Appledoorn (G02) teaches kindergarten at Centennial Elementary School in Scio, Ore.

Jason Harper (G02) is manager of administration for Ballard Technology, a Seattle-based engineering firm. In March he received an MBA from Seattle Pacific University, focusing on human resources management.

Julie (Lockwood) Pechacek (G02) received a master's degree in economics from Boston University in December and is a researcher in the Health Care Research Group at Boston University Medical Center. Previously, she was a senior auditor for four years with Deloitte & Touche, San Francisco, and a senior internal auditor with Air Methods Corp, Englewood, Colo., for a year.

Demetri Tsohantaris (G02) has joined the law firm Gunn Cain & Kinney LLP in Newberg as an attorney working primarily in civil litigation, land use, and real estate. He joined the firm in August. He received a law degree from the University of Oregon School of Law in 2005.

Michelle Cox (MA03) completed doctoral work in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Oregon State University in December and maintains a private practice at West Salem (Ore.) Foursquare Church. She also is assistant professor of counseling in George Fox's Graduate Department of Counseling and is clinical director for its Center for Counseling and Family Therapy, the practicum and internship clinic.

Missy Davis (G03) recently received an MSEd degree in student services administration from Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and is at Colorado Christian University, Lakewood, Colo., as life directions advisor.

Steve Harrison (G03) is helping operate a family-owned wholesale and U-cut Christmas tree business on a 120-acre farm near Sandy, Ore. The business ships up to 1,500 trees to locations throughout the Pacific Northwest, Utah, Nevada, and Hawaii, in addition to the 350 sold on site. He has traveled through Central America and has earned a certificate in English as a second language, qualifying him to teach English abroad.

Jennifer McKenzie (MBA03) has been promoted to director of account services for the Overland Agency in Portland. The Oregon-based firm is a brand marketing and interactive advertising agency that in 2007 was named among Oregon's 100 fastest-growing private companies. She will coordinate department strategy and continue to guide client/agency partnerships. She joined the firm in 2005.

Angela (Woods) Pearson (G03) received a master of philosophy degree in August from Baylor University, Waco, Texas. She is continuing in the doctor of philosophy program and is a teaching assistant for undergraduate courses.

Kristiane Sorestad (G03) and her husband, Darron, graduated in May from Loma Linda University School of Medicine and are in their first year of residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Her residency is in ophthalmology and his is in otolaryngology.

John Stauffer (MDiv03) has established Oregon Life Solutions, a counseling and mediation service, in John Day, Ore. He came to the Grant County community at the urging of its former district attorney, who noted the lack of such services to local residents. He is completing a doctoral dissertation, "The Role and Responsibility of the Christian Faith: Moral Community to Influence the Community at Large," in the George Fox doctor of ministry program, planning to publish it as a book.

Derek Dougherty (G04) is a mathematics teacher at Eagle Point High School near Medford, Ore.

Beth Templeton (G04) in May received a doctor-

ate of physical therapy from the University of Puget Sound and now is practicing at Providence Newberg Medical Center in outpatient rehabilitation.

Don Van Tassle (MBA04) has been promoted to vice president of manufacturing services and support for Bimbo Bakeries USA, Fort Worth, Texas. He is responsible for research and development, new products, food safety, product quality, logistics, technical services and support. He is active in the American Bakers Association.

Julie (Fisher) Brown (G05) is the new office manager for George Fox's Tilikum Retreat Center, leaving a position as administrative assistant for the Kelly Group, Keller Williams Realty, Newberg. She was a guest group host at Tilikum from 2004 to 2006.

Elisabeth (Mehl) Greene (G05) is pursuing a doctor of music arts degree at the University of Maryland where she is a graduate assistant for university athletic bands. She received a master's degree in music composition in May from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass. Her master's thesis, *Borges Symphony*, won the conservatory's orchestral composition competition and was premiered in a performance by the conservatory orchestra.

Randy Pitts (G05) started in September as a new custodial supervisor for George Fox's Plant Services. He came from a position as a ranger aide at Champoeg State Park, Ore.

Shelly Roe (MA05) is in her first year as a school counselor at Sweet Home (Ore.) Junior High.

Colleen Ghasedi (MA06) has joined the staff at Friends of the Family as a child and family therapist, working in their offices in Corvallis and Albany, Ore. She works with children, teens, and parents, addressing issues such as depression, anxiety, social skills, post-traumatic stress, anger, and divorce.

Cory (Crooks) Imhof (G06) is in her second year attending Western States Chiropractic School, Portland.

Sharon Miles (G06) has been promoted to human resources generalist at Legacy Health System, Portland. She has been with Legacy since June 2006.

Alumni Award Winners 2008

Stanley W. Cuyler (MDiv '68)
Seminary Alumnus of the Year

Stanley Cuyler's career in the military and the ministry took him from small-town middle America to countries all over the globe. After beginning his ministry as a 15-year-old youth pastor in his native Michigan, Cuyler embarked on a journey that led him to ministerial jobs in Oregon and, eventually, a chaplaincy in the U.S. Army. He was an active duty Army chaplain during the 1980s, serving in locales throughout Europe, and later worked as a chaplain in hospital and prison settings in the United States. Cuyler retired from the U.S. Army after 27 years with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He has worked for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as a chaplain since 1994.



Donald J. Armstrong ('78)
Christian Service Award

Donald Armstrong's love for the people of Tanzania motivated him to spend 16 years in the East African country as a missionary with the Church of God. Armstrong built schools — at the high school, secondary, and primary levels — that currently enroll more than 800 students. Between 1989 and 2005 he helped the Tanzanian Church of God grow from 79 to more than 300 congregations. He raised funds to help congregations build 50 church buildings and graduated more than 120 students from the Bible training school he developed as a training ground for pastors. Since 2005 he has served as associate pastor of the Cloverdale Church of God in Boise, Idaho.



Matt Gerber ('03)
Outstanding Recent Alumnus

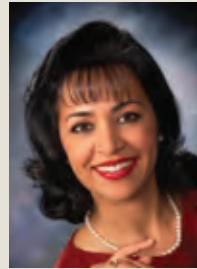
Matt Gerber's self-described occupation is "global citizen." Since 1997 he has worked in more than 50 countries on six continents. Upon graduation he founded TeamWorks International, a humanitarian aid organization that helps community leaders design, implement, and evaluate programs. He managed international development projects from Nicaragua to



India, worked with corporate executives and subsistent farmers, and partnered with groups ranging from religious congregations to prison inmates. After four years as CEO of TeamWorks, he was recruited by Portland-based publishing company Arnica Creative to create a charitable foundation with a mandate to promote health, literacy, and leadership worldwide.

Gayathri Ramprasad ('01, MBA '03)
Outstanding Alumna

Hope is what Gayathri Ramprasad brings to those battling chronic illness. Her successful battle in overcoming mental illness taught her the power of hope in the healing process — and she takes that message to audiences as a mental health consultant and professional speaker. Ramprasad is the founder and president of ASHA ("hope" in Hindi) International, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting global mental health awareness and fostering communities of hope and recovery. She is also president of Mind Beautiful, a mental health consultancy. She shares her story of recovery with patients, families, healthcare providers, and organizations as a speaker at regional, national, and international events.



Paul Thornburg ('46)
Heritage Award

Paul Thornburg's passion for education took him to Europe and Africa during an educational career that spanned more than five decades. After earning degrees from George Fox and Kansas State Teachers College, he studied in Belgium to prepare for an assignment as an instructor at a teacher training school in Kibimba, Burundi. He later spent four years teaching pastors at Central African Evangelical Seminary in Mweya, Burundi. Upon his return to the United States in 1978, Thornburg served as associate pastor of Friendswood Friends Church in Texas before returning to Africa in the late 1980s. This time he spent four years in Rwanda training pastors, and later, beginning and administrating a high school.



For more information about the alumni awards, go to georgefox.edu/alumni/programs/awards.

Jamie Dozier (G07) is development projects manager with the Luis Palau Association. He is working with foundations, coordinating and facilitating the development marketing and management system, and assisting the estate planner for the international evangelistic organization based in Beaverton, Ore.

Kelly Nelson (MAT07) is a second-grade teacher at Archer Glen Elementary School in Sherwood, Ore., where she spent most of the last year student teaching.



Power of the pen

Phyllis Nissila (G96) continues to publish devotionals on comfortcafe.net – the latest outlet for her creative and inspirational writing. She’s been published locally and nationally since the 1980s, with humor columns in the *Eugene Register-Guard* and *The Springfield News* and devotionals in *Virtue* and other magazines. “I believe my ministry is encouraging people,” she says. “When it comes to writing, devotionals are my first love, inspirational features my second, and the occasional humor project keeps me sane.” She also teaches high school writing and literature for HomeSource, a home school resource center, and adult classes at Lane Community College.

JUST MARRIED

Darrel Lamb (G85) and **Shannon (Conachan) Raschdorf** (SPS96), Sept. 15, 2007, in Portland.

Deborah Sartwell (G95) and Dev Rajhansa, Nov. 3, 2007, in Philadelphia.

Troy Gregg (MA96) and Debbie Ferguson, Feb. 24, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Melanie Smith (SPS96, MAT97) and **Keith Hasbrouck** (MAT02), June 23, 2007, in McMinnville, Ore.

Kelly Anderson (G97, MEd00) and Ryan McDonald, Aug. 11, 2007, in Portland.

David Barbee (G00) and Emily Fry, May 26, 2007, in Findlay, Ohio.

Aimee Buchholz (G01) and Jeremy McAdams, Sept. 9, 2007, in Anacortes, Wash.

Kelsey Kaopuiki (G01) and Miguel Mesa, Aug. 11, 2007, in Portland.

Brooke Krovious (G01) and Mark Martinez, July 7, 2007, in Carpinteria, Calif.

Katie McCoy (G01) and Alex Christensen, June 22, 2007, in Spokane, Wash.

Melissa Mock (G01) and Rahul Rawat, Aug. 4, 2007, in Omak, Wash.

Jocelyn Barnes (G02) and Isaac Micheil, Sept. 22, 2007, in Sherwood, Ore.

Pam Mattson (G02) and **Jon Melot** (G02), Dec. 1, 2007, in Vail, Colo.

Marci Shires (G02) and Danny Kern, Oct. 14, 2007, in Mount Hermon, Calif.

Ryan Evans (G03) and Natalie Litwiller, April 14, 2007, in Grants Pass, Ore.

Christy Russo (G03) and Daniel Sumerfield, Sept. 23, 2007, in Yakima, Wash.

Kristiane Sorestad (G03) and Darron Ransbarger, Oct. 20, 2007, in Sedro Woolley, Wash.

Angela Woods (G03) and Lewis Pearson, June 9, 2007, in Memphis, Tenn.

Derek Dougherty (G04) and Tori Carrigan, Aug. 4, 2007, in Springfield, Ore.

Mark Gayman (G05) and Kimberly Plotts, Oct. 6, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Effie Mills (G05) and Ben Pulford, Oct. 6, 2007, in Battle Ground, Wash.

Anna Bellamy (G06) and Leighton Nordquist, May 19, 2007, in Oregon City, Ore.

Cory Crooks (G06) and Andy Imhof, June 30, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Elizabeth Jury (G07) and James Tower, May 12, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

April Russell (G07) and Brandon Eckert, June 18, 2007, in Oregon City, Ore.

BABY BRUINS

Randy Comfort (SPS85) and Annie Comfort, a girl, Eleanor Marian, Oct. 18, 2007, in Jackson, Mich.

Christopher Davis (G93) and **Angela (Broussard) Davis** (n93), a boy, Trey Austin, Nov. 12, 2007, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Robbin (Armstrong) Poetzi (G93) and Jim Poetzi, a girl, Rhianah Katherine, Aug. 9, 2007, in Eugene, Ore.

Mark Herold (n94) and Sandra Herold, a boy, Trevor Wayne, Dec. 14, 2007, in Longview, Wash.

Gary Murphy (G96) and **Shana (Schmidt) Murphy** (G96), a girl, Gennavieve Louella Joy, Sept. 5, 2007, in Roseburg, Ore.

Kyle Chowning (G97) and Kristy Chowning, a girl, Savannah Grace, July 17, 2007, in Nashville, Tenn.

Amy (Varin) Hoppock (G97) and Todd Hoppock, a boy, Reid Jackson, Nov. 14, 2007, in Orange, Calif.

Tonya (Miller) Kennerley (G97, MEd98) and Barre Kennerley, a girl, Casey Irene, April 4, 2007, in Reedley, Calif.

Elissa (Anderegg) Vanlandingham (G97, MAT00) and **Robert Vanlandingham** (n99), a girl, Amelia Hope, Sept. 10, 2007, in Corvallis, Ore.

Kathleen (Anderson) Wagner (G97) and Mike Wagner, a girl, Krista Anne, Oct. 2, 2007, in Oregon City, Ore.

Janette (Monckton) Acuña (G98) and Richard Acuña, a girl, Sofia Ruth, April 22, 2007, in Gresham, Ore.

Tennille (Camarillo) Hostetler (G98) and Gabriel Hostetler, a boy, Kalana Josue, June 6, 2007, in Canby, Ore.

Heidi (Hughes) Monuteaux (G98) and Justin Monuteaux, a girl, Lillie Elouise, Nov. 22, 2007, in Burien, Wash.

Courtney (Reynolds) Peterson (G98) and Hayes Peterson, a boy, Noah Michael, Sept. 19, 2007, in Portland.

Natalie (Walters) Spears (n98) and Zachary Spears, a girl, Hannah Elizabeth, Nov. 29, 2007, in Cincinnati.

Nancy (Rissmiller) Wilson (G98) and **Joe Wilson** (G99), a girl, Ashley Elizabeth, Feb. 6, 2007, in Portland.

Rebecca (Kunze) Archer (G99) and Chris Archer, a boy, Andrew John, Sept. 7, 2007, in Vancouver, Wash.

Kariann (Gillett) Box (G99) and **Scott Box** (G99), a boy, Titus Wilson, Oct. 31, 2007, in Newberg.

Anna (McInturf) Cherian (G99) and James Cherian, a girl, Helena Elizabeth, Oct. 13, 2007, in Ithaca, N.Y.

Karla (Schwanz) Christy (G99) and **Grant Christy** (G01), a boy, J Oliver, Oct. 11, 2007, in Aloha, Ore.

Jane (Seale) Gramenz (G99, MAT01) and **Paul Gramenz** (G02), a girl, Katelynn Jane, Sept. 2, 2007, in Minneapolis, Minn.

Lois (Lee) Hughes (G99) and Paul Hughes, a girl, Anya Angharad Lee, June 18, 2007, in Leicester, England.

Lindsay (Beck) Jacobsen (n99) and Andrew Jacobsen, a girl, Tirzah Elizabeth, Sept. 21, 2007, in Buhl, Idaho.

Jeffrey Wells (G99) and **Jana (Swindler) Wells** (G02), a girl, Annika Lynn, July 27, 2007, in Tualatin, Ore.

Bethany (Lawrence) Allen (n00) and Josh Allen, a girl, Melody Kay, Sept. 23, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Beth (Randall) Armstrong (G00) and Travis Armstrong, a boy, Tate Randall, March 5, 2007, in Portland.

Heidi (Johnson) Boos (G00, MEd05) and **Ryan Boos** (G02), a boy, Austin Nicholas, Sept. 28, 2007, in Newberg.

Aaron Meyer (G00) and Tauna Meyer, a boy, Jaron Davis, Dec. 19, 2007, in Portland.

David Rasmussen (G00) and **Julie (Schmidt) Rasmussen** (G00), a girl, Tirien Mercy, Nov. 1, 2007, in Portland.

Heather (Hunt) Austin (G01) and **Ryan Austin** (G01), a boy, Javan Matthew, Dec. 11, 2007, in Silverton, Ore.

Christine (Karstensen) Bischof (SPS01) and Tim Bischof, a boy, Caleb Timothy, Sept. 10, 2007, in Newberg.

Shawn Church (MA01) and **Kristin (Campbell) Church** (G02), a boy, Zachary Dylan, July 25, 2007, in Seattle.

Stefani (Shindler) Ellis (G01) and Jack Ellis, a girl, Makenna Rose, Feb. 21, 2007, in Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

Chris Fisher (G01, PsyD06) and **Lisa Fisher** (G01), a boy, Caden Joseph, Sept. 6, 2007, in Napa, Calif.

Hannah (Melhorn) Noel (G01) and Brenton Noel, a boy, Emmett Brenton, April 20, 2007, in Yakima, Wash.

Amy (Chapman) Porter (G01) and Tim Porter, a girl, Isabelle Claire, Nov. 16, 2007, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Camille (Hansch) Wade (G01) and **Keith Wade** (G01), a girl, Aubrey Laurelanne, June 14, 2007, in Everett, Wash.

David Kilian (G02, MAT03) and **Nicole (Bostic) Kilian** (G04), a boy, Liam Michael, Nov. 4, 2007, in Gresham, Ore.

Carl Trott (G02) and **Marcy (Walter) Trott** (G02), a girl, Eleanor Jean, May 3, 2007, in Lansing, Mich.

Janell (Hampton) Woods (G02) and Eric Woods, a boy, Jackson Hubert, Sept. 10, 2007, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.



Send us your news

Send updates to George Fox Journal,
414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg,
OR 97132; call 503-554-2126;
e-mail alumni@georgefox.edu

John Coburn (G03) and **Melissa Coburn** (G03), a boy, Bryton Isaiah, Sept. 3, 2007, in Libby, Mont.

Jessica (Moore) Bates (G04) and Samuel Bates, a boy, Jonathan Edward, Aug. 2, 2007, in The Dalles, Ore.

AnnMarie (Hagala) Tibbitts (G05) and **Christopher Tibbitts** (G05), a boy, Elijah Amar, June 27, 2007, in Tacoma, Wash.

Matt Zarzana (SPS06) and Angela Zarzana, a boy, Nicholas Kevin, Sept. 27, 2007, in Vancouver, Wash.

IN MEMORY

Elvett Brown (n42), Nov. 14, 2007, in Newberg.

John Fankhauser (G53), Oct. 7, 2007, in Newberg.

Roger Smith (n69), Nov. 3, 2007, in Portland.

David York (MDiv79), Jan. 21, 2007, in Norco, Calif.

Cathy Falgout (SPS92, MA95), Sept. 1, 2007, in Keizer, Ore.

George Fox ruined my life

by Kelly Riechers

A few days ago, I was stunned to realize it has been almost a year since I graduated from George Fox. I can still feel the way my black robe itched and how my cap tipped awkwardly, making the tassel dance. I recall the rushed trip to Chapters Books to pick up my last Americano as an undergraduate student, making me late to line up for commencement. And I remember especially well the sense of finality which rested in my belly the whole day — knowing that this was the end of an era in my life.

Days earlier, I spoke about this ending in chapel, expressing to my peers the magnitude of change that took place during my time at Fox. To put it simply, I said, George Fox ruined my life.

A proverb helps describe this undoing: “I am a blind man in a dark room, looking for a black cat that isn’t there.”

During my years at Fox, I became blind, entered that room, shut the lights off, and have been looking for that cat ever since.

You see, my freshman year, I thought I’d graduate and become a hip book editor living my dream in Portland. And secretly, I hoped that I would write the next great American novel. Now, I find myself in Thailand trying to help women in the commercial sex industry leave that work.

Five years ago, I was comfortable in my narrow-minded view of politics, and



“I’m called to suffer with Christ and maybe even die. And the odd part in all this is, I might be OK with that.”

now I’m just unsettled and confused. And I suspect party lines serve to separate us and give us false justifications to hurt one another.

I must admit too, I also thought I’d be engaged by now, or at least have the potential for someone, but I don’t. And I am pretty sure when I arrive home in December, no handsome man will be waiting for me with open arms; unless you count my little brother. I’m content with this reality though.

I walked into my dorm five years ago feeling really sure about all my Christian beliefs. In my years at Fox, I came to believe in a God who is a Mystery and a Paradox and a lot bigger and more encompassing than I’ll ever be able to imagine. And I no longer see Jesus as this crisp, good ol’ boy, but as one so dangerous in his radical love and mercy

— loving the prostitutes, the crooks, the ugly, diseased, and poor — that we killed him.

And the crux of my ruination at Fox is that I’ve realized I’m called to live radically too. I’m called to suffer with Christ and maybe even die. And the odd part in all this is, I might be OK with that.

Thus, I say again: “I am a blind person in a dark room looking for a black cat that isn’t there.” But I’ve realized God calls us to faith amidst darkness and that I cannot live a radical life if I switch on the lights and take matters into my own hands. And perhaps God is that darkness which envelops me, and to enter into that room is to enter into God’s Heart.

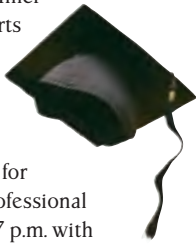
As this year’s commencement approaches, I recall the future I once saw as mine, and I am grateful to say again, George Fox ruined my life.

Kelly Riechers graduated in 2007 with a double major in writing/literature and philosophy. Her family owns a farm in Eugene, Ore., but she currently lives in Chiang Mai, Thailand. She works with Garden of Hope, an organization that reaches out to women in the commercial sex industry and children who are at risk of being lured into the sex trade. This spring, a May Serve trip led by professors Roger and Sue Newell will travel to Chiang Mai to assist Kelly and others at Garden of Hope.

Commencement

April 26

The university will host two commencement ceremonies on the Newberg campus Saturday, April 26, in the Miller Gymnasium/Wheeler Sports Center. Traditional undergraduate commencement will be at 2 p.m. with audience seating beginning at 1 p.m. The commencement for graduate, seminary, and professional studies students will be at 7 p.m. with audience seating at 6 p.m. Dick Reiten, former CEO of Northwest Natural Gas, will speak at both ceremonies. *503-554-2140*



Bruin Athletic Association

**Golf Classic
September 18**

The Bruin Athletic Association invites all university alumni, parents, and boosters to its second golf classic at Chehalem Glenn Golf Course in Newberg. Funds raised will go to the BAA, which provides funding for athletic programs above and beyond the university's budgeted resources. *503-554-2910 or golfclassic.georgefox.edu*



Selah Women's Conference

Finding True North: Where is Life Taking You?
September 27

Alumnae, parents, and friends of the university are invited to attend the fifth annual Selah women's conference. Nancie Carmichael and Bo Stern will share how a Christian's aim is not perfection, but learning how to focus her heart on the Lord. Undivided hearts affect our life goals, our families, our education, our work, and our relationships. Mark Demel, a sand artist from Willow Creek church in Illinois, will create images out of sand and light. *selah.georgefox.edu*



Golf Tournament

July 17

The fifth annual George Fox University Golf Tournament will be held at the Reserve

Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha, Ore. The tournament helps provide scholarship money for George Fox students and gives the university and the Portland area business community

the opportunity to become better acquainted. Call or e-mail for more information about sponsorship opportunities. *503-554-2119 or golf.georgefox.edu*

No. **5**



July 17, 2008



Motorcycle Rally

August 16

Alumni, parents, and friends of the university are invited to cruise with fellow riders from the George Fox community during the third annual Motorcycle Rally. This year's event will include three routes and a biker's barbecue dinner on the Newberg campus. If you are interested in helping plan this event or would like more information, contact alumni relations. *503-554-2131 or alumni@georgefox.edu*





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TELL US MORE

March Madness, 1905

↑ Tell us more ...

On March 10, 1905, the hot ticket in Newberg was the Oregon Collegiate Oratorical Contest, which brought competitors from colleges across the state. Fresh off a forensics victory at a 1904 national competition in Indianapolis, Walter Miles (1906) also won the Oregon title. He went on to become a psychology professor at Yale and Stanford universities. George Fox has a long history of oratorical excellence. Do you have any stories or memories of speech competitions held on or off campus? (Bonus question: where was the above photo taken?) All responses will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate from the University Store. Submit entries to journal@georgefox.edu or mail them to *Journal*, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132



← Congratulations to Jo Sivley, a retired psychology department administrative assistant, who correctly identified Bruin Jr. as the much-sought object at the center of this 1990s-era student altercation. Sivley's submission was chosen at random in a contest for a \$50 gift certificate to the George Fox University Store. To see more Bruin Jr. photos and to share your own, go to alumni.georgefox.edu.



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