



COACHING STAFF



Head Coach HEATHER TARR

First season | Alma Mater: Washington (1998)

"I am honored to be back home here at the University of Washington. Carrying on the tradition of excellence is a challenge that I am really excited about. This year's team has a lot of heart and talent. I am excited to see how this team comes together once we step on the dirt in Hawaii. My staff and I are committed to building a national championship team. We are building on what has been created here at Washington and are adding onto it on a daily basis."

Heather Tarr, a former Washington softball player, embarks on her first season as its head coach after a six-year stint at Pacific as an assistant coach and most recently as the associate head coach.

"I'm delighted to name Heather as the program's new coach," then athletic director Dick Thompson said. "It is wonderful to have a Husky come back and coach the program. This is Heather's first head coaching position, but she has done a tactful job of preparing herself for this type of opportunity. Frankly, she just knocked our socks off during the interview stage. You walked away knowing she has a great passion for Husky softball and a very clear vision to keep it among the elite programs in the nation."

"Heather has tremendous energy and is very excited to return to Washington and direct a program she helped to establish," said Husky athletic director Todd Turner.

Tarr's previous coaching experience includes six seasons with the Pacific softball program. She was promoted from assistant coach to associate head coach in April of 2004. During that time, the Tigers posted a 232-124 (.652) overall record and 90-44 (.672) mark in the Big West Conference.

In 2001, she and Pacific head coach Brian Kolze were named the 2001 NFCA West Region Coaching Staff of the Year after guiding the Tigers to within one win of the Women's College World Series and a No. 18 final national ranking. That team also finished the season with a .973 fielding percentage, ranking second-best in the country.

"She is truly going to be missed here," said Kolze. "I am very proud of her and very happy for her to get the opportunity to coach for a top-10 program. Coaching at Washington is truly her dream job and she will excel at it like she did here at Pacific.

"What Heather Tarr brought to the Pacific softball program cannot be statistically measured. She brought a wealth of experience to the table and was a big contributing factor to bringing this team to the national level."

Tarr joined Pacific prior to the 1999 season after an outstanding career as a Husky. As a four-year letterwinner, Tarr helped lead UW to a second place finish at the Women's College World Series in 1996 and a third place finish in 1997.

She earned various honors while playing softball at Washington. A three-year member of the Pac-10 All-Academic team from 1994-97, she was named to the Pac-10 All-Conference team from 1995-97 and the NFCA All-West Region team in 1996 and 1997.

Tarr also worked at Washington as an undergraduate assistant coach during the 1998 season, helping the Huskies to a third-place finish at the 1998 Women's College World Series.

Tarr also brings experience from the professional level as she spent the summer of 1997 as a member of the Women's Professional Fastpitch Softball League's Tampa Bay Fire Stix. She was the league leader in fielding percentage for first basemen and also led the league in walks.

Tarr earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography from Washington in 1998. She completed her M.Ed. at Pacific in the fall of 2003. Tarr, 30, is a native of Redmond, Wash., and is a graduate of Redmond High School.



Heather Tarr becomes just the fourth head coach in the program's history.



Assistant Coach EVE GAW

First season | Alma Mater: Washington (1998)

"Heading into the 2005 season I have a full spectrum of emotions. I am equally excited and nervous. This program has always been about winning and excellence. To have the task of carrying on those traditions is somewhat daunting, but it is a task that I know we can handle and are excited to do so."

Eve Gaw begins her first year as an assistant coach with the Washington coaching staff. Gaw, a former All-American at Washington, will serve as the Huskies' pitching coach.

"Eve has grown a tremendous amount in the last two years at FSU," Tarr said. "She possesses a wealth of knowledge and experience, which she accumulated not only while playing here at Washington, but also in going to FSU to develop herself personally and professionally.

"She will help develop the talent that we already possess, and develop future pitching staffs that will allow us to contend for the national title. I'm excited for the opportunity to work with a former teammate."

Gaw comes to Washington from Florida State, where she spent the past two years as the assistant coach in charge of pitching. She tutored the Seminole pitching staff that had the nation's best ERA in 2004, and

the fourth best mark in 2003. Under Gaw's tutelage, pitchers Jessica van der Linden and Casey Hunter both earned first team Easton All-American honors in 2004, finishing with the nation's second and third lowest individual ERAs, respectively. Van der Linden also received the Honda Award for softball and USA Softball National Player of the Year award, becoming the first woman ever to win both accolades. The Seminoles posted a 106-23 record in Gaw's two seasons at FSU and earned a trip to the 2004 Women's College World Series.

Prior to her time at Florida State, Gaw spent seven years at Washington, both as a player and a volunteer assistant coach.

Gaw, who had a career record of 69-17 as a Husky pitcher, played in three Women's College World Series' while at Washington, helping the Huskies to third-place WCWS finishes in 1997 and 1998, and a second-place finish in 1996. A four-time All-Pac-10 selection, she earned third team All-America honors in 1998.

Gaw holds the Husky record for strikeouts in a seven inning game, recording 15 against Western Washington as a redshirt freshman in 1995. She finished the 1995 season with 27 wins, tied for fourth most in Husky history, recorded 12 shutouts, good for second most, and was named the Husky softball rookie of the year.

Although Gaw didn't begin hitting until midway through her junior season, she is still sixth in the Husky record books in career slugging percentage (.554) and ninth in career on-base percentage (.410). As a senior, Gaw led the Huskies in batting average (.345), RBIs (37) and home runs (8) while playing first base. She did not abandon the circle, however, going 7-1 with a 1.50 ERA. After the season she was named the Husky player of the year.

Gaw served as a volunteer assistant coach at Washington from 1998-2000. She worked with the UW pitching staff and also evaluated players on video along with other office responsibilities. Tarr, who also served as a volunteer assistant at Washington in 1998, played alongside Gaw from 1994-1997.

Gaw, 29, received her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology in 1998 from Washington, where she was a member of the Dean's List.



Eve Gaw helped to develop a pair of first team All-American pitchers at Florida State last year.



Assistant Coach **ROBERT WAGNER**

First season | Alma Mater: Washington (1995)

"This has been an exciting year. This year's team is full of promise and we can't wait to get going on the field. We have a ton of talent and experience that should help to bring it all together. We look to carry on the established tradition of excellence and build new traditions that make the Husky Softball program one of the best in the nation. With excellence in academics, the wonderful facilities, and first rate athletics program, the University of Washington offers the complete package for success. It is our job to take advantage of the resources available to compete for a national championship."

Robert Wagner begins his first season as Washington assistant coach after a successful coaching career that spans nearly all levels of softball.

"My family and I are happy to return to Seattle and the University of Washington," said Wagner. "I am thrilled with the opportunity to contribute to this program. The University of Washington offers its student athletes every opportunity for success and I am excited to be a part of that. The academic setting, facilities, and location of the university are second to none. Competing for a National Championship is a goal the coaching staff feels is both realistic and attainable. I look forward to working with our players to help them reach their goals."

Wagner comes to Washington from Odessa, where he served as the head coach from 2002-2004. Last season, Wagner piloted the Wranglers to a 42-24 record to earn a berth to the NCAA Regional Tournament. The team broke four single-season records, including most victories, hits, runs and stolen bases. In just two short years, Wagner also set the record for career wins at Odessa and his teams set records in every major statistical category.

"Robert will have an immediate impact on Washington Softball," said UW head coach Heather Tarr. "His ability to develop talent both offensively and defensively will be exciting to see. Robert brings with him a dynamic perspective on the game and his coaching style will complement the styles of Eve (Gaw) and I. Being UW graduates, the three of us have a lot of passion for this team and we believe we have all the tools we need to compete for a national championship."

Prior to his time at Odessa, Wagner served as the first assistant at Utah for two seasons. While there, the Utes captured the 2000 conference title and won the 2001 conference tournament to advance to the NCAA Regional.

Before joining the Division I coaching ranks, Wagner was the assistant baseball coach and the Assistant Athletic Director and Head of Residence Life at Central Arizona from 1995-98. In 1998 Wagner joined the softball coaching staff as an assistant and in 1999 helped lead the Vaqueras to the NJCAA National Championship. The team fell just short of a repeat performance in 2000 with a runner-up finish in the national championship game.

Prior to his stint at Central Arizona, Wagner was the head coach of Woodinville High School in 1993.

Wagner earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from Washington in 1995. He received his Master's Degree in Education Administration from Phoenix in 2000. He also served four years in the United State Marine Corps from 1986-1990.

A native of Tucson, Ariz., Wagner is married to former UW pitcher Nancy Wagner. Together they have two sons, DJ (6) and Brody (3).

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