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Title

Profiles from Cal Lacrosse

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<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2n69q7qb>

Authors

Ropp, Susie

Roxas, Catherine

Publication Date

2024-04-06

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By Susie Ropp and Catherine Roxas



Denise Wescott joined Cal Lacrosse coaching staff before the 2019 season as the Assistant Coach. Despite only being part of the program for a short period, Denise has been integral in the program's upward trajectory with Head Coach Brooke Eubanks. Not only has Wescott added 30 years of experience to a relatively young west coast program, but she was also part of history in her own college experience. A decorated player herself, Denise was a three-sport athlete at the University of Maryland playing field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse. Wescott was one of the first females to sign a National Letter of Intent in 1976. A four-year starting goalie, Denise experienced a successful college career ranking 5th in all-time saves at Maryland.

Denise went on to coaching immediately out of college and landed her first job as the Assistant Coach for the Michigan State field hockey team. Since then, Denise has held coaching jobs at both Division I and III programs such as Penn State, Drew University, Rutgers University, University of Delaware, Mount Saint Mary's, and Monmouth University.

In an interview conducted with Denise, she recalls her first coaching job to be back in the 7th

grade coaching for a local basketball team. While in her undergraduate studies at Maryland, Denise taught Physical Education classes when she wasn't studying or in practice. At the University of Delaware, where Denise coached for 11 years, she taught during the day before practices at night.

Beyond her years of coaching collegiately, Denise is widely known at the international level. From 1996-2006 Wescott served as the head coach for the German National Team.

Since leaving Monmouth as the head coach in 2014, Denise has served as the Director of Lacrosse for the Capital Lacrosse Club in Alexandria, Virginia.

In 2018, Denise was inducted into the Lacrosse Hall of Fame for her excellence and contribution to the sport. From the moment she stepped on campus in the summer of 2018, Denise has been extremely dedicated to her athletes and the betterment of the program. Her main goal while at Cal is to make the program as productive as can be – guiding her student-athletes in the right direction on the field, in the classroom, and in life to become productive and successful women.

Gaby and Eliza Christman - The Christman sisters were two of the most notable student-athletes to graduate from Cal, each during their own time in Berkeley. The sisters from Simsbury, Connecticut, were four years apart, and just missed playing with each other in college. Nevertheless, Eliza followed in Gaby's footsteps and attended Cal to play lacrosse. Despite never having the chance to play alongside each other, both Gaby and Eliza Christman were key players for the Golden Bears during the 8-year Christman campaign.

Despite a season-ending injury during her freshman year, Eliza ended her four years at Cal extremely decorated. Eliza was a midfielder for Cal from 2015-2019. In just her senior year alone, Eliza was chosen First Team All-Pac 12, named to the Pac-12 All-Tournament Team, Pac-12 All-Academic Honorable Mention, selected to compete in the IWLCA Senior All-Star Game, set the school single-season record for draw controls (81), was the third-leading scorer and was named team captain. In her junior year, Eliza was the team's second-leading scorer and was named to the Pac-12 All-Tournament Team after the inaugural Pac-12 Tournament in 2018 and the Pac-12 All-Academic Second Team.

A midfielder for the Golden Bears from 2011-2015, Gaby Christman entered her freshman year as the Cal lacrosse program had just been reinstated. Gaby garnered impressive statistics and accolades during her time at Cal, including being named to the All-MPSF Second Team both her junior and senior year, and was named to the All-MPSF First Team as a sophomore. Her senior year, she led the team in caused turnovers (18), tied first for ground balls (20), second in both points (37) and goals (28) and second in draw controls (32). Her 97 career caused turnovers are ranked number one in the Cal record book. Her name also falls in the top 8 in Cal lacrosse history for most career draw controls (118) and in the top 8 for career ground balls (100).

Brooke Eubanks - Brooke Eubanks is the current head coach of the Cal Women's Lacrosse team. Hired to lead the program in 2015, Eubanks was the Assistant Coach across the bay at Stanford University from 2009-2014. Before her time in California, Brooke spent a year as the assistant coach at George Mason University from 2007-2008. Eubanks graduated from James Madison University in 2006 and immediately pursued a career in coaching. While at JMU, Eubanks was a three-year starter for the Dukes, leading her team to 3 CAA-Conference Championships and two Elite Eight appearances in the NCAA Tournament.

Beyond a successful college career, Eubanks was a member of the Canadian Senior National Team from 2003 to 2013. Her team made 3 World Cup appearances, earning a silver medal in 2013 with Eubanks as a captain and another 2009 with Eubanks as the second-leading scorer.

In 2015, Brooke Eubanks brought her knowledge to the Cal Women's lacrosse team for her inaugural season in Berkeley. Right off the bat, she faced financial challenges as the team only had two out of the twelve permitted scholarships and was still recovering from being cut in 2010. Despite the obstacles, Eubanks mentioned in an interview that coming to Cal was a "no brainer." Her coaching style reflects some of the great coaches she has played for both abroad and in college. When asked to reflect on the impact Cal has had on her life, she answered, "A huge impact. One of the biggest impacts of my life. I became a mother and a head coach all within three months of each other." Since being on the West Coast, Eubanks has started a family of her own. Integrating her family life at home with her athletes at Cal has been one of the many highlights of her career, Eubanks recalled. Her tight-knit relationship with her players has translated to the program's steady progress on the field. Before the cancellation of the 2020 season due to COVID-19, Eubanks led the Cal lacrosse team to improve its overall win total each year since 2015.

Cal Lacrosse History - The lacrosse program at the University of California, Berkeley has been around since 1999, making 2020 the 22nd season. Announced to be cut in the fall of 2010, new funding allowed the team to resume as a full varsity sport within a few months.