

# COACHING STAFF



**Chuck Sekyra**  
Head Coach

*U.S. Soccer Federation A License*

*1985 and '86 NCAA Championship Teams*

Possessing a unique blend of experience in coaching women at the elite level plus ties to the proud tradition of his alma mater, Chuck Sekyra seems like a natural to guide Seattle Pacific University to the top echelon of collegiate soccer.

An assistant coach at the University of Washington the past three seasons, Sekyra was named the Falcons' head coach Feb. 24 following a nationwide search. He succeeds Bobby Bruch, who resigned after two years.

Sekyra arrived with established roots at both SPU and the greater Puget Sound soccer community. He is a 1989 graduate of Seattle Pacific, played on two NCAA championship teams and was assistant men's coach from 1998-99. He is also head coach of the Washington state girls ODP (Olympic Development Program) Under-16 team and a Region IV ODP staff coach.

While a member of Lesle Gallimore's UW staff, Sekyra assisted in recruiting, scouting, training session development and fund-raising. In his first year, the Huskies had their finest season, winning the Pac-10 championship, earning a No. 2 seed, advancing to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen and going 18-3-0. The 2001 team also went to the playoffs. During his tenure Washington's record was 40-16-5.

"Chuck was energized about returning to his college alma mater and coaching this talented group of women," said athletic director Tom Box. "He is a respected leader who is very well-regarded in the northwest soccer community. Our team's future will be in good hands."

Immediately after being hired, Sekyra quickly went into action. It began with the implementation of new tactics which contributed to the Falcons' spring season success, including a win over Portland State, a scoreless draw with Idaho and a narrow, 1-0 defeat at Washington State, an NCAA tournament team. He later secured several key recruits, including two Division I transfers.

"I am coming home," said Sekyra. "To have the opportunity to come back to where I was first inspired to become a coach is very motivating. I have very high goals for this program. The potential for Seattle Pacific to be one of the top programs in college soccer is realistic and exciting, and I welcome the challenge."

Sekyra, who has 14 years of coaching experience, began his career in 1989 as boys varsity coach at Seattle's Lakeside High School, guiding the team into the state championship game in his first season. He moved to Blanchet High School in 1992, coaching the girls varsity from 1991-97 and the boys from 1996-98. Blanchet placed third in the girls state tournament in 1994 and the boys were state quarterfinalists in 1998. He was chosen league coach of the year five times and had a combined record of 181-45-34 at both Blanchet and Lakeside.

He has held a U.S. Soccer Federation 'A' coaching license, the highest coaching license available, since 2001. Since 1998, Sekyra has been a ODP regional staff coach for U-17 girls (1999), the U-17 boys (2000-01) and U-23 women (2000-02). The latter team took second place in the 2001 regional and third in 2000.

In his first season on Cliff McCrath's staff, Seattle Pacific reached the 1998 NCAA Final Four. Sekyra was a defender for some of McCrath's most storied teams from 1985-88, including a starting role on the '86 squad which posted 10 shutouts and became the first in Division II history to win back-to-back national championships. In all, he started 40 games and totaled eight assists. He also played for F.C. Seattle from 1986-87.

A native of Kent, Washington, Sekyra attended Kentwood High School, where he was the 1983 North Puget Sound League MVP and all-state selection. He attended Green River Community College in 1984.

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Sekyra earned his bachelor's degrees in both history and political science from SPU in 1989, and he taught high school courses in both subjects while coaching at the prep level. Later, he served two years as director of operations and co-coaching director for Northwest Soccer Camp and, while on the UW staff, was soccer coordinator for Arena Sports.

Sekyra is married to Rhonda, an SPU alumnae, and the couple has a daughter. The family resides in the Eastside community of Newcastle.



**Kevin Blokker**  
Assistant Coach

Kevin Blokker is also new to the Falcons' coaching staff this season, and will supervise the goalkeepers and assist with defense, plus recruiting and fitness off the field. He has previously been an assistant at USF, Wyoming, Fresno State and, most recently, Kansas.

Blokker played goalkeeper at the University of San Francisco from 1991-93. He earned his degree in international business. Earlier he had starred for Everett's Cascade High School. Blokker lives in Everett.



**Julie Cain**  
Assistant Coach

Julie Cain, a former Westmont College standout and coach, is the lone holdover on this year's coaching staff, having served as an assistant in 2002. Prior to last season, Cain was an assistant coach at Westmont during the 1996 season. That team finished 15-5-2, and ended the season ranked No. 1 in NAIA. Cain coached at Carpenteria High in California, and later developed the Zion Prep Urban Soccer Program in Seattle.

Cain played four seasons at Westmont (1992-95) and started at center midfielder, where she was named all-district. The team was among the top 20 for three years, finishing third in the nation in 1994.

A Shorewood High School graduate, Cain was a member of the Washington state ODP team from 1990-1991. She earned her bachelor's degree in economics and business from Westmont in 1996 and her master's in tax law from Golden Gate University in 2002. Cain coordinates the local chapter of America Scores, a national nonprofit bringing soccer and literacy to kids across the country. She and her husband, Andrew Cain, reside in Seattle.



**Steve Miller**  
Volunteer Assistant

Steve Miller is a volunteer assistant beginning this season. He has coached at Yakima's West Valley High School for 10 seasons, with seven boys and girls teams reaching the state semifinals over that time.

Miller is a practicing oral surgeon in Yakima. He and wife Shannon have six children, the youngest, Haley, now playing for Washington State.