

2009

'Cat Tracks

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Recommended Citation

Linfield Magazine Staff (2009) "'Cat Tracks," *Linfield Magazine*: Vol. 6: Iss. 2, Article 12.
Available at: http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield_magazine/vol6/iss2/12

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Dodging with Durham

Former players and friends of the late Hall of Fame Coach Paul Durham '36 gathered in McMinnville Sept. 12 for "Dodging with Durham One Last Time" to celebrate the life and work of the legendary coach. Following a luncheon in which the group shared stories and memories, they were introduced prior to the football game when the Wildcats defeated Hardin-Simmons. A few of those in attendance included, clockwise from bottom left, Ken Lester '67, Bob Lunt '52, Jim Ledbetter '51 members of the Linfield cheer squad, Jerry Dressel '65, Bill Dressel '62 and Shirley Lester.

Cole Bixenman '11

Sports: Football, baseball

Hometown: Federal Way, Wash.

Major: Finance, minoring in economics

Sports history: I started playing baseball when I was 4 and started playing football when I was in sixth grade. I enjoy the camaraderie and being part of a team.



Athletic achievements: Quarterback for football and catcher for baseball. All-NWC academic honors for football and baseball in 2007 and 2008. Second team all-West Region Catcher and second team all-NWC for baseball. In 2009, he was honored as the baseball team's MVP and was an *ESPN The Magazine* Academic District VIII Catcher honoree.

On Linfield football: There is so much tradition at Linfield. It's rare to see 130 guys doing the same thing, at the same time. It's so much fun to all have one goal and be part of a successful program. This year the motto is "Right now." Don't look ahead; look at the one practice, one game and one play.

On Linfield baseball: Coach (Scott) Brosius '02 is a great coach. We had success when we went to the World Series my freshman year, and ever since I've been determined to get back there.

Balancing athletics and academics: During the season, professors are always interested in how the sports teams are doing and coaches always put academics first. Everyone understands it's not just academics or sports; it's the whole atmosphere of your entire career here.

Favorite class: I have a wide range of business classes, from accounting to business law to financial management. I've had a broad array of classes and a good time in all of them.

Inspired by: My dad. When I was 3 years old I would go to his softball games and I'd always have my bat and glove, and he'd throw balls for me. He started me out and coached a few of my teams when I was younger. I really appreciate everything he's done and the opportunities he gave me.





Throwing out the pitch

Scott Brosius '02, Linfield baseball coach, threw out the ceremonial first pitch prior to Game 6 of the World Series, when the New York Yankees clinched the series win. Brosius, the 1998 World Series Most Valuable Player, played with the Yankees from 1998 until 2001, during which time New York won the World Series title three straight years from 1998-2000. In his first season as Wildcat baseball coach, Brosius guided the Wildcats to a school-record 35 wins, the Northwest Conference and West Region championships, and a berth in the NCAA Division III Finals. In two seasons, his career record stands at 66-25. Photo by Jason Szenes

Rutschman Stadium named in Hillsboro



The Hillsboro High School community paid tribute to Ad Rutschman '54, former Linfield College football and baseball coach and athletic director, by naming a stadium in his honor. The Ad Rutschman Baseball Stadium, part of the Hare Field Athletic Complex, was dedicated in July.

Prior to the ceremony, Rutschman served as the grand marshal for the Hillsboro Rotary's Fourth of July parade.

Rutschman graduated from HHS in 1950, and later coached football and baseball teams to state titles there before coming to Linfield in 1968. During a spectacular career, he coached Wildcat football teams for 24 years, baseball for 13 years and served as athletic director for 25 years. Rutschman was inducted into the halls of fame for NAIA, Oregon Sports, College Football and Linfield. He was also named Oregon's Slat's Gill man of the year five times.

Eight former Wildcats to be inducted into Hall of Fame

Eight former Linfield College athletes will be inducted into the Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame on Nov. 14 at the 12th annual AT&T Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet, following the Linfield-Pacific Lutheran football game. The Hall of Fame class of 2009 includes:

- Basketball great **Roger Baker '69** of Hood River, who led Linfield to the 1968 Northwest Conference title. Baker also competed internationally in the sport of team handball in the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games. He won gold medals in the Pan Am Games;
- Football and track & field standout **Doug Dean '89** of Beaverton, a member of two NAIA championship football teams and school record holder and sixth-place national finisher in track in the hammer;
- Four-year football starter **Bob Ferguson '65** of Vancouver, Wash., who earned NAIA All-America honors as a senior on the 1965 Champion Bowl team. His teams were 32-5-2 during his career. He went on to earn a Purple Heart during combat duty in the Vietnam War;
- Clackamas resident **Brad Gilbertson '83**, a four-year football letterman and NAIA All-America center as a member of Linfield's 1982 national championship team;
- The late **Pat Martindale '77**, an All-American and school record holder in the javelin in track. He also competed one season in football;
- NAIA national high jump champion **Kerrie O'Sullivan '98** of Sequim, Wash. The two-time NAIA All-American and one-time Academic All-American was Linfield's first individual national champion in track;
- Cornelius resident **Joe Salta '78**, a starter on four consecutive NWC championship teams who was voted an NAIA All-American and Linfield's best defensive player as a senior. His teams went 30-8 over the course of his career; and
- Ken Weinberg '92** of Portland, a school record holder and national runner-up in the decathlon. Weinberg set school records in the decathlon, javelin, pole vault and 4x100-meter relay. His shared school and conference record in the 4x100 relay still stands.

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