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'Cat Tracks

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'CAT TRACKS

Samantha Lau '12



Sport: Volleyball

Hometown: Kailua, Hawaii

Major: Business management and general science

Why Linfield: "It felt like home."

Favorite aspect of Linfield: "It's a small campus and teachers give you personal attention. You can get to know your professors. It's small, but at the same time you have a chance to meet new people every day."

Balancing sport and academics: "Staying organized is important. I keep to-do lists that help me stay on track."

Achievements: 2008 honorable mention for outside hitters; 2009 and 2010 first team NWC; 2009 Cosida All-Academic; 2011 All-Tournament at the Bulldog Classic tournament at Texas Lutheran University. "My favorite achievement is serving as team captain last season and this year."

Favorite memory: "Sophomore year we lost the first two sets to Pacific University. It was one of the toughest games of my career. We came back to win the last three sets and take the match. At the time I didn't think it was possible!"

Role model: "My parents because they brought me up and taught me to succeed both on and off the court. I learned to never give up. Without them, I couldn't handle as much as I do now."

Learned from college athletics: "How to keep a positive attitude even when times are tough. Everyone gets tired and stressed out, but I have learned to manage it in a way that betters the people around me. As a leader, I feel that is a very important quality to have."

Future plans: "To get my MBA in human resource management."

Hall of Fame honors athletes

Seven former athletes and a national runner-up volleyball team will be inducted into the Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame on Nov. 12, following the Linfield-Lewis & Clark football game. The Hall of Fame class of 2011 includes:

Steve Boyea '85, a two-time football All-American defensive tackle. He set the school record for tackles for loss. He was a member of two NAIA championship teams.

Dave Burdett '88, a member of the 1986 NAIA championship team and a 1987 All-American. He went on to sign a professional contract with the Seattle Seahawks.

Emily (Baker) Chadwick '98, a three-time All-Northwest Conference forward in soccer and a NAIA All-American in track and field. She was a NWC champion in the 1,500 and ranks second all-time at Linfield in the 800.

Robert Raffalo '65, a fouryear letterman in both baseball and swimming. He was the first swimmer selected to compete nationally and earned all-conference honors four straight seasons in baseball.

Lynn Reed '82, a two-sport standout who excelled in football at

linebacker and in track and field as a hurdler.

Fred von Appen '65, an All-American football player who also competed in track. He went on to be an assistant coach at 10 major colleges and four NFL teams.

Beth (Slaughter) Whittle '97, a two-time NWC most outstanding swimmer and NAIA national champion in the 200-yard backstroke. She set four school records and is a college swim coach

The 1981 volleyball team, the first women's team to compete in a national championship game.

Goss keeps game clock ticking

Timing is everything. Just ask Norm Goss '46 and '54. The die-hard sports fan has been running the time clock at Linfield football and basketball games since 1958. Though Goss, 87, retired from timing basketball games at the end of last season, he continues with football. He's part of a threeperson contingent to run the scoreboard – Goss controls the play clock, Dan Fleming '00 runs the game clock and Adriana Sleigh '02, Goss' granddaughter, operates the scoreboard.

Goss stays current on rule changes by reviewing them at the beginning of each season and meeting with officials before every game. More officials are on the field these days and, "The clock is running a lot more than it used to," said Goss, who also operated the time clock at McMinnville High School football and basketball games for many years.

The biggest change occurred a decade ago when National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations called for a play clock to measure the time between each play. The directive complicated time keeping since different offensive and defensive situations required different lengths of time on the clock.

One of the most critical games at the clock may have been the 1984 national championship game against Northwestern Iowa. Linfield was down 0-22 when Goss took over the timing role at halftime after Ezra Koch left for a wedding. Linfield ultimately won 32-22, a tremendous comeback.

"If Ez came back, I was staying on the clock," Goss recalled.

Goss, a retired optometrist, has been an avid sports fan all his life, and participated in intramural basketball and golf at Linfield. He and Phyllis (Cochrane) Martin '46, now his wife and a former Linfield professor, ran against each other for student body president. Goss



said he "squeaked out a win," but admits it was by default when Phyllis dropped from the race because of injuries to her late husband who was fighting in WWII.

Their Linfield ties run deep. Goss' parents, Cecil and Luella (Davids) Goss, both '19, along with Phyllis' family, more than a dozen brothers, sisters, cousins, children and grandchildren, have attended Linfield. "We have quite a collection of Linfield people in our background," he said.

– Laura Davis



Wiser drafted to major leagues

K.C. Wiser '11 was drafted by the Texas Rangers organization in the 50th round of the Major League Baseball Amateur Draft. The rugged right-hander is considered a longrange prospect after injuries during his four-year career at Linfield limited his total number of innings pitched.

Wiser made a name for himself in basketball as well, leading the NWC in scoring and rebounding while earning all-conference and all-region honors. He was also named an honorable mention basketball All-American by DIII News.com.

Wiser joins Kelson Brown '10 among former Linfield players who are active in professional baseball. Brown is currently playing his second season of pro baseball in the Pittsburgh Pirates organization. He is assigned to the Bradenton Marauders at the Class A-Advanced Florida State League.

Football teams inducted

Four national championship football teams, from 1982, 1984, 1986 and 2004, were welcomed into the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame in September. They joined previous Linfield inductees Ad Rutschman '54, Paul Durham '36, Roy Helser '36, Ted Wilson, Scott Brosius '88, Jack Riley '60 and the 1966 Wildcats baseball team. "One of the primary reasons for Linfield's sustained success is the continuity of the coaching staff," said Rutschman.

