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## 'Cat Tracks

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## Forget team rivalries

The Linfield football team rallied together for a fundraising effort in support of Puget Sound defensive back Corey Obungen (seated), who was paralyzed during a summer diving accident. A former high school teammate of Linfield quarterback Cole Bixenman '11, Obungen had just completed his first year at UPS when the accident occurred. The Linfield football team donated funds to the Corey Obungen Trust to help with medical costs, as well as his potential enrollment into Pushing Boundaries, a facility for people with spinal cord injuries.



## Abdelkaddar (Carter) Elhabbassi '11

Sport: Men's Soccer

Hometown: West Linn

Major: Business

Favorite aspect about Linfield:

"Going to a small school you become friends with a lot of people. I also like the atmosphere."



Most admires:

"My dad is my idol; he raised me since I was very little to play soccer. My mom and dad are the best examples, and my little brother has been a huge part of my life. I try and set a good example for him."

Favorite memory:

"The goal made during the pre-season game against Corban in overtime. The crowd came in, everyone slipped and made a dog pile. The team and all of the fans were happy. I will never forget that."

Future plans:

"I plan to try out for the Portland Timbers or travel and play in Morocco or Europe. Playing for Morocco in the World Cup would be my dream."

Learned from college athletics:

"Responsibility, whatever you do reflects back on Linfield. Make sure you handle yourself in the correct ways."

Advice for student athletes:

"Always strive to be your best, never settle for anything less and make sure you get it done in the classroom and on the playing field."

## Team concept extends to business world



From left, Ole, Eric and Hans Evenson

From the playing field to the factory, the Evenson brothers know what it takes to win.

The three Linfield College former football players – Ole '97, Eric '97 and Hans '00 – own and operate Old Trapper Smoked Meat Products based in Forest Grove.

All three excelled on the football field, racking up awards and honors. They had the rare opportunity to play together.

"It was a special feeling to be able to run onto the field with my brother," Eric said.

In the midst of their successes, the brothers also experienced tragedy at home. At age 55, their father, Dennis Evenson, unexpectedly passed away from heart failure in 1998. He left behind not only his family, but also a business, Old Trapper, which he founded in 1969. The three said it was an easy decision to take over the family business and working next to their mother, began a new era of ownership.

Today, each brother plays a vital role in the company. Ole is responsible for the meat operations, Eric handles the finances and Hans is the primary salesman.

"It's one of the cool things that parallel football," Hans said of their diverse responsibilities. "We played different positions (in football) and now we have different roles."

The importance of preparation is a football lesson that carried over into their business life.

"We were more prepared to go up against bigger and better players," Ole said of their training. "The preparation we had made it easy to be successful."

For Eric, the "culture of expecting to win" he experienced at Linfield carried over to his current business practices. "If you expect to do well, you're a large way there," he said.

Since taking over the company, the Evenson brothers have seen the family business expand 10-fold. This success has allowed them to add on to their factory in Forest Grove, which currently employs 60 workers. The new addition nearly doubled the size of their current facility.

– Katherine Brackmann

## Hall of fame inductees named

Six former athletes, a former coach, and a national runner-up football team will be inducted into the Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, Nov. 6, following the Linfield-Whitworth football game. The Hall of Fame class of 2010 includes:

**Paul Asher '90**, a four-year letterman in football and baseball and an all-conference performer in both sports. He set the Linfield stolen bases record and ranks sixth all-time in receiving yards and ninth in total receptions.

The late **Ken Cuther '76**, a first-team NAIA All-America offensive tackle in football and an extraordinary track athlete, recording the second-longest shot put mark in program history.

**Julie Morgan '84**, a two-time NWC all-star in basketball, who ranks second on the Linfield career scoring ladder with 1,192 points. She ranks among the top five in 11 other statistical categories.

**Randy Mueller '83**, most valuable player on Linfield's 1982 national championship team. Mueller, an all-conference and honorable mention All-America quarterback, rose through the ranks of professional football to hold general manager positions with three NFL teams.

The late **Gene Peterson '48**, Linfield's Outstanding Male Athlete in 1947 after leading the NWC in scoring in basketball. He went on to play four years of professional baseball with the Salem Senators.

**Jim Winston '83**, a member of three NWC championship teams, was a key member of the 1982 national championship club. A NAIA All-American as a senior, he ranks second in the Linfield record book for tackles for loss.

**Jay Locey**, former football coach who guided Linfield to the 2004 NCAA Division III national football title, won 84 games and six NWC titles in 10 years. He was also an assistant coach for 10 years, winning two more national titles in that span.

**The 1965 football team**, which reached the national championship game in Augusta, Ga.