

Summer 2010

Dear Diary: Yikes! I'm Graduating

Krista Foltz '10
Linfield College

Andrew Platon '10
Linfield College

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Dear Diary:

Yikes! I'm graduating

They've logged their last all-nighter and taken their final final, packed up their apartments and turned in their keys. And for the class of 2010, each "last" packed a poignant punch as seniors said goodbye to Linfield. Andrew Platon '10 and Krista Foltz '10 recorded the challenges and exhilaration of their final year at Linfield. Read complete journals at www.linfield.edu/seniorjournals.



Krista Foltz '10, with McMinnville High School math students, taught with Pam Canady '04 during spring semester. In addition to teaching, she tutored in an afterschool program and coached the long distance track team.

Krista Foltz '10

Tigard
Education major

Sept. 2 This is the year when I'm supposed to figure everything out and be excited about entering into the real world. Why is it then, that when I look at the scared and timid freshmen, I want nothing more than to be in their

shoes?...A partial theme of this year is going to be transitions/changes. This became evident to me at 8 a.m. when I walked into "my classroom" on my very first day of student teaching.

Sept. 8 I love seventh graders! This was my first week of student teaching with the kids actually in the classroom and I'm so excited for the semester. I have 26 students who are full

Krista's typical day - Fall semester

5:15 a.m.: Wake up. Just as the rowdy boys who live next door to me are going to bed, I'm hopping out of bed to teach the youth of today

6:45 a.m.: Arrive at Patton Middle School to prepare the day's lessons and grade papers

10:05 a.m.: Attend Linfield Abstract Algebra class

11:30 a.m.: Depending on the day, attend Teaching Math class or go to work study job in the Linfield Post Office

Afternoon: Office hours for Residence Life, tutoring, math homework and a run

9:30 p.m.: Bedtime

of energy and enthusiasm and love the idea of learning about math... I can't wait to actually start teaching lessons!

Sept. 14 This is a very stressful week because Fulbright applications are due Sept. 21! ... My Fulbright

proposal involves math education research at secondary schools in Chile. I'm in contact with a math professor at the University of Chile who is already conducting research in this field, and I'm hoping to join her team.

Sept. 21 I taught my first lesson at school. My teacher let me know 20 minutes before class that he thought I was ready and away I went. ...The next task that I have is to pick a work sample topic for mid-October. I'll be teaching for 10 consecutive days that will encompass an entire unit. It's basically like the Super Bowl of part-time student teaching.

Nov. 20 I've made it through a third of my senior year, and it still feels like the first week of school... Student teaching has been keeping me busy, because the honeymoon stage is definitely over! My darling students love to test me with interesting behavior issues. ... At the beginning of student teaching, I would have bet my entire life savings that I was born to teach high school, but now I'm starting to think that middle school is my niche.

Jan. 15 My final JanTerm was significantly different than any of my other ones. Instead of taking a class to fulfill a requirement, I am taking the brewing class because of a genuine interest in the subject. I am learning so much from Professor Brian Gilbert, and my Dad and I have a new hobby to enjoy.

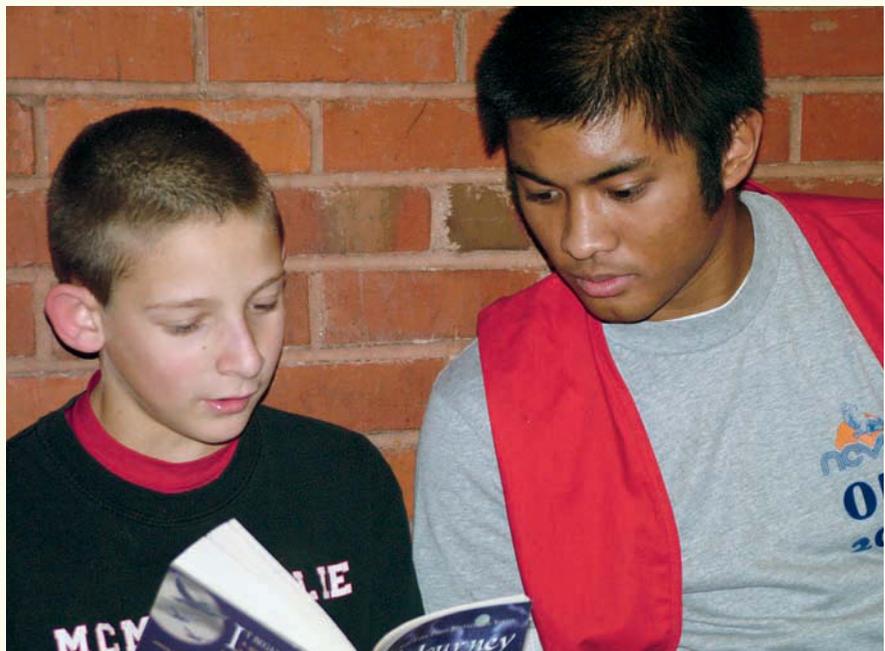
Feb. 11 I'm about to complete my first week of full-time student teaching. I will be teaching three sections of ninth grade geometry, two sections of Algebra II, and one section of Algebra I for 10-12th graders. ...I also found out that I made it to the next round for my Fulbright grant!

March 27 The Wildcat Windup was last week and I showed up rushed after teaching to Riley 201 and quickly made some decisions about announcements, envelopes, etc. etc. The thing that I was not prepared for was the feeling I

would have when the Jostens' employee handed me my cap and gown. It was a combination of nausea, excitement, panic and joy. It was nice to be able to look at the person next to me in line and have a quick "freak out moment" that involved some high pitched noises and jumping up and down. ... I just received some VERY exciting news: I was awarded my Fulbright grant to Chile!!!! I will be leaving in March 2011.

May 17 It does not feel like I'm graduating in less than two weeks. ...I'm

not nervous to say good-bye to everyone, because in a technological world like ours I'm only a webcam or mouse-click away from the people I love. When I cross the stage in the Oak Grove I will do so with tears of absolute joy in my eyes and a sense of accomplishment in my heart. I believe I made the most of my college experience and I don't have any "I really wish I had. ..." thoughts about the last four years. My memories at Linfield will travel with me throughout the rest of my life, and for that I'm eternally grateful. Go Wildcats!



In the midst of the fall accounting recruitment and job search, Andrew Platon '10 volunteered with the Kids on the Block afterschool program and served as treasurer for Circle K, a volunteer service club.

Andrew Platon '10
Sparks, Nev.
Accounting major

Sept. 22 As I move into my senior year of college, I can't thank my parents and brother enough for all they've done for me to be able to make it this far and become the person I am today. I am very grateful for Linfield and its many opportunities to become involved. Serving as treasurer for Circle K has provided me with valuable leadership and business skills. ... I want to make

the most of my final year in college by exploring everything there is to offer before starting a new chapter in life. ... It's daunting that I'm about to enter the so called "real world" in eight months. After almost two decades in school, it will be challenging to transition from school life to work life.

Oct. 27 The interesting thing about being an accounting major is that we go through the recruitment and job search process in the fall. I am in the middle of the job hunt and have done a few interviews. The hardest part is that it falls in

the middle of midterms. This requires me to study not only for midterms but also for interviews....The biggest disappointment of my senior year thus far is that I tore my anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in my right knee playing flag football. This devastating event has ended my intramural sports career at Linfield. I am looking forward to IM bowling on crutches though.

Nov. 8 I just completed accounting recruitment for full-time positions and received an offer from Geffen Mesher, a local accounting and business consulting firm. I will be starting in the summer or fall of 2010. It's really exciting!... I will be returning home to spend Thanksgiving with my family and friends in Sparks, Nev. ...My week will also include doctor appointments to prepare for ACL reconstruction surgery that will occur after finals.

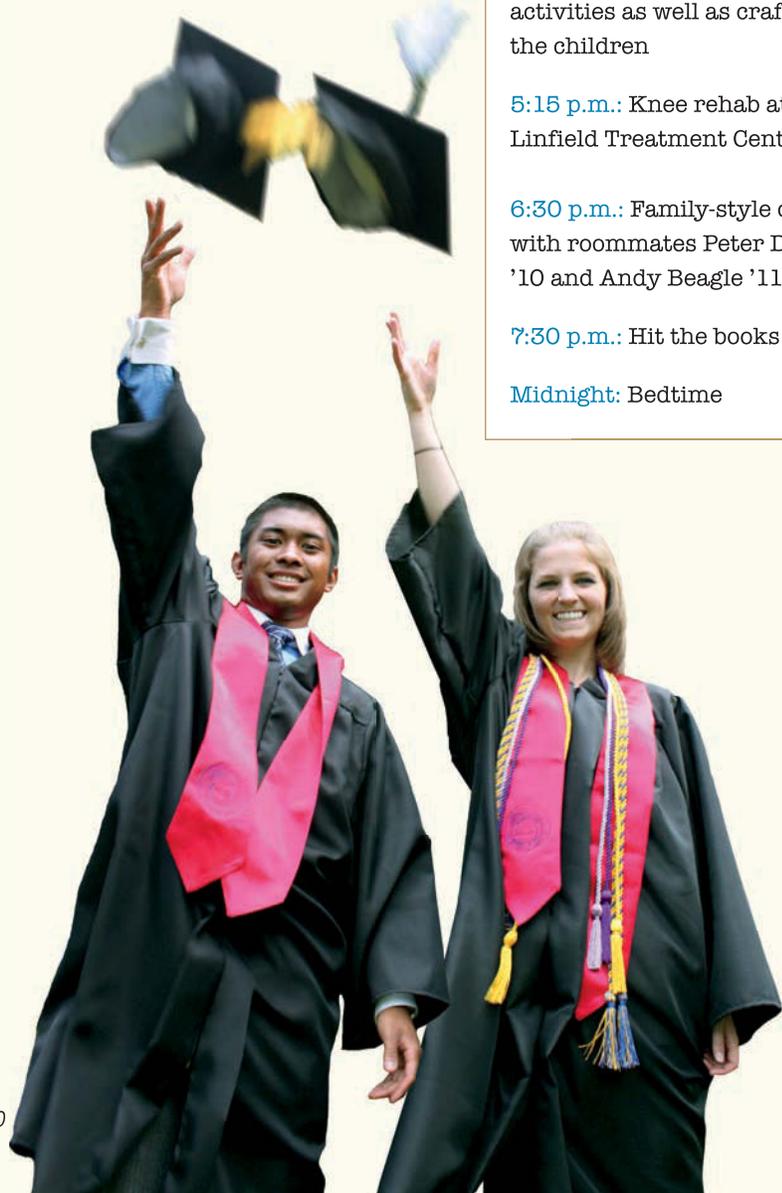
Jan. 20 I've been going to physical therapy to rehab my knee. My knee, for the most part, is doing much better, and I plan to spend a lot of my time this semester working on getting it back to full strength. I was also able to start an online class.

Feb. 12 I had no idea these past four years would fly by like they did. I'm going to miss all those late night study sessions in the library during finals week, staying up until the early morning hours in the middle of the week. I've been taking 18 credits a semester for the past two years, but since I did an internship this last summer, my credit load has decreased significantly. ... I'm not looking forward to saying goodbye. I'm ready to move on to the next chapter but I also want to make the most of my last few months of college.

March 29 Spring term has been less chaotic than I first thought. I'm really enjoying my two accounting classes, Federal Taxation and Advanced Accounting. I am also taking Soccer Coaching Theory, Mental Health, and

Yoga, which are all interesting. I played competitive soccer until I arrived at Linfield so getting back in the game from a different perspective is a lot of fun. Coaching is something I definitely think I could be doing in a couple of years.

May 10 As I enter this last month of college, one thing that comes to mind is how fast this whole experience flew by. It is incredible to think that I'm about to be a college graduate in the next few weeks. Knowing that I have a plan after graduation makes it somewhat difficult to stay focused but I keep reminding myself to finish strong. 🎓



Andrew's typical day – Fall semester

8 a.m.: Breakfast, quick glass of milk and a toasted bagel with cream cheese

9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: Attend class. I have three classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, two classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and one class on Fridays

2:30-5:15 p.m.: Recreational leader at Memorial Elementary School afterschool program. I help fifth graders with homework or read with them, and supervise playground and gym activities as well as crafts for the children

5:15 p.m.: Knee rehab at Linfield Treatment Center

6:30 p.m.: Family-style dinner with roommates Peter D'Abov '10 and Andy Beagle '11

7:30 p.m.: Hit the books

Midnight: Bedtime