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Cat tracks

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A new focus on mental health

Lindsay Kandra '99 knows firsthand the mental health challenges that face sports teams. The former track and field athlete was hired full time in October 2021 as a counselor in the university's Student Health, Wellness and Counseling Center and as the new mental health and sports performance liaison in the athletic department.

Kandra hopes to end stigmas around mental health by offering classes and workshops, as well as serving as a resource for Wildcat student-athletes. She hosted discussion groups for injured athletes and yoga classes during the fall semester and taught a four-week mindfulness for sport performance class during January Term.

Fall sports earn All-NWC recognition

More than two dozen Linfield student-athletes earned Northwest Conference honors this fall. Twenty-five Wildcats were named to their All-NWC teams, led by 22 from the football team. Laney Green '23, a forward on the women's soccer team; Seamus Miller '24, a forward/midfielder on the men's soccer team; and Raelynn Ham-

mock '23, a outside hitter on the volleyball team, all earned honorable mention for their respective sports.

In addition, football head coach Joseph Smith '92 was named the NWC Coach of the Year for the 11th time in his 15 years at the helm. Wyatt '22 and Joseph Smith are only the second father-son duo to be named NWC top award winners in the same season.



Three cross country athletes race at regionals

Three Linfield runners clocked top-60 finishes at the NCAA Division III Cross Country West Region Championships in Claremont, California, on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021.

Alex Oathout '25 represented the Linfield men, finishing in 60th place out of 170 student-athletes. He turned in a time of 26 minutes, 58.3 seconds on the 10-kilometer Pomona College Cross Country Course.

A dynamic duo for the Linfield women all season long, Jennifer Torres Bermudez '24 and Makayla Erickson '23 also turned in impressive performances in a field of 150 competitors. Torres Bermudez finished in 54th place with a time of 24:05.6 on the 6-kilometer women's course and Erickson wasn't far behind, placing 58th at 24:11.0.

Roggenbuck is Linfield's first D3Hoops.com Preseason All-American

Linfield men's basketball guard Dempsey Roggenbuck '21, '23 was selected to the D3hoops.com Preseason All-America fourth team in November 2021, making him the only Division III player on the West Coast to receive the honor. He is the first Wildcat to be named a D3Hoops.com Preseason All-American since the recognition began in 2010.

Roggenbuck was named a D3Hoops.com Third Team All-American following the Wildcats' shortened season in the spring of 2021. It was the first All-America honor for a Linfield basketball player since Mark Wickman '78 in 1978.

Roggenbuck led the Northwest Conference in scoring in the spring, averaging 29.7 points per game, a program record for a single season. He graduated from Linfield in May 2021 with a degree in business management and is using his extra year of eligibility to earn a master's degree in business.

Football finishes season in national quarterfinal matchup

The Wildcat football team ended its return-to-full-competition season in a Dec. 4, 2021, NCAA Division III quarterfinal game against the eventual national champions at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (Texas). Linfield finished as undefeated Northwest Conference champions (11-1 overall, 7-0 conference) and secured its 43rd NWC title. The 2021 season was Linfield's first perfect regular season record since 2015.



TIPPING OFF SEASON RIGHT: Dempsey Roggenbuck '21, '23 became the first Wildcat to be named a D3Hoops.com Preseason All-American in November 2021.

After missing the 2020 season because of pandemic restrictions, the Wildcats played their first game in nearly two years on Sept. 11, 2021, at Maxwell Field – a 56-20 win over NCAA Division II opponent Simon Fraser. They would go on to win the next 10 in a row, cementing a 65th consecutive winning season and winning Division III playoff games over the University of Redlands (California) and Saint John's University (Minnesota). The 'Cats finished the season ranked No. 5 in the d3football.com final poll.

The team kicks off its 2022 schedule Sept. 3 at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama.

Linfield begins competitive cheer program

For the first time in school history, the Linfield cheer and stunt team is competing against other colleges in Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) collegiate competitions.



The team started off its season with the virtual UCA College Game Day Kick-Off in November, placing first in the small coed division for sideline and timeout performances and third in the fight song category.

The team also traveled to Florida Jan. 14-16, 2022, for the UCA and UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship, where they placed ninth in the small coed game day division. They were the only cheer team from Oregon and the only Division III team on the competition floor.

Taking the team's show on the road is the next step in the team's evolution, said head coach Carissa Collins.

"The previous coach did a great job of raising the profile of the team in Oregon," Collins said. "Heading to a national competition is the next logical step in the team's legacy."

Competing team members were captains Sofia Nelson '22 and McKenna Mills '24, along with Abram Nelson '24, Ashlyn

McPherson '24, Brenna Mitchell '24, Grace Heimbigner '25, Jennifer Sandoval '23, Kylie Cecchini '23, Meadow Evenson '25, Taetum Lynn Kalani '25, Taylor Schneibel '24 and Kira Sneddon '22.

Collecting women's athletic stories at Linfield

2022 marks the 50th anniversary of the passing of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Though Title IX addresses equity of the sexes in many areas of education, it has had a huge impact on women and sport. Linfield University is using this milestone anniversary to gather better data and stories about women who participated in sports while at Linfield. If you were involved in women's sports during your time at Linfield, please scan the QR code to complete a short survey about your experience. For more details, contact the Office of University Advancement at alumni@linfield.edu.



Scan to complete the survey.

Linfield inks broadcast deal with KOIN

Just in time for the NCAA football playoffs in November, Linfield announced a new partnership with KOIN-TV and its sister station, Portland's CW, to televise select Wildcat athletic events through the 2022-23 academic year. The partnership kicked off with the first-round playoff game on Nov. 20, 2021, a 44-10 Linfield win over the University of Redlands. The television contract is Linfield's first and among the few nationally for a Division III school. Future broadcast events will be announced by the university and the station as they are scheduled.

Wyatt Smith named Gagliardi Trophy finalist

For the second time in his record-breaking Linfield career, quarterback Wyatt Smith '22 was named a finalist for the Gagliardi Trophy, the NCAA Division III equivalent to the Heisman Trophy.

This season, Smith broke the Linfield career record for touchdown passes that had been held by 2005 Gagliardi Trophy winner and current Linfield offensive coordinator Brett Elliott '05. Smith was named to the D3football.com All-America team and the Associated Press All-America second team and was designated as the Northwest Conference offensive player of the year. He ended his career at Linfield with program records for pass completions (854), pass attempts (1,258), passing yards (10,668) and passing touchdowns (111).

Sporting a 3.64 grade point average, Smith is a returning member of the Academic All-America Team named by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

The Streak's alive at 65

The legacy of Linfield football is one for the record books – and now, for the archives

By Matthew Hodges '06

With an October 16, 2021, win over Pacific University, Linfield football added another year to "The Streak," its all-divisions record for consecutive winning seasons in college football. After 65 years of unparalleled success, Linfield's football program has many stories to tell. The summer 2021 issue of Linfield Magazine shared some of them in the article, "Streaking into the History Books." More of those stories are now in the Linfield Archives as part of a project, "The Streak: The National Record that Continues," available for viewing at linfield.edu/thestreak. The collection includes 14

interviews with members of the 1956 team, as well as news articles, memorabilia, game programs and other documents. There are, however, more stories to tell. If you would like to share your stories or momentos with the Linfield Archives, contact Rich Schmidt, director of archives and resource sharing, at 503-883-2734 or rschmidt@linfield.edu.

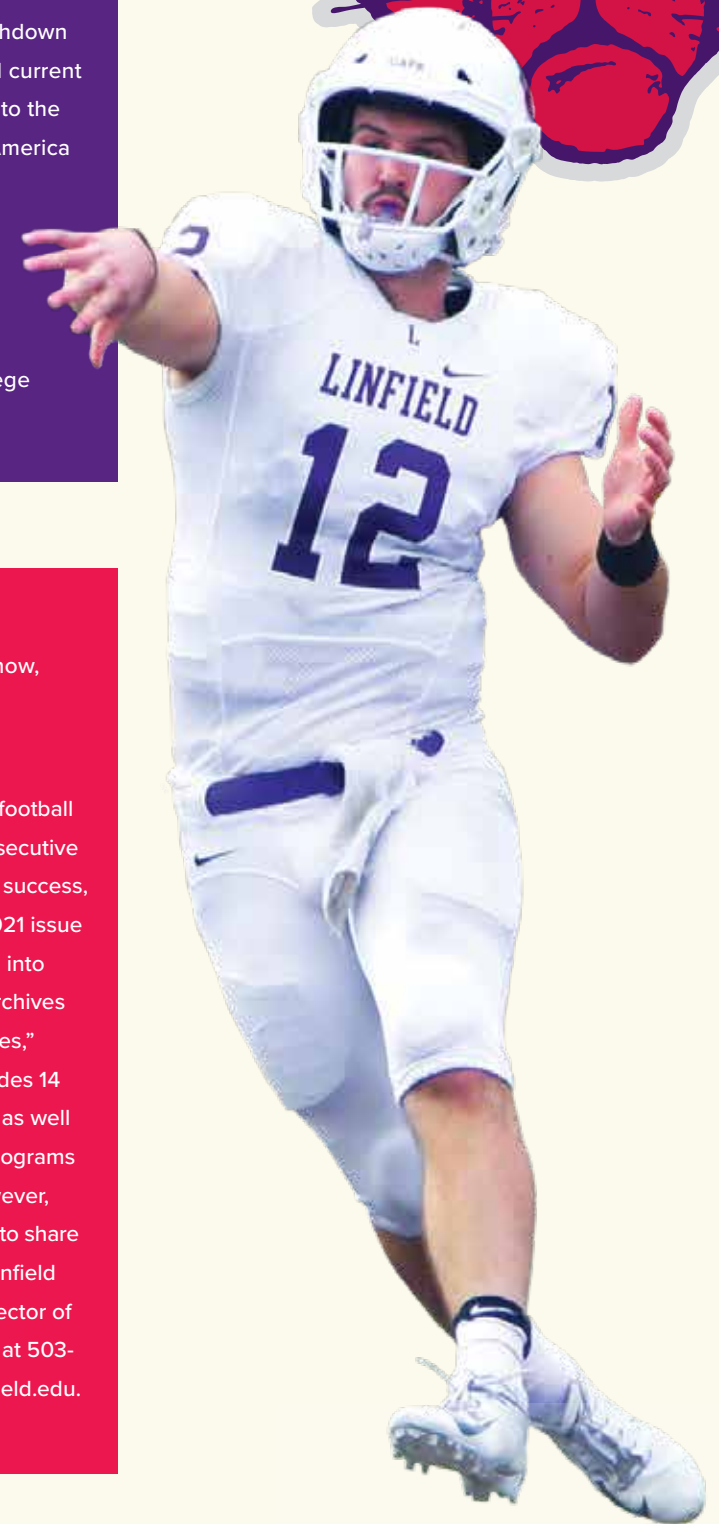


Photo by Kelly Bird