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'Cat Tracks

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Brown drafted by Pittsburgh

Linfield College baseball star Kelson Brown ’10 has been drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates organization in the 34th round of the Major League Baseball Draft. Brown is the first Linfield player in more than a decade selected in the amateur draft.

A first team ABCA All-America shortstop as a senior and West Region and Northwest Conference Player of the Year, Brown enjoyed one of the finest seasons statistically by a Linfield Wildcat in recent years. Leading the Wildcats to a school-record 37 wins, Brown hit a team-best .443 while setting club records for hits (89), doubles (27), RBIs (72) and total bases (147). He played and started all 50 games, setting yet another single-season benchmark.

Samantha Van Noy ’10

Sport: Softball, pitcher  
Hometown: Sherwood  
Major: Nursing  
Balancing act: Prioritizing is a big part of my schedule. School and nursing come first, then softball and work. Coaching is important to me – I am an assistant coach for the Hillsboro Thunder.

Life after Linfield: I want to nurse and coach. Both are passions I couldn’t imagine giving up. I hope to continue working in Silverton in the ER. I like the fast-paced element of the job.

Nursing support: First-year nurses rarely start in the ER, but my professors helped me achieve that aspiration. All my professors are so accommodating and helpful.

Advice? Do what you love. People said it would be difficult to balance the commute with school and softball practice, but I loved playing and I wasn’t ready to be done.

Portland Campus: At the nursing school, you mature quickly, because with the first class your patients’ lives are in your hands.

Lovell brothers place at nationals

Twin brothers Josh and Jeremy Lovell, both ’10, had strong showings at the NCAA Division III Track and Field Championships in May.

Josh, named NCAA All-American, placed second, coming within 35 points of winning his second straight men’s decathlon. He placed third in three decathlon events: 100-meter dash, high jump and pole vault.

Jeremy placed ninth in the decathlon, including a third-place finish in the 400-meter run and fifth in the long jump.
Softball, baseball teams among best in the nation

The Wildcat softball and baseball teams took top slots nationally, placing second and third respectively at NCAA Division III tournaments in May.

The softball team fought hard but fell just short of the national title, losing 5-4 to East Texas Baptist in Eau Claire, Wis. Rochelle Friend ’10, who played more than 160 games in a Linfield uniform, said losing her last college game was bittersweet, but she was thrilled to have advanced to the championship game. The Wildcats, 2007 national champions, have competed in the NCAA Finals three times in five seasons.

On the web: www.linfield.edu/sports
The baseball team fell 12-9 to SUNY-Cortland on Championship Tuesday, earning a third-place finish in Appleton, Wis. The Wildcats completed the winningest season in program history, winning more games (37) and NCAA playoff games (7) than any team on record while setting a bushel of individual and team records along the way. “Our goal wasn’t just to show up; our goal was to make some noise,” said Wildcats coach Scott Brosius ’88. “We hurt for the finish, but at the same time, we’re proud of what we accomplished.”