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'Cat Tracks

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Scott Brosius ’02 has been named Linfield College head baseball coach, succeeding Scott Carnahan ’73, who is completing his 24th and final season. Carnahan will continue as the college’s director of athletics.

Brosius will take over the program on July 1, having served on the coaching staff for six seasons.

Brosius began his professional career in the minor leagues in 1988 and spent a total of 11 seasons in the major leagues with Oakland and New York. He won three World Series titles with the Yankees in 1998, 1999 and 2000. Brosius was a Golden Glove award recipient, was named the Most Valuable Player of the 1998 World Series and played in the 1998 All-Star Game.

This will be Brosius’ first head coaching position. “Being a head coach is going to be a new role for me with some new challenges. But the great thing is, I’ve had a great role model and a great mentor,” Brosius said. “Carney has always kept baseball in proper perspective as it fits into the Linfield education. Hopefully, he will still be involved and I’ll be able to bounce some things off of him. I want to continue to learn from him.”

Players to honor Carnahan
Scott Carnahan ’73, who will retire as head baseball coach this year, will be honored on April 29 at the final home baseball game of the season. Watch for details on the web.

Kelly Copeland ’08 and James Holan ’07 belong to two different worlds. Copeland, a reporter for the Linfield Review, only attends football games to socialize with friends. Holan, a key member of the Linfield football team, only writes when he is required to.

But as interns for Kelly Bird, the Linfield sports information director, they shared many of the same experiences while writing profiles and sports stories. The greatest thing they learned was not to be afraid to ask even the most basic questions.

“Sometimes when I’m writing player profiles, I have to ask them to clarify certain things,” Copeland said. “I don’t watch a lot of sports voluntarily, so I had to ask a lot of questions.”

Even Holan, the sports fan, is faced with the same problem. “I wrote a feature piece on volleyball and that was really interesting because I don’t know very much about the sport, besides what I learned in gym class back in high school.”

This push outside her comfort zone was especially valuable for Copeland, who hopes to pursue a career in journalism. After years of writing straight news and feature stories, she knew that the versatility of sports would add a significant experience to her value as a writer.

“I’ve learned that I can have an interest in writing about something that I don’t necessarily have a direct interest in like sports, and still appreciate them and the people who play them,” she said.

Holan and Copeland, who are both mass communication majors, have also gained a greater appreciation for the field of sports media.

“When I thought of jobs in sports media all I really thought of was sports journalism, and it’s nice to see a lot of PR-type positions at even small schools like this,” Holan said. He was impressed by the time and energy that directors like Bird put into promoting their college sports teams to garner news coverage and spectator attendance.

Although Copeland and Holan’s role was to assist Bird in his daily tasks, they did more than just that.

“Kelly and James helped spotlight the positive experiences students who compete in athletics are enjoying at Linfield,” Bird said. “Their writing communicated less about sports and more about the interesting personalities of our student-athletes, beyond what the public sees on the field or court.”

– Kasey Richter ’09