2014

'Cat Tracks

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The grass is always greener at Maxwell Field

New artificial field turf, installed over the summer at Maxwell Field, has been put to good use this fall. The Linfield Wildcat football team began practicing in August and has hosted a number of home games on the new surface. Appreciation goes out to 206 donors who made gifts to the project. Watch how the turf project came together in this two-minute video at linfield.edu/linfield-news/turf.

Athletes, volunteer earn Hall of Fame nods

Seven athletes and a longtime alumni volunteer will be inducted into the Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame Saturday, Nov. 15, at the annual AT&T Hall of Fame banquet. The class of 2014 includes:

Steve Beguin ’63, All-America running back who ranks among the top 10 in five career statistical categories;
Bruce Lundquist ’78, four-year track and field letterman who continues to hold the school record in the 100-meter hurdles;
Tyler Matthews ’04, two-time All-America quarterback who set single-season and career passing records;
Chris McDonald ’04, four-year letter winner in men’s soccer who was a NSCAA All-American and NWC Player of the Year as a senior;
Jeff Owens ’79, All-America running back who set career scoring records and was a member of four NWC title-winning teams;
Two-sport star Dennis Schweitzer ’67, a member of a combined five NWC title-winning teams and an All-America defensive end on the Wildcats’ 1965 Champion Bowl team;
Doug Walker ’78, all-star offensive guard for the 1977 football team that set the school record for total offensive yards per game; and
Tom McFadden ’80, basketball scorekeeper for the last 25 seasons and football statistician for the last 19.

Durham honored during homecoming dedication

A monument to the late Paul Durham, renowned Linfield football coach and athletic director, was dedicated near the Health, Human Performance and Athletics building Oct. 18 during Homecoming weekend. The eight-foot bronze, created by Northwest sculptor Heather Greene of Söderberg Gallery and Studio, weighs about 750 pounds. Three granite markers, including a memorial to Durham and two honor rolls of donors, are at the base of the lighted memorial. Durham coached the Linfield football team from 1948-67 and served as athletic director from 1949-68. He is credited with starting Linfield’s 59-year-long winning football streak and was elected into 10 halls of fame — including the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame and NAIA Hall of Fame. Members of Durham’s family who attended were, from left, Cathy Durham Devine ’69, Terry Durham ’67, granddaughter Jacey Tufts, Rahim Tufts and Kellan Tufts. The project was spearheaded by Team Durham including Pete Dengenis ’64 and ’68, Bob and Nancy (Steinbach) Haack both ’69, Tim Marsh ’70, Bob Ferguson ’66, George Murdock ’66 and Ray Olson ’54.
Alumna qualifies for Olympic trials

Marci (Klimek) Gage ’10 of Bend set a personal record and qualified for the 2016 Olympic marathon trials at Grandma’s Marathon in Duluth, Minn. Gage was timed in 2 hours, 35 minutes, 38 seconds. She was fifth among 2,714 women. Gage, who lives in Bend, is the four-time reigning Pear Blossom Run women’s champion.

Marisa Kume ’17
Sport: Tennis
Hometown: Nagoya, Japan
Major: Exercise science

How long have you played tennis?
“I was born and raised in Japan, and started playing tennis when I was 9. I decided to go to high school in the U.S. because my dad and brother had studied abroad and I loved hearing about all of their stories about living in the U.S.”

Why Linfield?
“I chose to go to Linfield because it had a major I was interested in and I wanted to play sports. Being on the Linfield tennis team has definitely changed my perspective on tennis. I used to think that tennis was a lonely sport because I usually play only singles matches. However, I realized that tennis is also a team sport, and having my Linfield teammates watch me while I play a match can be motivating and make me feel supported.”

How has tennis influenced you?
“The most rewarding part is that I get to know more people through the sport. I was not able to speak English well five years ago, but playing tennis helped me improve my communication skills and make friends.”

Future Plans
“For now, my plan is to graduate in three years and go to grad school for physical therapy. I will continue playing tennis no matter what because I love it. I love being on the court, and if I could, I would play tennis all day, every day.”