Wildcat champions on and off the field

When I first announced to my family that I had been appointed president of Linfield College, my Minnesota nephew immediately exclaimed, “Hey, they’ve got a great football team!” My nephew attends St. John’s, a college that has faced Linfield on the gridiron in the past.

This year one of my Midwestern colleagues, Paul Adanian, served as our interim CFO. Paul has taken to referring to Linfield as “the Notre Dame of NCAA Division III.” Paul is talking about more than football when he makes his quip: Notre Dame is one of America’s strongest academic institutions.

It is true: Linfield has a great tradition in football, we possess the most consecutive winning seasons in history. And this year we set a new mark at the college, when our softball players won the first national championship title in Linfield’s history.

But like Notre Dame, we possess other great traditions as well. Not only do we excel in athletics, we excel in academics.

When Tim Benzel ’06 was a senior at Evergreen High School in Vancouver, Wash., he made two lists. The first ranked small college football programs; the second rated colleges by academic excellence. Tim found the lists intersecting at Linfield College, where he eventually became our starting quarterback and graduated last December with a 3.56 GPA, majoring in economics and finance. Tim has just become an analyst with Lehman Brothers in New York City.

Another example is tennis player Becca Johnson ’07, the first Linfield athlete to be named NCAA West Region Senior of the Year. In addition to a host of athletic honors, Becca majored in both physics and mathematics and graduated with a 3.78 GPA. After graduation she plans to attend chiropractic or medical school. Becca Johnson is a true measure of our achievement. I contend that Benzel, Johnson, Smith and Mills and all the others are champions because they have their priorities in order – because they decided to attend an academically excellent college.

Tim has enabled them to find their calling and pursue their passions – on the playing field, in the studio, on the stage and in the classroom.

– Thomas L. Hellie

Inside Linfield Magazine

Champions. Whether it’s on the field, in the classroom, in a clinic or around the world, Linfield students, faculty and alumni are champions. In this issue we explore many kinds of winners. We take a close look at the Linfield/Good Samaritan School of Nursing, which combines the liberal arts with hands-on clinical practice to educate some of the top nurses in the region. Their reach is also being felt in places such as Cameron, where students worked with an alumna in January. We salute the Wildcat softball team for their national title, the first for any Linfield women’s team. Read on for the work by a linfield professor who aids the devastated Gulf Coast. We also take a look at service by a Linfield student in the local community and research by an alumna at the bottom of the world. As we prepare for Linfield’s sesquicentennial next year, we will continue to bring you stories, both past and present, of linfield champions.

– Mardi Mileham

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22 National champions

The Wildcat softball team used grit, determination and talent to take the NCAA national championship, the first women’s team title in Linfield’s history.
Fulbright scholars plan for study abroad

Three Linfield College graduates will study or teach abroad next year. From left, Jason Tashea ’07 received an Austrian government teaching assistantship awarded by the Austrian Ministry of Education; Julia Back ’07 earned a Fulbright award to study for a master’s in Innsbruck, Austria; and Ryan Jones ’07 earned a Fulbright award to study and teach in Innsbruck, Austria. Linfield has produced 15 Fulbright winners since 1999 and was named a top producer of Fulbright scholars plan for study abroad for bachelor’s institutions in the Chronicle of Higher Education last fall.

Key executive appointments announced

Three individuals will take on senior administrative positions at Linfield

W. Glenn Ford has been named vice president for finance and administration. He replaces Carl Vanc, who served in the position for 10 years. Ford’s responsibilities will include overseeing the financial management of all components of the college, including the McMinnville Campus, the Portland Campus and the Division of Continuing Education. Before coming to Linfield, Ford was vice president for business and finance and chief financial officer at Utah State University. He has a bachelor’s degree in forest products (business management option) and a master of business administration from the University of Idaho.

Bonnie L. Saucier has been named dean of the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing in Portland, replacing Bev Epener of CSU ’68, who served as interim dean for the past three years. Saucier has had a distinguished career as a faculty member and an administrator, most recently serving as professor of nursing and former dean of the Indiana State University College of Nursing. She has worked in many regions of the country and has worked with a variety of programs and schools in Europe and Asia. She holds a bachelor’s from Stephens College, a master’s in education from the University of Missouri, a master’s in science from the University of Missouri at Kansas City and a Ph.D. in nursing theory and research from Texas Woman’s University.

Fred Ross, professor emeritus of education, has been named senior advisor and assistant to the president. He retired from the faculty in June after teaching for 24 years. He will represent the president’s office at meetings and events, coordinate interactions with college trustees, manage inquiries and correspondence directed to the president and lead initiatives launched by President Thomas L. Hellie. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Yale University, and both a master’s and a doctor of education from Stanford University. (See related story on page 14.)

Hellie inaugurated as Linfield’s 19th president

The rhythmic beat of Taiko Drums and the colorful flags of 22 countries set the stage for the inauguration ceremony of Thomas L. Hellie as the 19th president of Linfield College on March 2.

Amid the celebration of the college’s tradition of excellence, Linfield students, faculty, alumni and friends were reminded that excellence requires vigilance.

“By all measures, whether on the athletic field or in the classroom, on stage or in the laboratory; in the concert hall or in the hospital ward, we have competed well and attained excellence at Linfield College,” Hellie said during his inaugural address.

“However, excellence is always a goal, never completely achieved,” he added. “One can never be complacent or relax. You always have to work harder or you’re going to fall behind.”

And excellence cannot be defined only by grade point averages or SAT scores, he said.

“I am talking about a passion for learning,” Hellie told the more than 700 people who attended his inauguration. “We will recruit faculty and students who are passionate. Passionate about service, education, citizenship and the world.”

He works with more than 60 colleges and universities around the world, four former Linfield presidents and more than 150 faculty and staff participated in the installation ceremony marked by pageantry and tradition. Hellie accepted the charges made to him by representatives from students, alumni, faculty, community members and the American Baptist Churches.

His formal installation was the culmination of a week-long series of events under the theme “Educating Global Citizens.” Activities included panel discussions by leading authorities on global health and global warming and for other Linfield Fulbright scholars discussing their experiences working and studying abroad. In addition, Josef Jarab, an academic leader and politician from the Czech Republic, presented a lecture on preparing students for a global arena and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tracy Kidder discussed his book Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World. International life at Linfield was celebrated with an Asian music concert and an evening of entertainment and performances by international students.

Even as Hellie reminded those present that much work lay ahead to keep Linfield one of the top colleges in the region, he said that Linfield’s rich traditions will remain central to the college.

“At Linfield we will continue to connect learning, life and community,” Hellie said. “We will do it by focusing on the liberal arts, by integrating professional programs, by linking theory with experience, and by serving and studying in our local community. These ideas are not new to Linfield—you were committed to them long before I arrived. But I can promise that I will do my best to embrace, defend and champion them.”

—Mardi Mileham

For complete inauguration coverage go to:
www.linfield.edu/president/address.php
For stories on inauguration speakers:
www.linfield.edu/president/address.php?id=798
Global health:
www.linfield.edu/president/address.php?id=799
Linfield Fulbright winners:
www.linfield.edu/president/address.php?id=800
Tracy Kidder:
www.linfield.edu/president/address.php?id=801
Carole Delaunay ’08 listens intently through her stethoscope as she checks the blood pressure of an older woman in a brightly colored scarf. When she’s finished, Delaunay turns and reports the results to an interpreter who in turn translates the information to the patient.

Delaunay, Jennifer Nen ’08 and Ashley Barram ’09 are surrounded by Vietnamese and Russian immigrants at the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) in east Portland. Each Tuesday they spend at least three hours there, checking blood pressures, updating records and making referrals for about 50 patients. The students are honing their nursing skills, while learning about the challenges of communicating through language and cultural barriers.

In the three semesters since the nursing clinical was established at IRCO, students from the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing (LGSSN) have been merging social services and health care, said Sherry Archer, an assistant professor of nursing who teaches community health.

“The goal of the program is to help get the clients into the health-care system,” she said. “Each client carries a card with the name of their clinic in English and Vietnamese or Russian. Students often make referrals or call the doctor if a patient’s blood pressure spikes or they have other health needs.”

IRCO is a cacophony of sounds and different languages. Some people chat, some exercise, some pray and others sing in their native languages in the activity center. When clients meet with the students, they often are accompanied by husbands, wives or friends, each wanting to be a part of the process.

Nen said the biggest challenge is trying to communicate the information through an interpreter. But it’s a lesson that will serve her well.

The Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing combines the liberal arts with a community health focus to educate the next generation of nurses.
“Because of the diversity of America, I am going to be working with translators throughout my career,” she said. “This is really good practice.”

IRCO is just one of dozens of sites where Linfield nursing students complete nearly 1,000 hours of clinical practice in addition to their nursing, science and humanities course requirements. Ask any nursing student and they will tell you that the LGSSN nursing curriculum is grueling.

Nursing education has changed dramatically in the 117 years since Emily Loveridge founded the Northwest’s first nursing school. Even 25 years after Linfield merged with Good Samaritan School of Nursing to establish a nursing baccalaureate program, the challenges nurses and educators face are vastly different.

Although diseases such as typhoid fever, malaria, tuberculosis and diphtheria are no longer prevalent in the United States, many people are living longer with chronic diseases such as cancer, diabetes and HIV/AIDS. Changing demographics and an aging population require that today’s nurses be culturally competent to better serve a more diverse society.

Nurses must navigate an increasingly complex health-care system and learn rapidly changing technologies. Faculty ranks in the fall, said nurses must possess sharp critical thinking skills, show compassion and demonstrate a commitment to the profession.

“They need to be prepared to practice the things we can’t even envision.”

— Beverly Epeneter

Diversity on the Portland Campus is defined broadly. Students today are from different racial, cultural, educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. There are more men, as well as more gray hair. The changing face of nursing is reflected through students such as these:

Richard Ojeda ’07, a music major who has toured the country supporting nursing because of his interest in alternative healing and the opportunity in this profession.

Catherine Rutledge-Gorman ’07, a married mother of two with a master of.divinity degree.

Michele Gibson ’08, a single parent, began working on her nursing degree several years ago and has attended several schools, including spending a year on the McMinnville Campus.

Lucas Aracuerda ’07, a Brazilian who completed a bachelor’s degree in health care administration at Lewis & Clark College, enrolled in nursing school after working as a certified nursing assistant.

Although Linfield had focused on increasing the diversity of its student body for a decade, those efforts kicked into high gear in 2004 with a three-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to boost the number of Hispanic students.

Since then, the number of Latinos at LGSSN has tripled, from nine in 2004 to 28, or 8 percent of the student body.

“Linfield’s leadership in the recruitment and retention of Latinos mean there is a greater need for nurses to serve and understand the Latino, African American, Asian and Eastern European communities. Coupled with that is the need for all nurses, regardless of background, to understand how different cultures approach health care.”

Nurses need to be able to engage with and understand the complexities of different cultures, races, religions, genders and physical and mental abilities and how those can affect a patient’s care,” Epeneter said.

LGSSN has taken the lead in Oregon in developing successful recruitment and retention efforts for students of color.

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Stacy Griffin ’08 enrolled at the nursing school right out of high school and will spend fall semester in an internship at the Walt Disney World College Program in Florida.

Annette "Nad" Guy ’07, the married mother of four, left a career in the insurance industry to pursue her dream of being a nurse.

Megan Rodgers ’07 committed to McMinnville for four years to compete on the award-winning Linfield tennis team while pursuing her nursing degree.

Joe Romero ’07, a member of the ‘04 national championship football team, realized nursing was a viable profession after making a male nurse while working on a forest fire crew.

The liberal arts component, coupled with an emphasis on community health, gives Linfield nursing graduates an edge by honing their critical thinking and communication skills.

“Students today are from different educational and socio-economic backgrounds. They need to be prepared to confront issues as they arise and develop solutions as they appear.”

— Beverly Epeneter

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We’ve been successful in our recruitment and retention of Latinos,” Murillo said. “But we need to extend these strategies to others who are also under-represented — Black, Native American, Asian and Eastern European students. The goal is to mirror the changing needs of the community.”
Enrollment
- Nursing: 351
  - Traditional: 267
  - Accelerated: 80
  - RN to BSN: 4
- Health Science: 21
  - Total: 372

Faculty
- Nursing: 21
- Science: 7
- Humanities: 3
  - Total: 31

Student Profile
- Gender: Female 87%, Male 13%
- Age: 18-21 25%, 22-29 38%, 30 and over 37%
- Average GPA: 3.64
- Ethnicity: White 79%, Hispanic 6%, Asian 6%, Unknown 9%

Pass Rate
- NCLEX licensing exam: 2001-02: 81%, 2005-06: 93%

Ricardo Ojeda ’07, left, Heather Fruhling ’08, Chris Nowatzki ’07 and Shany Archer, professor of nursing, were among 18 students and faculty who participated in the Heath Care Action Day at the state Capitol in Salem in April. The event included a rally and meetings with legislators and their aids. The daylong event was part of a community health nursing course and gave students an inside look at legislative action and lobbying.

Ojeda said his nursing education has made him look at his own humanity in a way he had not previously.

"It’s a kind of a crash course in compassion, and it’s making me continuously redefine myself," he said. "It’s an opportunity to make some kind of difference at a point in someone’s life when it is most needed. If it were me, I would want a well-educated, compassionate nurse there. I want to be that kind of nurse.”

— Mardi Mileham

Diversity is not limited to ethnicity and is broadly defined on the Portland Campus. Students today are from different racial, cultural, educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. Others have one or more degrees. Still others are traditional age and may also want a taste of a traditional college campus.

Moving toward diversity and greater cultural awareness and competency presents challenges not only to students, but also to faculty and staff. But those same differences—in age, education, race and culture—add richness to the classes.

"The life experiences of the older students bring so much to our nursing classes," Stacy Griffin ’08 said. "Those of us who are traditional age don’t have that much experience, so we learn by listening to their stories. They bring in ideas we would have never thought of.”

And the younger students bring enthusiasm to the classes.

"These 20-year-olds are great," Catherine Rutledge-Gorman ’07 said. "They are optimistic, idealistic and have boundless energy. I learn a lot from them and it’s been more of a plus for me than I ever thought.”

But that same diversity requires flexibility.

"As we get different students we have to customize our services and our teaching methods to make sure they are successful," Murillo said. "That’s an ever-changing learning process.”

Each student has a different story and career aspiration. Some will go into international nursing, spending much of their careers abroad. Others will specialize in surgical nursing, pediatrics, oncology or mental health, or work in hospitals, clinics or nursing homes. Still others will pursue advanced degrees and may eventually return to the classroom to teach the next generation of nurses.

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A variety of work groups, representing nursing schools and health care agencies and organizations in the state, were formed at the summit and are still meeting to address the issues, Campbell said.

Other courses also emphasize cultural competency.

January Term classes on health care in Africa, Southeast Asia, Mexico, China and India help students gain cultural awareness. Clinicals reach into Portland’s various ethnic communities at sites such as IRCO and the Virginia Garcia Clinic in Hillsboro.

"Linfield is the leader in the area of diversity,” she said. “The grant they received to increase the number of Hispanic nursing students in their program led to a statewide summit to discuss who is addressing the issue and how we can work together. What Linfield has learned about recruiting and retaining more diverse students will work for the rest of the schools and we won’t have to reinvent the wheel.”

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Jean Lucas ’08 demonstrates the proper way to brush teeth to a group of kindergarten students at Aloha-Huber School. Lucas and other nursing students teach health and dental hygiene and conduct vision clinics at the school under the watchful eyes of Kim Bartholomew ’95 and ’96, school nurse in the Beaverton School District, and Annette Christiansen ’05, a clinical instructor.

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Helping the world’s poor

Jake Crevistan ’08 lets a Cameroon boy listen to his heartbeat during a health screening. Linfield students conducted health screenings, delivered babies, and treated typhoid and many other diseases during a January Term class in Cameroon, working with a health organization run by Ruth (Musunu) Titi Manyaka ’69.

What began as a health screening project for orphans ended with eye-opening lessons on the struggles facing some of the world’s most vulnerable people.

Fourteen Linfield College students spent January Term in Cameroon, conducting health screenings and much more for Women, Environment and Health (WEH), a non-governmental organization devoted to serving the needs of women, orphans and vulnerable children. It was founded in 1999 by Ruth (Musunu) Titi Manyaka ’69, who invited the Linfield students to help with the program. (See related story on page 20.)

Although the class was rewarding and challenging, it was also emotionally and physically draining. Students saw poverty and disease in ways they had never before experienced.

The majority of the students were nursing or health science majors from the Portland Campus, although a few were from McMinnville.

The students conducted assessments on orphaned and vulnerable children in the local villages, taking temperatures, blood pressures and pulse and heart rates, and documenting the villagers’ vaccinations, diet and use of mosquito nets. The assessments established a database for WEH to track the health of the local children.

But the students’ experiences went far beyond that.

“We delivered babies, treated typhoid, saw gangrene and malaria,” said Joe Romero ’07. They also observed or helped with emergency surgeries, set a broken arm and gave away over-the-counter medicines they carried to Cameroon in their luggage. In many cases, they used their own money to help those who were the sickest.

Hollee Sauley-Rohman ’08 spent part of the class in a hospital shadowing the staff and helping take care of patients. She observed surgeries and births in conditions that would be considered unsanitary here.

“They do a great job with what they have, which isn’t much,” she said. “We saw so much happiness in some horrible conditions, that it made me re-evaluate my life and made me wonder if I value material things too much.”

Communicating was a challenge. French is the dominant language, so Linfield students were teamed up with students from a Cameroon nursing school to assist with translations.

As word spread that the students were there, many from surrounding villages came each day, seeking treatment. In many cases, the students had little to offer but their kindness and ability to listen.

Six months after she returned, Michelle Gibson ’08, is still haunted by the face of one severely deformed child, desperate for medical attention. She continues searching for an organization willing to help. When an HIV-positive woman shared with Gibson, the mother of three children, her desire to have another child, Gibson realized she could not apply her Western values in meeting the needs of her patient.

“That’s when I realized that the patient is the most important thing,” she said. “In nursing, I am going to come across many people who, for reasons based on religion or culture or society or economics, may choose a different path than I. I didn’t realize how much I really do embrace that until I met that woman.”

Jake Crevistan ’08 said the experience crystallized for him how closely education and health care are linked and how one can’t really exist effectively without the other.

“I learned how to dig deeper and question how our actions actually affect another culture, another people,” he said. “I think there is a fine balance between the two.”

The students came face-to-face with a culture that was very different from their own, said David Groff, one of the course professors and director of the Portland Campus.

“They were faced with how differently some people live and the kinds of chances that they have,” he said. “They related really well to the children and they showed a high degree of professionalism and care for the children and their patients.”

– Mandi Milesen

Digging into disaster relief

In 2005, millions of people watched from afar as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita turned the world upside down for Gulf Coast residents.

Rob Gardner, assistant professor of sociology who is studying grassroots responses to disasters, has traveled to Louisiana three times since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck the Gulf Coast in 2005.

In 2005, millions of people watched from afar as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita turned the world upside down for Gulf Coast residents. Rob Gardner, Linfield College assistant professor of sociology, watched as well, with the eye of a social scientist. Then he traveled to Arabi, La., in January 2006 – the first of three trips – to study grassroots community involvement following large natural disasters.

“There was utter devastation,” he said. “Large items had been picked up and dropped randomly across the landscape. You could drive for three hours and still pass homes that were flooded and completely destroyed by the floodwaters and the levy breaches. It was surreal.”

Gardner spent the month living and volunteering in a relief center, the Made with Love Café, sponsored by the Natural Hazards Research and Defense Laboratory.

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In 2005, millions of people watched from afar as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita turned the world upside down for Gulf Coast residents.

Rob Gardner, Linfield College assistant professor of sociology, watched as well, with the eye of a social scientist. Then he traveled to Arabi, La., in January 2006 – the first of three trips – to study grassroots community involvement following large natural disasters.

“There was utter devastation,” he said. “Large items had been picked up and dropped randomly across the landscape. You could drive for three hours and still pass homes that were flooded and completely destroyed by the floodwaters and the levy breaches. It was surreal.”

Gardner spent the month living and volunteering in a relief center, the Made with Love Café, sponsored by the Natural Hazards Research and Defense Laboratory.

As word spread that the students were there, many from surrounding villages came each day, seeking treatment. In many cases, the students had little to offer but their kindness and ability to listen.

Six months after she returned, Michelle Gibson ’08, is still haunted by the face of one severely deformed child, desperate for medical attention. She continues searching for an organization willing to help. When an HIV-positive woman shared with Gibson, the mother of three children, her desire to have another child, Gibson realized she could not apply her Western values in meeting the needs of her patient.

“That’s when I realized that the patient is the most important thing,” she said. “In nursing, I am going to come across many people who, for reasons based on religion or culture or society or economics, may choose a different path than I. I didn’t realize how much I really do embrace that until I met that woman.”

Jake Crevistan ’08 said the experience crystallized for him how closely education and health care are linked and how one can’t really exist effectively without the other.

“I learned how to dig deeper and question how our actions actually affect another culture, another people,” he said. “I think there is a fine balance between the two.”

The students came face-to-face with a culture that was very different from their own, said David Groff, one of the course professors and director of the Portland Campus.

“They were faced with how differently some people live and the kinds of chances that they have,” he said. “They related really well to the children and they showed a high degree of professionalism and care for the children and their patients.”

– Mandi Milesen
Linfield professors to retire this summer

They arrived on campus before computers, email and cell phones. Much has changed since Joel Marrant, Barbara Drake and Fred Ross joined the Linfield College faculty nearly three decades ago. Here they provide a glimpse back at their tenures and ahead to their futures as Linfield retirees.

Joel Marrant, professor of anthropology since 1978

Good moment: Getting back from my 2007 Jan Term journey knowing that all 181 who had gone out with me over the years had come back alive.

Bad moment: Discovering students dumped five pounds of sugar into my old Plymouth’s crankcase the evening after I delivered my first lecture on evolution.

Favorite campus hangout: In the oaks, and the Catalyst when it was the social heart of the college.

Favorite course: Folklore and Mythology. It has allowed me to roam free and play with important stuff, and keep tabs on what’s in students’ heads and hearts.

What I will miss: I’m taking all the important things with me. Loves and friendships travel well all the way to the 19th hole.

What I won’t miss: The insanities that plague all modern institutions. And people who take themselves way too seriously.

Changes in teaching and students: An unsettled and disorganized idealism still lies at the core. I’ve gotten better at getting out of the way, but most students have grown ever more anxious and timid about what to do with the freedom.

Title of final public lecture, if invited to give my own eulogy: “Curious mind; Pretty good heart; Flawed technique”

Retirement reading list: I’d love to get back to reading novels and poetry.

Retirement plans/travel: Archaeology at the Salmon River Estuary and Mt. Rainier; working with communities at the Trappist Abbey and Romania; exploring more of Ireland; grandparenting and golfing. Slowing down to enjoy each moment.

Barbara Drake, professor of English since 1983

Most memorable moment: Being hired. I had a good job at Michigan State, but I wanted to move back west and this job seemed to be in the perfect place. It still seems like it.

Learned from students and colleagues: What you can accomplish in a smart, supportive work group. From students I’ve learned that education definitely does take place — by the time they graduate, enormous changes have gone on, all to the good.

Favorite course: My American Expatriate Writers in Europe January Term class. Colleagues are amazed that I get to live that dream and take students with me.

What I will miss: Having students on whom I can try out new ideas for teaching and learning.

What I won’t miss: The semi-annual renewal, which accompanies meeting new students and starting courses over again.

Changes in teaching and students: An unsettled and disorganized idealism still lies at the core. I’ve gotten better at getting out of the way, but most students have grown ever more anxious and timid about what to do with the freedom.

Title of final public lecture, if invited to give one: “How to Live the Good Life Through Books” or “Would Hemingway and Stein have sent Text Messages if They’d Had Cell Phones in the 1920s?”

Retirement reading list: I downloaded a list of popular novels that take place in Italy. When I can’t be in Europe, I enjoy reading fiction that takes place there.

Retirement plans/travel: I plan to continue writing, publishing and giving readings from my work. I have a couple of book manuscripts in progress.

Fred Ross, professor of education since 1983

Favorite campus hangouts: After Potter Hall, the weight room, pool and HHBA multipurpose room for yoga.

Biggest change: In the technology of teaching. We no longer use ditto machines, blue mimeograph paper and reel-to-reel film projectors.

What I won’t miss: Getting blue fingers from preparing those mimeos! Grading all of those papers.

Most memorable moment: When the Education Department moved from Cook Hall into Potter Hall in 1989. The change provided more space and united the department with the Linfield Pre-Kindergarten.

Changes in students: They’ve remained consistently interesting, challenging and motivated to become teachers through the years.

Favorite course: Education psychology because it explores the theoretical underpinnings of most of what teachers do.

What I will miss: The semi-annual renewal, which accompanies meeting new students and starting courses over again.

Retirement plans: My wife, Cindy, and I plan to take a retirement trip to France and Switzerland to hike the “Haute Route” around Mont Blanc. Following that trip, I will become senior advisor and assistant to President Hellie.

— Laura Davis

Joel Marrant, left, with Stan Towner, professor emeritus of sociology, during the opening of an exhibit in the Anthropology Museum that highlighted Marrant’s career.

Barbara Drake on her Yamhill-area farm

Fred Ross at Potter Hall

They arrived on campus before computers, email and cell phones. Much has changed since Joel Marrant, Barbara Drake and Fred Ross joined the Linfield College faculty nearly three decades ago. Here they provide a glimpse back at their tenures and ahead to their futures as Linfield retirees.
ora Koenig’s work has taken her to the ends of the earth. On a recent expedition, she found herself pushing against 30-knot Antarctic winds and slogging through snow to lower herself into six-foot pits—all in the name of science. Beneath her boots, 6,000 feet of ice held clues to the Earth’s past. Koenig ’99, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences at the University of Washington, spent the summer in Antarctica drilling ice cores and studying climate change. She was part of a team of scientists, funded by the National Science Foundation, en route to the South Pole collecting data about Earth’s climate history.

Traveling on sleds pulled by tractors, which Koenig described as mobile homes on skis, the group of researchers traversed the continent, stopping to drill an ice core every 100 kilometers. The cores enable researchers to reconstruct climate histories going back millions of years. The samples contain atmospheric information including records of past temperatures, gas concentrations, chemicals, storm systems, forest fires and volcanoes. Koenig collected 100-meter-long cores, which recorded 300-1,000 years of climate information.

“We’re trying to learn if the climate is changing significantly and how it’s changing over large areas,” said Koenig, who works with passive microwave satellites to determine temperature and snow accumulation rates. The team’s primary goal was to understand the climate of the last 1,000 years and use the information as a benchmark to predict future climates. The expedition began at Taylor Dome and will finish at the South Pole station in January 2008. The research will be combined into one large data set that documents climate history.

At roughly 1.5 times the size of the United States, Antarctica is the highest, driest, windiest continent on Earth. When Koenig arrived at the Taylor Dome field site in November—Antarctica’s summer—temperatures dipped to minus 40. During a five-minute walk to the shelter, she felt the bite of the cold wind through her down parka and facemask.

“The cold temperature doesn’t affect you as much as the wind chill,” Koenig said. “Your face starts to hurt immediately if it’s not covered.”

Constant sunshine made it difficult to sleep, but Koenig learned to pull her hat down over her eyes to find darkness. “The sun never sets, it just goes around in a circle,” she said. “You can’t tell if it’s the middle of the night or the middle of the day. You can work until 3 in the morning and there’s the same amount of light.”

Still, Koenig thrives on the extreme conditions. Last year, she studied the Greenland icecap in conjunction with NASA and the University of Washington. It is work she prepared for at Linfield. With the help of Linfield advisor Steve Bricker ’86, professor of mathematics, Koenig blended her love of environmental science, math and outdoor adventure at Linfield. She boosted her math major with an internship at the Yamhill County Watershed and twice participated in the Outdoor Environmental Studies class during January Term.

Growing up, Koenig heard plenty of stories about Linfield from parents Dan and Marilyn (Olsen) Koenig, both ’70, who met on campus. As a student, she met her own husband, Joel Siderius ’99, now a program coordinator at the University of Washington. Koenig said she benefited from the personal attention at Linfield. “It always felt like a good fit,” she said. “Now I realize how much Linfield really gave me in critical thinking skills and having someone there to help me through it all. You can never get lost at Linfield.”

— Laura Davis
Student finds niche in community service

Monica Nelson ‘07 sorts clothing that has been donated to Henderson House for victims of abuse during her internship there last year. Nelson combined her interests in social work, psychology and the Spanish language for the position.

When it comes to community service, Monica Nelson’s actions speak for themselves.

As a sophomore, Nelson ‘07 became president of Henderson House, an organization that provides services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Yamhill County and maintains a shelter in McMinnville for women and children escaping abuse.

“I have always known domestic violence is a reality, but listening to people’s stories has been really personal to me,” Nelson said. “It has made me all the more passionate about wanting to do something about domestic violence and work in an area of social services.”

Henderson House has served survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Yamhill County and surrounding counties since 1981, providing more than 35,000 shelter nights to women, men and children. For more information or to seek help, contact the following organizations.

Henderson House
www.hendersonhouse.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline
www.ndvh.org/educate/index.html
Family Violence Prevention Fund
www.endabuse.org
National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
http://www.ncdsv.org

Local youth recently found out health can be all fun and games during an after-school nutrition and physical activity program at Linfield College.

Twice a week, eager young participants tucked into fruit smoothies or munchied “ants on a log” (peanut butter, radishes and celery) during hands-on nutrition lessons before heading out to play. There were scavenger hunts, slip-and-slides, traditional sports and swimming games.

The program, developed by Janet Peterson, assistant professor of health and human performance and recent winner of the Samuel I. Graf Faculty Achievement Award, focused on helping children live a healthy lifestyle. Participants ranged in age from 7 to 18.

The single most important element to improving kids’ health, according to Peterson, is “getting kids moving.”

“Careers with organizations like Henderson House are not only taught her about working for a non-profit organization, but also allowed her to gain valuable experience in living a healthy lifestyle. Participants ranged in age from 7 to 18.

“Every child should learn the importance of living a healthy lifestyle,” said O’Neil, who will pursue a master’s in public health promotion at Oregon State University in the fall. “It’s important to get them out playing and enjoying activity.”

But with cutbacks in physical education classes and the growth of the video game industry, today’s youth often don’t get the recommended 60 minutes of daily activity. And, Peterson said, 70 percent of overweight kids are likely to become overweight adults.

“If we can give them tools to make good decisions now, we can also work on adult obesity as well,” she said.

With guidance from Peterson, more than 20 Linfield students ran the program, gaining practical experience outside the classroom in addition to serving the community. They performed fitness evaluations and prescribed an exercise regimen for each child.

“Enrollment has nearly doubled from 17 to 32 since Kendra Victor ‘05 led the first project in 2005. Although it initially targeted overweight youth in the community, the program is now geared to all kids, stressing a healthy lifestyle.”

Two of this year’s most energetic participants were 7-year-old twins Emily and Megan DeYoung, daughters of Bill and Amy (Cheri) DeYoung, ’89 and ’87. The twins both play soccer, but their parents know that’s not enough.

“We want to encourage them to choose to be active during the down time instead of watching television or being on the computer,” said Amy, an accounting clerk at Linfield.

Tips for healthy families

• Make cooking an activity and eat at the table as a family.
• Make fun snacks, such as trail mix or fruit-kabobs.
• When baking, use applesauce instead of oil or butter and use whole-wheat flour.
• Make homemade pizza with lots of veggies.
• Avoid fast food, or choose a grilled chicken burger or salad.
• Ride a bike or walk to school.
• Join a sport team.

--- Laura Davis

Sisters Emily, left, and Megan DeYoung take part in a wheelbarrow race with the help of Janet Peterson, left, and Julie O’Neil ‘07.

DeYoung is already teaching her daughters nutrition at home and she was happy to have it reinforced.

“When it comes from fun, young people, it catches their attention and sticks in more,” she said.

--- Laura Davis
When Ruth (Musunu) Titi Manyaka ’69 began writing a young woman on the opposite side of the world, she could not imagine how her life would change.

Manyaka was reunited with her friends and mentors Allen and Margaret (Cook) Anderson, both ’47, and friend and former college roommate Carol (Smith) Hosler ’68 of Kearny, Ariz., when she traveled from Africa to give the commencement address to the class of 2007. Calling Anderson her “spiritual father,” Manyaka said he was instrumental in bringing her to Linfield College.

Manyaka, the daughter of an American Baptist pastor and a teacher, was raised at a mission station in the Congo. She began writing to Hosler, who encouraged her to attend Linfield. Anderson, the head of the Baptist Youth Fellowship in Washington state, galvanized young people who held car washes, mowed lawns and organized garage sales and other fund raising events to help Manyaka attend Linfield.

“The generosity of your hearts has continued to spread and we have touched generation after generation since we left Linfield,” Manyaka said.

After completing a biology degree at Linfield, Manyaka received a master’s degree in public health from Loma Linda University. She later met and married Raphael Titi Manyaka, a graduate student in engineering at Loma Linda University. They eventually returned to Cameroon, where Manyaka taught biology at a secondary school in Douala, the country’s capital, and raised four children. Eventually they returned to Cameroon, eventually Canada, and are currently based in Washington, D.C., where they have helped create entrepreneurship opportunities for young people from Cameroon.

Manyaka received a master’s degree in public health from Loma Linda University. She later met and married Raphael Titi Manyaka, a graduate student in engineering at Loma Linda University. They eventually returned to Cameroon, where Manyaka taught biology at a secondary school in Douala, the country’s capital, and raised four children. Eventually they returned to Cameroon, eventually Canada, and are currently based in Washington, D.C., where they have helped create entrepreneurship opportunities for young people from Cameroon.

Manyaka was reunited with her friends and mentors Allen and Margaret (Cook) Anderson, both ’47, and friend and former college roommate Carol (Smith) Hosler ’68, who were instrumental in bringing Manyaka to Linfield from the Congo. Manyaka presented the commencement address and then visited with a number of friends from her Linfield years. “We believe if we can combat poverty, we empower people to fight ignorance and disease,” she added.

WEH has organized an agricultural project for women, growing food crops and livestock and helping find markets for the produce as well as improving the diet of local families. They have identified 800 orphans and provide school materials for nearly 400. They are training local villagers to address common diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. The biggest challenge they face is HIV/AIDS, Manyaka said, with many believ- ing that it is due to misfortune or evil spell.

She praised Linfield Professor Sherry Archer, Portland Campus Director David Groff and the 14 students who spent last January Term working with her and others, calling them Linfield’s ambassadors to Africa. “I believe these young people had an experience that cannot be matched elsewhere,” she said. “Your coming to Africa opened your eyes to a world different from the one you are familiar with. I challenge each of you this day to set a goal to serve mankind. No action is too small to go unnoticed.”

“No say to prejudice, no to war, no to indifference,” she urged the graduates. “Make it your aim to touch at least one life at a time. Keep the spirit of hope and compassion as you go on life’s journey and never give up.”

— Marki Milcham

Approaching the sesquicentennial

Linfield in the war years

(Edited version: This vignette provides a look back through 150 years of history as Linfield approaches its sesquicentennial in 2008. Marvin Henberg, professor of philosophy, is writing an illustrated history titled Inspired Pragmatism: An Illustrated History of Linfield College. Barbara Seidman, dean of faculty, is editing the text and will write an afterword for the book. It will be available through the Linfield College Bookstore this fall.)

Though founded prior to the American Civil War, McMinnville College’s place on the frontier insulated it from that terrible conflict. No records have come to light of any founders or students serving for either the Union or the Confederacy. Oregon Baptists did split split between pro- and anti-slavery factions, with McMinnville College subscribing to the anti-slavery cause.

The first recorded alumni to die during combat – Bertie Clark and Frank Hibbs – participated with at least 17 other McMinnville College students in the Spanish-American War of 1898. Eleven nurses and two interns left the Good Samaritan hospital to provide medical services in that conflict, as well.

The First World War found McMinnville College graduate and army Lieutenant Leonard Hopfield, class of 1918, serving in France. Hopfield and 75 men from his alma mater for enlist- ment at the end of the spring semester of 1917. Roughly 167 McMinnville College men were veterans of the conflict, with at least six killed in the line of duty. Good Samaritan sent off 103 gradu- ate nurses to Army hospitals, many serving in France.

Mobilization for World War II at Linfield was commensurate with the size and gravity of that conflict. Over 500 alumni, faculty members and students served, with 25 listed as dead or missing in action. Nurses from Good Samaritan also rallied to the cause, with over 100 enlisting. In 1945, a liberty ship, the S.S. Linfield Victory, was commissioned as the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation in Portland.

No records can be found of alumni lost in the Korean War, the first for which draft deferments became available for college students. Films of Korean War soldiers being treated at battlefield wounds were shown during a 1952 chapel program to bolster Linfield’s turnout for the annual Red Cross Blood Drive.

College draft deferments continued during the Vietnam War-era, but became controversial and were ended by a draft lottery among all selective-service registrants in December of 1969. By this time the country was deeply divided on the war and the student-rights movement came to the fore at Linfield as across the country. According to Linfield Bulletin records, which may not be exhaustive, at least five alumni died in Vietnam. They were Army Captain Richard Goss ’54, Army Lieutenant Ralph Leroy Williams ’62, Navy Lieutenant Stephen Richardson ’63, Navy Lieutenant Wayne Alan Armstrong ’63 and Army Lieutenant Paul H. Ekland ’63. Ekland received posthu- mous awards of the Bronze Star Medal and the Silver Star Medal.

The most recent Linfield graduate to die in defense of country was Army First Lieutenant Erik McCrae ’01, who died in Baghdad, Iraq, on June 4, 2004. English Professor Lex Runciman published a fitting tribute to McCrae in the fall 2004 edition of The Linfield Magazine.

— Marvin Henberg

The plaque, listing the names of Linfield students and alumni who were killed in World War II, used to hang in Memorial Hall. The name of Hubert A. Santos was subsequently added.

— Rob Reynolds photo reproduction

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Courage, determination and grit led the Wildcat softball team to its first national championship — and the first-ever women’s team title in Linfield’s history. Dubbed the “Comeback ‘Cats” for fighting their way back from elimination seven times, the Wildcats captured their fourth consecutive Northwest Conference title and the NCAA Division III Western Region title on their way to the championship. The Wildcats, who finished fourth in the nation last year, started the championship series by winning two lopsided victories before Washington-St. Louis knocked them into the elimination round with a 6-3 win. But the Wildcats were not to be denied. They pounded out 22 hits during a wild 22-10 victory over Wisconsin-Eau Claire before snapping Washington-St. Louis’ 25-game winning streak, with a 1-0 squeaker in eight innings, setting up a re-match with the Bears for the title.

There was no doubt that the Wildcats were ready to win. They hit four home runs — two by Amanda Attleberger ’08 and one each by Meredith Brunette ’08 and Lisa Smith ’07 — to win 10-2 in six innings. It was a record-breaking year for the ‘Cats, who went 45-7 on the season, setting school records for home runs (50), team field average (.975) and runs per game (7.75). Seven players hit over .400 on the season and the team was number one in the nation in team batting average with .388. They outscored their opponents 99-33 in the playoffs and 56-18 in the championship tournament and faced three All-American pitchers, scoring 30 runs off them.

The win was especially sweet for Smith, who broke her arm in two places during the seventh game of the season. Five weeks later, Smith was back in action. She, along with catcher Jena Loop ’07, were the only seniors on the team.

Five players were named to the All-Tournament team (Brunette, Loop, Attleberger, Stephanie Rice ’08 and Brittany Miller ’10), six were named to the All-West Regional squad and nine were named to the Northwest Conference all-star team. Jenny Marshall ’08 and Race were named to the Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-America Team.

Between the regionals and nationals the Wildcats spent 15 days on the road, traveling 7,000 miles, from McMinnville to Pineville, La., to Salem, Va. Returning via charter flight after their championship victory, the team touched down in Springfield, Mo., Cheyenne, Wyo., and Salt Lake City, Utah, before finally arriving in McMinnville at 2:30 a.m. on May 23.

They visited the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg to pay tribute at a memorial to the recent shooting victims and spent time with patients at a Veterans Administration Hospital.

In McMinnville they were honored at a community celebration, which included a city proclamation of May 25 as “Wildcat National Softball Championship Day.”

“I am very proud of our team and the way they battled throughout the playoffs,” Head Coach Jackson Vaughan ’97 said. “We were in a number of tough games against highly ranked opponents, but each time our team was able to rise to the occasion and play their best softball when it was needed. This is the mark of a true championship team.”

For complete coverage of the women’s softball season and all other sports information, go to:

www.linfield.edu/sports/
End of era: Carnahan exits field

Scott Carnahan ’73, received a framed portrait with the names of every former player before the final game of the season on April 29 at Roy Hobar Field. He will remain as athletic director.

Plenty of numbers surround Scott Carnahan ’73 as he retires as Linfield College head baseball coach this year. Among them: 1,174 games coached, 727 games won, more than 500 players mentored.

But one number is more meaningful than the rest to Carnahan – 98. That’s the percentage of Linfield varsity baseball players he coached who completed bachelor’s degrees. Carnahan, who will remain as Linfield’s athletic director, has spent the past 24 years molding students first and athletes second, following in the footsteps of Linfield coaching legends such as Roy Helser ’36, Ad Rutschman ’34, Paul Durham ’36 and Ted Wilson.

“I’d say we’ve tried to pass on,” Carnahan said. “It’s important students get the educational experiences to be successful in whatever their career endeavor is after college. Not only the lessons they learn in the classroom, but also the success-related skills and lessons they learn through participation in athletics.”

Carnahan learned that philosophy as a student after being recruited to Linfield by Rutschman to play football and Helder to play baseball. He earned a teaching degree and married Cathy (Wark) ’73. After a six-year stint coaching baseball at Lower Columbia Community College, Carnahan returned to Linfield as a member of the faculty and head baseball coach. He was named director of athletics in 1996.

Career stats

Linfield record: 562-375-2
Career record: 727-445-2
Northwest Conference record: 359-127
NWC Coach of the Year: 11 times
NAIA District 2 Coach of the Year: 3 times

Under his leadership as athletic director, Carnahan has been awarded the McInroy-Lewis All-Sports Trophy three times, honoring the top overall athletics program in the NWC. He has overseen major upgrades to athletic facilities, including the 2004 $1.4 million renovation of the running track and football field.

During his tenure as baseball coach, Carnahan’s teams have won 11 Northwest Conference championships – five straight between 1992 and 1996 – and finished second on six other occasions. He has been named NWC Coach of the Year 11 times and NAIA District 2 Coach of the Year three times.

Over the years, Carnahan has passed along his own attention to detail and commitment to excellence, continually reminding players that “everything counts.”

“We go into each game with an underlying confidence, expecting to win,” he said. “We play without fear of making mistakes or losing. If we play our best on the field, we’ll put ourselves in a position to be successful. We won’t have any regrets.”

Players have been touched by his passion, including Jon Searle ’03, who applies many of the lessons he learned as an outfielder to his current position at Nike.

“I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to be a part of the rich tradition of Linfield athletics,” he said. “Carnahan taught me simple lessons like teamwork, leadership, time management, sportsmanship, patience, confidence and, most importantly, family.”

Standout moments on and off the baseball diamond pale compared to the relationships Carnahan has made.

“The wins and losses all kind of run together,” he said. “But the connections I’ve had with my players are the most memorable.”

Scott Brosius ’02, who will succeed Carnahan as head coach, attributes much of his own success to Carnahan. Brosius won three World Series titles with the New York Yankees in 1998, 1999 and 2000 and was named the Most Valuable Player of the 1998 World Series.

“Carney’s had a huge impact on my development as a player, a person and now a coach,” Brosius said. “He’s built a program that has carried on what Linfield athletics is all about – the pursuit of excellence, both on and off the field. He’s a tough act to follow.”

— Laura Davis

Scholarship fund builds a legacy

Chelsea Machida ’11 knows a thing or two about achievement. Machida, the daughter of Keith and Mary Machida, both ’86, holds Hawaiian state titles in both the high jump and 1-meter dive and plans to compete in track and field when she arrives at Linfield in the fall.

Now Machida can add one more achievement to her list. She and five other students with family ties to Linfield will receive scholarship assistance thanks to the Linfield Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, administered by the Alumni Leadership Council, provides financial aid to the children, grandchildren or siblings of alumni. It is the only fund specifically targeted to support legacy students. The fund’s growth depends on annual giving by Linfield alumni and friends. The application deadline for 2008-09 awards is Feb. 1, 2008.

In addition to Machida, this year’s recipients selected by alumni include: Stephanie Anderson ’11, daughter of Bonnie (Doerfler) Anderson ’83; Travis Kinder ’11, son of Joseph and Moea (Haldane) Kinder ’84 and ’85; Phoebe Robinson ’11, daughter of Myron Robinson ’92; Jade Severson ’11, sister of Derek Severson ’01; Jeffrey Yoth ’10; and Samy Yoth ’11, grandson of Irvin Yoth ’41.

For more information, visit

Linfield’s online community just got better

Take advantage of new online features including social networking opportunities, an improved career center with job postings, campus news, photo sharing and your own customized login page. Create and communicate with special groups – dorm buddies, teammates or just a great group of old friends.

Sign up now and get connected. New and returning users of the online community will be asked to log in initially with a student ID to activate new features. Contact the alumni office for your student ID number.

Costa Rica reunion

Relive your Costa Rican memories and students who have studied abroad in Costa Rica are invited to join Mayra Herra-Monge, director of the Linfield College Costa Rica program, for a reunion Sept. 18 in Portland. Share stories and photos from past trips, and reconnect with Herra-Monge while enjoying Costa Rican cuisine. For more information, contact Debbie Harmon ’90, director of alumni relations, at dharmon@linfield.edu or 503-883-2607.

For details on these and other Linfield events visit

Alumni and Parent Events 2007-08

August
9-12 Alumni Shakespeare trip
September
13 Financial Aid Workshop
18 Costa Rica reunion
28 President’s Club dinner
October
5-6 Family Weekend/Parent Council Breakfast
9 Central Oregon reception
13 SOU pre-game event
19-20 Homecoming
25 San Francisco reception
27 Menlo College pre-game picnic
28 Longboard Vineyards
November
6-17 Discover Tuscany
6 Boise reception
20 Speed Networking
December
5 Entrepreneur lunch, Professor Sandie Kiehl
January
30 Sesquicentennial celebration
February
1 Alumni scholarship deadline
TBD Southern California receptions
March
TBD Real estate workshop
TBD Arizona receptions
18 Speed Networking
April
18 Tuition Free Day
TBD Oral history performance, Professor Jackson Miller
May
6 Life After Linfield Dinner
7 50 Year Club Luncheon
9 Sesquicentennial Plaza dedication
20 Financial planning seminar

SUMMER 2007 - 25
Compassion is key when teaching military children

Balancing firmness with compassion is a key part of Gerry Grubbs’ job as assistant principal of Evergreen Elementary School in Washington.

Evergreen is on the Fort Lewis Army Base, and almost every student has had a parent deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. Also, the Army built the school in 1991 to serve medically fragile and severely handicapped children. About one-fourth of Evergreen’s 800 students receive services for some type of disability.

As Grubbs ’89 explained, Fort Lewis is a compassionate duty station, for those whose family members need special medical care. Evergreen’s staff includes two nurses, as well as two counseling teachers, one a National Disney Teacher of the Year.

Grubbs studied education and sociology at Linfield and received a master’s in special education at Washington State University in 1996. He received a master’s degree in special education at Seattle Pacific University, where he worked with at-risk kids and developed a program for those in the foster-care system. He received a doctorate in education from Lehigh University in 1999.

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Portland married Lisa Lane Dec. 8. He is a captain and assistant manager for Nike Sportswear in Beaverton.

Kris Woodburn ’93 of Portland is an administrative assistant for Nike Sportswear in Beaverton.

Jennifer Bond ’93 of Sherwood married Terry Anderson Sept. 16. She is a personal banker at Bank of America.

Sharon Wood Wortman ’93 of Portland is the author of The Hillside Bridge Book.

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Nursing alumna nurtures children, families facing cancer

Allen was instrumental in securing a federal grant for nurses, the Greater Awareness for Idaho Nurses (GAIN) grant. As lead author of the proposal, she was responsible for course development and implementation at every nursing school in Idaho. She remains a consultant on the program.

“I really like to finish what I start,” said Allen, who emerged from Linfield with a strong sense of professional responsibility.

She is past president and a board member of the Idaho Nurses Association, where she advocates for nursing issues and lobbied on Capitol Hill on behalf of safe nursing practices. She is also a strongponent of Camp Rainbow Gold, an American Cancer Society camp.

Allen said her Linfield experience prepared her in all aspects of community health and program development. “I feel very fortunate,” Allen said. “I am truly grateful for my Linfield education.”

— Laura Davis

Ruling with respect

Just when Judge Sandra Thompson ’68 thinks she’s heard it all, a defendant insists she had to steal a scarf to wear to church. The judge is unmoved.

Thompson knows what it’s like to lack money, including people a year to pay their fine, and doesn’t have the money, including community service. But I expect them to fulfill their obligations,” she said.

In the 1960s Thompson chose Linfield from colleges the National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students matched her with, based on her SAT scores and personal information. But after three years, the financial aid ended and she couldn’t afford to stay. Thompson withdrew from Linfield and went home to Santa Monica, Calif.

Family friends provided a private scholarship, enabling her to receive her B.A. in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1967.

“Each time I have encountered some obstacle in my life, there has been some blessing to help me get over it.” — Judge Sandra Thompson ’68

“Each time I have encountered some obstacle in my life, there has been some blessing to help me get over it,” she says.

Her Linfield days were not over; she now serves on the college’s Board of Trustees and chairs the committee on student affairs.

Thompson, who earned her law degree from the University of Michigan in 1972, was appointed to the South Bay, Calif. Municipal Court in 1984 by then-Gov. George Deukmejian and was elevated to Los Angeles Superior Court when the courts were unified in 2000.

Her many honors include the Thungood Marshall Scholarship Foundation Award of Excellence in 2006 and the Joan Dempsey Klein Distinguished Jurist Award from the California Women Lawyers in 2005. The California Association of Black Lawyers named her the Bernard S. Jefferon Judge of the Year in 1999.

She also served as president of the National Association of Women Judges in 2005.

Thompson, who hears misdemeanor criminal cases, didn’t always want to be a judge. “I wanted to be an actress or a singer, but I felt I was not good enough to make people stop eating the trash they listened,” she said. As a Linfield student, she appeared in the play No Strings.

She describes herself as “an inveterate theater-goer.” One of her favorite plays, which she saw again recently, is Twelve Angry Men, about a jury.

The seeds of her judicial career were planted in high school. She presided over student court hearings on infractions such as smoking and wearing open-toed shoes without nylons. The adviser encouraged her to consider becoming a judge. Thompson had no idea at the time that she would have to become a lawyer first.

She worked as an Inglewood city attorney and a Los Angeles County deputy district attorney before her judicial appointment.

Prosecutor Joan Jenkins says it’s a pleasure to try a case before Thompson. “She’s always prepared. She’s fair to both sides and goes out of her way to make the jury feel respected and important. She’s so respectful of everyone. … And she knows the law like a son-of-a-gun.”

— Beth Rogers Thompson

Got news? Have you changed jobs? Received a promotion? Returned to school? Received another degree? Started a business? Did you get married or have a child in the last 12 months? If you have news for your classmates and other Linfield friends, visit us online: www.linfield.edu/alumni/sgm

Class Notes

Marlin Allen ’96

Marlin Allen ’96 spends her days surrounded by the laughter and smiles of children.

Ironically, most are fighting cancer.

Allen is a nurse practitioner at St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center, Mountain States Tumor Institute in Boise, Idaho. She provides care to children and their families at the Pediatric Hematology Oncology clinic, the only children’s cancer program in Idaho.

As she works with families often facing catastrophic circumstances, Allen is constantly amazed by the smiles of children.

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Many times when you walk in the clinic it’s like a party,” said Allen, last year’s Llyodina Griner Award winner at the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing. “Children are watching movies and playing games. You wouldn’t know they have cancer. They’re amazing.”

Allen got a glimpse of her future while still a Linfield student, working at Legacy Cancer Services. With degree in hand, she began a four-year stint with Legacy Health System at Meridian Park Hospital on the oncology unit and at Legacy Cancer Services providing cancer prevention and early detection services to the community.

After earning a master’s degree at the University of Portland, Allen joined the faculty at Boise State University, stepping away from oncology to fulfill a lifetime aspiration to teach. She integrated her passion for culture and diversity into her lessons and taught nursing students to consider the cultural aspects that might influence patient care.

“It goes beyond making sure a professional interpreter is available,” she said. “It’s learning from a cultural standpoint what is important to a client and meeting those needs.”

Friends and family

Steven Tousaint of Lake Oswego, May 22, 2006. He was a former nursing professor. Survivors include his wife, Christine (Benson) ’92, and his daughter, Colby ’97.

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