FOOTBALL, VOLLEYBALL AND MEN’S SOCCER TEAMS ADVANCE TO PLAYOFFS

Highlights were plentiful during a record-setting fall sports season. Three teams captured conference titles and advanced to the national playoffs. Here’s a sport-by-sport rundown of the fall season:

FOOTBALL

Coach Jay Locey called it a magical year, saying his team "looked adversity in the face and smiled."

Others were calling Linfield’s 11-1 season one of the finest coaching jobs in the long and storied history of the program. Whatever adjectives are used to describe the 2003 Wildcats, they will be remembered for their heart, desire, teamwork and sense of purpose.

When all was said and done, the 2003 edition perhaps achieved more with less. Locey pointed to the leadership of 11 seniors who helped guide the team through a challenging regular-season schedule and deep into the national playoffs.

Linfield, ranked No. 3 in the final coaches poll, was considered a strong contender for the NCAA Division III championship after capturing a fourth consecutive Northwest Conference title. But the Wildcats’ season ended in the Division III quarterfinals with a heartbreaking 31-25 loss to second-ranked Saint John’s in Collegeville, Minn. Down by 13 points with just over two minutes left, Linfield fell one pass completion and six yards short of upsetting the Johnnies on their home field.

Following the graduation of 22 seniors from an outstanding 2002 team that went 10-1, few believed the Wildcats could equal or exceed the achievements of the previous year. There were question marks on the offensive and defensive lines, and at running back. The Wildcats faced an even bigger challenge early in the season when All-America defensive back Ray Lions suffered a fractured neck in the first game, ending his career.

As I reflect back over the fall, I am reminded of all of the people who have had a significant part in our continued athletic success at Linfield.

We can talk about the student-athletes, the coaches, the administration and the fans, but my reflection goes beyond the obvious. The volunteers that Linfield brings to the table are one of the reasons that we continue to put championship-caliber teams on the fields and courts.

In my opinion, Linfield is somewhat unique in the number of people.

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WILDCATS AMONG WINNERS AT OREGON SPORTS AWARDS

Quarterback Tyler Matthews ’03 and the 2003 Linfield football team were recipients of high honors Jan. 25 at the prestigious Oregon Sports Awards. Matthews shared the men’s Rutschman Award with Southern Oregon tailback Dusty McGrorty. Wildcat multi-sport star Leah Moore ’04 was a finalist for the women’s Rutschman Award with Southern Oregon tailback Dusty McGrorty. Wildcats multi-sport star Leah Moore ’04 was a finalist for the women’s Rutschman Award with Southern Oregon tailback Dusty McGrorty.

The Linfield football team, which achieved an 11-1 record and a No. 3 national ranking, received the George Pasero Team Award.

Football coach Jay Locey was a finalist for the Slats Gill Award, given to the top coach or administrator from the state. That award went to the University of Oregon’s Ernie Kent.

A statewide media panel selected the winners for the event, which was staged at the opulent Tiger Woods Center at Nike headquarters in Beaverton. The 90-minute presentation was televised live by Portland television station KATU.

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TWELVE INDUCTED INTO ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

In the words of Chet Croco '80, "Integrity and quality never go out of style." Croco was one of a dozen new inductees honored Nov. 1 at the Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame induction banquet. In their own ways, each of the Hall of Fame's newest class members recalled the quality educational experience they enjoyed as students and the integrity they developed as athletes at Linfield. Croco was a two-time All-America football player and played on three Northwest Conference championship teams.

Upon his induction into the Hall of Fame, another football All-American, Jim Bernhardt '63, expressed admiration for his former coaches, Paul Durham '36 and Hal Smith. He also singled out teammate Mike Stelman '63, whom Bernhardt said pushed him to become the best.

All-America baseball pitcher Fred Herrmann '61 was a member of three NWC title teams during his career under Hall of Fame coach Roy Helser '36. Herrmann recounted the "fabulous experiences" he enjoyed as an athlete at Linfield and noted the tradition of success founded by Hall of Fame coaches Durham, Smith, Ted Wilson and Ad Rutschman '53 that continues to resonate through today's Wildcat sports teams.

Tina (Rappin) Hill '87 stepped back in time to recall the lasting memories of basketball games played at old Riley Gym and the vocal support her teams received from the student body and Linfield community. Rappin was a two-time conference all-star in both softball and basketball and continues to hold several basketball single-season and career scoring marks.

All-star basketball player Bob Lamb '68 nearly went to another college but Wilson used his considerable influence to steer him to attend Linfield at the last moment. The former NWC most valuable player said his experiences in McMinnville set the table for future success, giving him a solid foundation for what would be an outstanding high school basketball coaching career.

The late Vern Marshall Sr. '57 was remembered by his sons Joe and Vern Jr. They said their father was always extremely proud to be a Wildcat and thanked the college and Hall of Fame selection committee for helping to keep his spirit alive. The elder Marshall was among the first Linfield athletes to ever play on conference championship clubs in football, basketball and baseball.

MAXWELL FIELD PROJECT TO BREAK GROUND IN MARCH

Construction is expected to begin in March on the first phase of the athletics master plan to reconfigure the running track and create an artificial surface on the football field. To date, over $916,000 has been donated or pledged toward the $1.1 million project.

The dollars dedicated to the project thus far by alumni, parents, fans, and faculty and staff, will cover the cost of creating the new field and track surfaces. However, additional funding is needed to complete all the goals of the project's first phase. Those include the addition of full stadium lighting, a modern scoreboard with automated graphics, and an upgrade of the existing electrical system at the 76-year-old sports venue.

People who have not already donated to the project are asked to make a $1,000 commitment that can be spread out over two years. One-third of the pledge would be due immediately, another third by the end of 2004, and the remainder by the conclusion of 2005.

A new synthetic FieldTurf surface and Olympic oval running track will be installed at Maxwell Field by September.

All donors will have their names engraved in a plaque that will be displayed at Maxwell Field once the project is completed. To be a part of this outstanding facility enhancement, please contact Scott Carnahan at 503-883-2229.

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Hall of Fame, continued from Page 2

Pride, poise and leadership were the qualities that exemplified All-America defensive lineman Dave Nygaard ’76. The one-time NAIA Defensive Player of the Year saluted his teammates, coaches Rutschman, Ted Henry ’54 and John Knight, and his parents, whom he said "supported me through good times and bad."

Ray Simonsen ’60, known during his playing days as a "tough competitor with a huge heart," said his All-America football career prepared him well for leadership roles in education and the military reserves. Simonsen expressed appreciation to the staff and Linfield community, helping him fulfill his dream of attending Linfield. He spent 34 years as a school administrator and spent 28 years in the Oregon National Guard, retiring with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Multi-sport standout Paul Warren ’30 felt a deep love for the college, speaking often to his children about the “special spirit of Linfield” he experienced while a student-athlete nearly 80 years ago. Daughter Carol Ackerson and grandson Scott Ackerson were present to accept Warren's commemorative plaque.

Never in his wildest dreams did Steve Davis ’70 think he would ever be a member of the Hall of Fame. Davis was one of three individuals inducted for meritorious service to the athletics program. He was described by Rutschman, his former coach and longtime friend, as a "tough competitor who was great under pressure." Davis contributed to a number of facilities projects and helped launch the Wildcat Open golf tournament.

Successful local businessman Ron Davison ’65 also was honored for meritorious service. It was Davison's entrepreneurial spirit that inspired him to start selling Linfield athletic apparel at home football games, directing the profits back to the athletic department. A major financial contributor for many years, Davison also was a catalyst on many facility enhancements.

Jeff Kizer’s contributions of time, labor and dollars to the athletic department were described by Linfield director of athletics Scott Carnahan ’73 as "an amazing gift to Linfield." Kizer oversaw construction of the Linfield baseball and softball stadiums, football concession stand, and the football field playing surface.

Former All-America football tight end Bernie Peterson ’74 received sufficient votes to be enshrined in the Hall of Fame but a schedule conflict prevented him from accepting. He will be inducted in 2004.

Carney’s Corner, continued from Page 1

who give of their time, talents and resources for the betterment of the College and Athletic Programs. Frankly, if we took those supporters out of the equation, we would quickly fall back into the pack.

The Linfield sense of community reaches into the hearts of everyone who has attended Linfield. It also reaches out and grabs people who move to McMinnville by chance and happen to attend an athletic event. It reaches the friends of alumni who consistently sing the praises of all their alma mater and is bewilderment to many who don’t understand the love they have for “their school.”

Because of that sense of volunteerism, we are close to making the first phase of our athletics master plan a reality. At this time, the college administration has granted permission to proceed in March with the construction of the new track and artificial grass football field. They are the centerpiece components of the first phase, but we are still making calls to secure funding for some of the electrical work that needs to be done in conjunction with the field lighting project. We are also hopeful that at the same time that we can install a new state-of-the-art track/football scoreboard to take us into the next decades.

It is an exciting time for the staff, coaches and student-athletes who will utilize these facilities. The new facilities will enhance their experience and add more opportunities for use by the general college and community populations. We are close to getting to the end of our first phase, and with your help getting to our goal, we look forward to the next of many other challenges that lie in front of us.

Thanks for your continued loyalty and support.

Sincerely,

Sue Carnahan
Director of Athletics
Linfield College
Fall Sports, continued from Page 1 first round. Thomas Ford rushed for a school-record 237 yards to help the Wildcats defeat the Bulldogs 31-23. In the second round, Garrett Wales booted three field goals - including the game-winner as time expired - to carry Linfield to a 23-20 victory over previously unbeaten Wartburg. That set up a playoff rematch with Saint John's, a team which also ended the Wildcats' 2002 season.

In all, six new team records and 16 individual records were broken. Matthews set single-game, single-season and career records for passing yards. He threw for four or more touchdowns in four games, and passed for a school-record 452 yards in the season opener against Redlands. Wideout George Carter eclipsed single-season records for catches (70) and receiving yards (1,117). Ford became only the seventh running back in school history to gain more than 1,000 yards, finishing with 1,152.

Punter James Wilson, named Northwest Conference and Football Gazette special teams player of the year, broke the single-season record for punting average (43.8). Wales set single-game marks for point-after-touchdowns made (8) and attempted (9), and single season marks for field goals made (18) and attempted (22). Linebacker Harrison Bertsch became the single-season (71) and career (147) record holder for assisted tackles.

A total of 25 Wildcats received Northwest Conference all-star recognition, including 17 players who were voted to the first team. Locey was named NWC Coach of the Year. Matthews was tabbed as the co-offensive player of the year and Bertsch shared defensive player of the year honors. Tight end Marcus Ward, a physics major with a 3.72 grade point average, received recognition on the CoSIDA all-district academic team.

VOLLEYBALL

Few could have predicted the lofty heights achieved by the Linfield volleyball team during a magical 2003 season that featured the best overall record and highest national ranking in program history. The Wildcats captured their first Northwest Conference title in 14 years as well as a berth in the NCAA Division III playoffs.

A senior-laden roster carried Coach Shane Kimura's Wildcats to a 23-4 record and a 14-2 mark in the NWC. "We had a great group of players on and off the court," said Kimura, who was named NWC Coach of the Year. Indeed, the Wildcats were 8-1 at home, but perhaps even more significant, they won 10 of 11 road matches.

A strong defense was Linfield's best offense. The Wildcats led the NWC in blocks, digs, and assists, and ranked third in hitting percentage.

Among the season highlights was a thrilling five-game victory at Ted Wilson Gym over NWC favorite Pacific Lutheran, and a key sweep on the road over challengers Whitman and Whitworth.

The Wildcats placed four players on the NWC all-star squad. Right-side hitter Lindsay Harksen, who hit .329 while leading the team in kills, was named to the first team. She was joined by outside hitter Andrea Beck, Linfield's all-time career digs leader. Middle blocker Kelly Sharpe, a second team all-NWC pick, set the single-season record for block assists. Setter Katie Leitheiser, who climbed to No. 2 on the career assists ladder, earned honorable mention all-NWC honors. Harksen was named a second team All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. Sharpe received honorable mention All-America acclaim. Beck, maintaining a 3.72 grade point average, was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District team. Seniors Liz McClung and Sarah Hahn also made significant contributions during the Wildcats' run to the NWC title.

After wrapping up the NWC crown, Linfield advanced to the NCAA West Region playoff tournament at La Verne, Calif. The Wildcats dropped a four-game decision in the first-round match to Cal State-Hayward.

Linfield, ranked No. 15 in the final AVCA poll, also achieved the highest national rating in school history.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Wildcats continued their steady ascension through the ranks, showing substantial improvement from last season's conferene and regional finishes. In the team standings, the Linfield women placed fourth at the West Region meet in a field of 19 teams. The men were 10th overall in a race featuring 18 squads from up and down the West Coast.

Course conditions were wet and muddy but that didn't slow standout Meryl Witt, who was the second freshman to cross the finish line. She placed eighth in the women's race in 22 minutes, 50 seconds, narrowly missing a qualifying berth to the NCAA national championship meet. Witt, who shaved nearly 40 seconds from her time on the same course early in the season, earned all-West Region honors.

After being unable to field at full squad at the regional meet the past two seasons, the Linfield men returned to a position of prominence. Competing without two of their top five athletes, the Wildcats still garnered 10th place. Team captain Joe Ginanni continued to perform at a high level, earning all-region honors while finishing 33rd in 27:02.

The Wildcats also enjoyed a rewarding experience at the NWC championship meet. All but one Linfield athlete achieved a personal-best or season-best time. The men's squad realized the greatest improvement, jumping to fifth place in the team standings after a seventh-place showing in 2002. The Linfield women were fourth for the second straight year.

Witt, who recorded one of the best seasons ever by a Linfield freshman runner, received Academic All-America distinction by the U.S. Track Coaches Association.

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Fall Sports, continued from Page 4

MEN'S SOCCER

The leadership of 10 seniors provided the experience and stability Linfield needed to win the Northwest Conference championship with an 11-2-1 record. The Wildcats qualified for the NCAA Division III playoffs for the second straight year, but lost 2-1 to UC-Santa Cruz. Linfield ended its season with an overall record of 16-3-1, posting the second-highest winning percentage in program history.

"It was very satisfying to win the NWC title, but we were disappointed not to advance further in the playoffs," said Eric Watson, now 31-5-3 in two seasons as Wildcats coach.

Linfield played a challenging early season schedule, winning all five nonconference matches, including a 1-0 overtime victory over Santa Cruz. However, a 2-1 setback to Willamette in the conference opener had the Wildcats facing an uphill battle for the league crown. At midseason, Linfield lost 2-1 at home to Puget Sound, but later beat the defending NWC champions 3-0 on their home field. A 3-2 come-from-behind win over Willamette in the regular-season finale clinched the team's first title since 2000 and earned the Wildcats a berth in the NCAA tournament.

Linfield traveled to Redlands, Calif., for a rematch with Santa Cruz in the first round of the NCAA playoffs. The 'Cats took a 1-0 lead in the 54th minute, but surrendered two goals in the late going as the Banana Slugs avenged their only loss of the season.

The Wildcats, who went undefeated on the road, were ranked No. 24 in the final NSCAA poll.

Six Wildcats were named to the conference all-star squad. Defender Sean Chighizola earned NWC defensive player of the year honors. Joining Chighizola on the first team were midfielder Jordan Bebee and goalkeeper Phil Haines. Midfielder Aleko Lilly was voted to the second team and defenders Paul Collins and Ryan McClellan received honorable mention.

Harald Haraldsen led the team in scoring with five goals and five assists. Yoshi Kawase tallied four goals and five assists, and Jason Wong notched four goals and five assists. Haines registered a 0.67 goals-against average and a 12-3-1 record in goal for the Wildcats. The senior keeper posted a school record seven shutouts.

MEN'S GOLF

Inconsistency was the Wildcats' biggest foe during the fall season, but there were some bright spots nonetheless.

At the Northwest Conference Fall Classic at Aspen Lakes Golf Club, weather conditions were ideal for golf but the Wildcats didn't bring their 'A' game. The result was a sixth-place finish at the eight-team tournament.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Linfield's Bobbie Simoni won her second consecutive Northwest Conference Fall Classic trophy, helping the Wildcats capture their sixth straight team title at picturesque Tokatee Golf Club.

At the Lewis & Clark Invitational, Linfield's Leslie Wheeler shot consistent scores of 83 and 82, finishing one stroke shy of medalist honors at Langdon Farms Golf Course. UC-Santa Cruz's Stephanie Bishop converted a long putt on the 18th hole to wrestle top honors away from Wheeler.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Like a typical Oregon autumn, the Linfield women's soccer season began with a hot start but ended with a cold and chilling finish. The Wildcats won eight of their first nine matches before injuries to several key players turned a promising season in the wrong direction.

An assortment of injuries plagued the middle of the lineup, from the goalkeeper, to the center midfield, all the way to the front line. The results were decimating. Fresh from back-to-back winning seasons, Linfield was picked to finish fourth in the preseason coaches poll. But the Wildcats lost nine of their final 10 contests, slipping to seventh in the Northwest Conference. The 'Cats finished with a 9-10 record, including a 4-10 mark in league play. Linfield was forced into overtime five times, losing two.

The highlight of the season came early on, when the Wildcats posted a 1-0 decision over Concordia, ranked ninth at the time in the NAIA. Linfield also registered resounding nonconference victories over Cascade, Menlo and Lakeland.

Individually, Kathleen Wochnick set single-game (4) and single-season scoring records (16). Kelly Ping had 10 goals and 6 assists and Lauren Millhollin had a team-best nine assists to go with two goals.

Millhollin, a four-time NWC all-star, ended her career as the all-time assists (23) and points leader (63). She was named a third team West Region National Soccer Coaches Association of America all-star.

Millhollin and midfielder Erica Crossman each were recognized for their work in the classroom, garnering second team academic all-West Region honors.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

The components are there for a run at the league title, but standing in the 'Cats' path is a steep learning curve for the team's newest players and a lot of hard work by every team member.

"Even though we lost several good players, we have a veteran group returning. I think they're committed to winning and committed to each other," said Coach Larry Doty.

Linfield is the tallest team in the conference, and taller than perhaps a number of Pac-10 Conference teams.

Six-foot-11 Nick Fusare returns at the pivot after earning second team all-NWC consideration a year ago. Fusare broke the single-season blocked shots record as a junior and is prepped for another outstanding year. Seven-footer Derek Ellerbrook joins the program and will also likely be a factor in the middle.

The rest of the front line includes 6-9 Joe Wells, 6-8 Sam Kreiger and 6-8 Chris Lewis. Figuring out the best way to utilize all the height may prove to be Doty's biggest challenge.

At small forward, the Wildcats have experience with 6-5 senior T.J. Middlesworth, a three-year letterwinner. Lewis, Wells, and 6-2 Ryan Monagle, all members of the junior varsity program last winter, should also contribute.

At shooting guard, the Wildcats return lettermen John Broussard and Pat McConn. Wiry guard Blake Shelton, another junior varsity prospect, could come into his own. J.V. veterans Joe Neill and Casey Kushiyama are expected to share the responsibilities at point guard. Both players have the speed and smarts to play the position.

To improve on last season's fourth-place conference finish, the Wildcats must do a consistent job rebounding the ball and finding the open shooter on the perimeter. And, "we must play better defense than last year," said Doty. The Wildcats led the NWC in scoring but also gave up too many points in the process.

With only one starter and five letterwinners returning, the Wildcats enter the season with little fanfare and are picked to finish fifth. Whether Linfield can rise above the preseason prediction depends largely how well Doty can use his team's height to its best advantage.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Long regarded as a defensive club during Robyn Stewart's tenure as coach, the Linfield Wildcats now want to be known for their offense. Consistency night in and night out will also be the recurring theme, one which Stewart hopes will lift the 'Cats into one of the top four slots in the Northwest Conference.

Linfield finished a disappointing fifth last year, lacking the muscle and killer instinct needed to beat the NWC's veteran teams.

This year, it's the Wildcats who appear well seasoned, with four seniors among 10 players remaining from the 2002-03 roster.

Three starters return, including NWC all-stars Monica Schwing and Heidi Jurgens.

There are no freshmen on the team, as the only new faces on the squad are four junior college transfers.

"We're really focusing on being the best basketball team we can be. From top to bottom, it's going to be extremely competitive in the NWC."

Jurgens, who began to flourish as a scorer midway through last season, is back to solidify the backcourt. The talented junior led the team in scoring and assists, often carrying the team on her shoulders in the late stages of games. Jurgens is expected to move over to shooting guard to take advantage of her scoring, but will also see action as needed at her natural position of point guard.

Senior Jessica Flammini, a regular off the bench for the Wildcats last season, will see significant minutes at the point. Shannon Schiele, a transfer from San Diego-Mesa, should be a force at both ends of the floor.
The Wildcats are expected to be more aggressive on the front line with the addition of Jessica Denison, a 5-11 transfer from Wenatchee Valley Community College. Sharing playing time with Denison is senior Lacey Conroy, another 5-11 blue-collar rebounder who has three seasons of college experience.

At center, Schwing is on track for an outstanding senior season. It's a good bet she'll become the first player in program history to earn all-conference recognition in four consecutive seasons.

Cracking the upper crust of the NWC is likely to be a difficult, given the personnel expected to return at perennial contenders Pacific Lutheran, Whitworth, George Fox and Puget Sound. It's a challenge the Wildcats are up for, now that Linfield is one of the teams now loaded with experience.

SWIMMING

Maintaining their position in the upper one-third of the Northwest Conference is the primary goal of the Linfield men's and women's swimming squads entering the 2003-04 season. However, remaining among the top three teams may be a tall task, as both squads were decimated by graduation and attrition.

The women's squad returns 10 letterwinners from last season's team that surged to a second-place finish at the conference meet. But the Wildcats are without five swimmers who accounted for over 200 points at last season's NWC championship meet.

Team co-captains Devon Parks and Mandy Weeber will do their best to keep the Wildcats on course. Weeber, who was second in the 200 butterfly last season, is perhaps the team's top athlete. Parks, a specialist in the distance freestyle and backstroke, provides needed versatility. Also ready to make some waves in the longer freestyle events is Megan Mandeville.

Sophomore Annie Fox will try to help fill the breaststroke and should be solid in the sprint freestyle. Alyssa Norman provides the Wildcats with a dependable backstroker.

Freshman Andrea Thomas should have an immediate impact in the butterfly, middle distances or 400 IM.

Puget Sound and Whitworth will likely battle for the NWC women's team title, with Linfield, Willamette, Lewis & Clark and Pacific Lutheran expected to fight it out for third, fourth and fifth.

After placing a disappointing fourth last season, the Linfield men plan a return to the conference's upper ranks. Seven veterans return on the 22-man roster, including two national qualifiers.

The Wildcats should be deep in the backstroke and improved in the breaststroke. Linfield's Achilles heel could be in the sprint freestyle and relay events. Expected to lead the way are seniors Craig Gonzales, Greg Jackson, Nathan Muti, Grant Hayball, John Lyon and Chris Kish. Gonzales, Muti and Jackson will carry the load in the backstroke and IM, Hayball will contribute in the sprint freestyle and Lyon will anchor the distance freestyle. Nathan Piers-Vanderploeg should be steady in the butterfly and breaststroke.

Whitworth and UPS are the title favorites with Linfield, PLU and Willamette fighting for a top-three finish.
ALUMNI NOTES AND TIDBITS

Darren Heath '02, signed a professional baseball contract with the Gary (Ind.) SouthShore RailCats of the independent Northern League. A native of London, England, Heath was a key player for the Great Britain baseball team that captured the 2003 European championship.

Former Linfield baseball player Brian Simpson '96, is Director of Group Sales for the Washington Capitals of the National Hockey League.

Former baseball pitcher Eric Anderson '02 is a loan officer for Allied Home Mortgage in Stanwood, Wash.

Chester Prickett, who participated in football at Linfield from 1989-91, passed away May 1, 2003, at his home in Reno, Nev.

Darren Haworth '03, has been named a graduate assistant coach for men’s and women’s tennis at the University of Redlands. Haworth played on Linfield’s 2002 Northwest Conference championship team and served as an assistant coach on the title-winning 2003 team.

Ex-Linfield football player Thomas Nutter '49, passed away July 7, 2003. Nutter was an English teacher and assistant football coach at Oregon City High School for 30 years. He also served on the board of directors of the Portland Teachers Credit Union and the Gladstone Public Library for over 30 years.

Reggie Stone '00, is a certified athletic trainer with the New Orleans Saints of the National Football League.

Steve Collette, a member of Linfield’s 1966 national championship baseball team, passed away from prostate cancer Sept. 9, 2003, in Salem. Collette spent five years in professional baseball with the Chicago Cubs organization and the Portland Mavericks.

Steve Dickenson '75 is in his eighth year as superintendent of the Colton (Ore.) School District. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Oregon School Activities Association and is in his 32nd year of service in the Oregon Army National Guard.

Will Stanton '90 of Grand Blanc, Mich., was named head volleyball coach at Saginaw Valley State University. A former cross country and track and field athlete at Linfield, Stanton spent the past four years as head volleyball coach at Mott Community College in Flint, Mich.

Former national champion swimmer Mike Westphal '96 married Sarah Ewan August 9, 2003, in his hometown of Olympia, Wash. He is currently an assistant swimming coach at the University of Nebraska-Las Vegas.


Fred von Appen '65, a former football player and coach at Linfield, is an assistant coach at the University of Montana.

Former track and football star Sonte Wong '00 is playing professional football with the Tri-City Diesel of the National Indoor Football League. The Diesel is located in Kearney, Neb.