

**Linfield College
Seeks to keep
Consecutive Winning
Seasons Streak Alive
By Tex Noel, Editor
TCFH**

The 2010 seasons in just days away from kicking off; many things are on the minds of players, coaches and teams As college football enters its 142nd seasons, countless records have been established over those many autumns; only to see them fall years later.

For a pair of NCAA III schools, each has established marks that more than likely go unequaled; despite how good a team or players become. First there is Mount Union. For the past 15 and 16 of the last 17 falls, the Purple Raiders have scored at will over their opponents—as they have scored at least 500 or more points every season since 1995.

No school has even come close to equally the number of seasons.

More on these accomplishments in September issue of TCFH.

Now, let's take a look at another school...far away in the Pacific Northwest, Linfield College.

Over the course of the past 54 seasons; with more than their share of close games...this

team remains as the sport's tribute to longevity.

Just three times over a 26 year span that began in 1971 would see the team come close to finishing with a .500 record.

All three seasons: 1971-87-96 the Wildcats arose to the occasion and won a game or two that would ensure a winning season. (Each year the Wildcats finished just above the even mark with 5-4-0 slates.)

The NAIA post-season began the same year of the streak, 1956; but only two teams would qualify for the games till 1958—and then four, but Linfield wasn't among the elite until 1961.

In its first post-season action following the 1961 campaign, the school advanced to the **NAIA Championship Game**, before falling to one the best small college elevens of all time, Pittsburg State Kansas. This team was also the only NAIA school ever to also be named College Division Champion.

With the beginning of divisional play in 1973 (NCAA II and NCAA III), the poll and championship on a regular bases was discontinued.

However, additional research has uncovered a final College Division Poll for the 1974 and 1975 seasons. The latter ranking had another NAIA School as its #1—Texas A&I.

LC would advance to the NAIA Championship Game twice more; both losses.

Then, after once again, failing to make the playoffs in 1981, the school would win not only its first title in 1982, but in every other season through 1986.

Like other NAIA schools during the later 1990's, Linfield applied and was accepted into membership with the NCAA.

Seven seasons after becoming a NCAA III school, Linfield once again would hoist the championship trophy—in 2004—in just its third appearance in the playoffs.

**LINFIELD
COLLEGE'S 54
CONSECUTIVE WINNING
SEASONS**

Season	W	L	T	Post
Final Poll			Decade	
			n	Seaso Rank
				WLT

1956*	6	1	2	
1957	8	1	0	
1958	7	1	1	
1959	5	3	1	
1960	7	2	0	
1961	10	1	0	L- CG
	3			
1962	8	0	1	
	8			
1963	8	1	0	
	18			

26-6-4

1964	8	1	1	L- SF
	4			
1965	8	2	0	L -CG
	9			
1966	7	2	0	
1967	8	1	0	
1968	6	2	1	
1969	6	3	0	
				76-15-3
1970**	8	1	0	
	8			
1971	5	4	0	
1972	6	3	0	
1973^	7	2	0	
	11			
1974	9	1	0	L -SF
	3			
1975	6	3	0	
1976	7	3	0	
	16			
1977	8	1	0	L -SF
	3			
1978	9	1	0	L -CG
	3			
1979	6	3	1	
	14		71-22-1	
1980	9	1	0	L -FR
	3			
1981	8	2	0	
	14			
1982	12	0	0	W- NC
	2			
1983	6	2	1	
	14			
1984	12	0	0	W -NC
	1			
1985	8	2	0	
	5			
1986	12	0	0	W- NC
	1			
1987	5	4	0	
1988	7	2	0	
	20			
1989	6	3	0	
	25		85-16-1	

1990	7	2	0	
	18			
1991	8	3	0	L-QF
	9			
1992	12	1	0	
	2			
1993	6	3	1	
	12			
1994	8	2	0	L-FR
	1			
1995	6	3	0	
	21			
1996	5	4	0	
1997	6	3	0	
	19			
1998+	7	2	0	
1999	6	3	0	
				71-26-1
2000	9	1	0	
	7			
2001	7	2	0	
2002	10	1	0	L-QF
	7			
2003	11	1	0	L-QF
	3			
2004	13	0	0	W-NC
	1			
2005	10	1	0	L-QF
	1			
2006	6	3	0	
2007	6	3	0	
2008	6	3	0	
2009	12	1	0	L-SF
	3			90-16-0

1986	SO	39.0
2004	TO	510.8
	PO	375.8
	SO	50.0
2005	SO	47.9
2006	KOR	27.0

54 Yrs 419 100 10 (Games: 529.....Win%: .802)
Avg. 7.76 1.85 0.19 **[APR:**
8.50...NC Seasons: 4]
DIVISIONAL HISTORY: * NAIA ** NAIA I
^NAIA II + NCAA III

Team Stat Titles during the streak

Season	Stat	Per Game Average
1978	TO	503.9