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Baseball Superstar To Address Record Number of Graduates

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LINDENWOOD COLLEGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baseball Superstar To Address Record Number of Graduates

April 24, 1997 St. Charles, Mo.--Thirteen-time Golden Glove winner and retired St. Louis Cardinal shortstop **Osborne Earl "Ozzie" Smith, Jr.** will be the guest speaker for the 170th Commencement ceremony at Lindenwood College on Saturday, May 17. Smith is currently the host of the popular television program *"This Week In Baseball."* Undergraduate and graduate degrees will be conferred upon 984 students, making this the largest Commencement ceremony in Lindenwood history.

Dora Boyd de Pérez Balladeres will be the featured speaker for the Lindenwood Baccalaureate service to be held Friday evening, May 16. Pérez Balladeres is the first lady of the Republic of Panama and a jurist. Smith and Pérez Balladeres will each receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters during the Commencement ceremony.

Retiring Lindenwood professors, **James Feely, M.A.**, and **James F. Hood, Ph.D.**, will each be conferred *professor emeritus* during the ceremony. Feely, a professor of English, has taught at Lindenwood since 1958. Hood, a history professor, has taught at Lindenwood since 1961. Both men live in St. Charles.

The Alumni Merit Award for Professional Accomplishment will be presented to **Fern Bittner**, class of 1957. Bittner, of St. Charles, is a professional horse show manager, judge and steward. She was the director of horsemanship at Lindenwood for 27 years, and established the equestrian science program, which ended in 1982. Bittner earned a bachelor of arts degree in physical education from Lindenwood and also holds an associate of arts degree from Stephens College.

Susan M. Schiller, class of 1977, will also receive the 1997 Alumni Merit Award for Professional Accomplishment. Schiller, who lives in Upper Montclair, N.J., is the senior producer for *CBS This Morning*, locally broadcast on KMOV-TV. She was also a producer at KMOX-TV in St. Louis (now KMOV) during the years 1977-82 and 1984-85. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in journalism and political science from Lindenwood.

Jeffee Lynne Feely, class of 1980, will receive the 1997 Alumni Merit Award for Volunteer Accomplishment. Feely, who is from St. Charles, volunteers with Mid-America Transplant Services, St. Patrick's Homeless Shelter, Christ Church Cathedral, Centenary Church, among other places. She also served in the Peace Corps for four years. Feely earned a bachelor's degree in history and English with a minor in dance from Lindenwood College, and a master's in urban affairs and policy analysis from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

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Lindenwood Commencement

add one, page two

April 24, 1997

The 1997 Lindenwood College Commencement will be held at 10 a.m. on the quadrangle of the main campus in St. Charles. The baccalaureate service will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 16, at the Lindenwood College Cultural and Community Center at 400 North Kingshighway in St. Charles.

Parking adjacent to campus buildings will be reserved for graduates and their families prior to the ceremonies. Parking for individuals with disabilities can be found adjacent to Cobbs Hall on the main campus. On Commencement Day (May 17), additional parking will be available in Parker Hall lot behind Commerce Bank on First Capitol Drive and at the St. Charles Presbyterian Church. Shuttles will travel in 15-minute intervals between the Parker Hall lot, church and ceremony locations.

The 1997 Lindenwood College Commencement is open to the public. For more information, contact the Office of Public Relations at (314) 949-4964 or 949-4920.

Lindenwood, founded in 1827, is an independent, liberal arts college offering undergraduate and graduate degrees on a residential campus and at locations in Westport and St. Peters.