Staying focused

Quashon Greenlee will graduate from Wofford College on Sunday with a degree in business economics.

By Robert W. Dalton

Tiwandi Jones always kept her son, Quashon Greenlee ‘22, focused on two things when he was growing up in Anderson, South Carolina: education and football.

Education was the key to a better life. Football was the vehicle that would get him the education she wanted him to have.

And then, when Greenlee was 16, his mother died of complications from congestive heart failure.

For so long it had been the two of them against the world, and Greenlee was devastated. But he knew what he had to do.

“Her death put a fire in me,” Greenlee says. “I had to graduate from high school, and I had to go to the hardest college and get the best education possible. That’s why I ended up at Wofford.”

On Sunday, Greenlee will walk across the stage and receive his degree in business economics. He and his wife of nine months, KiKi Hoffler Greenlee, will then head off to Anderson to begin their next chapter together.
He'll start work as a management trainee with Enterprise Rent-A-Car on Wednesday. She'll begin teaching first grade in the fall. They'll work together to turn their two-bedroom rented townhouse into a home.

Commencement schedule

Wofford College will hold its 168th Commencement on Sunday. Commencement exercises will be held on the lawn in front of Main Building.

Wofford College’s 2022 Commencement Exercises will be held Sunday, May 22. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. on the lawn in front of Main Building.

David M. Beacham ’77, Wofford’s senior vice president for administration and secretary to the board of trustees, will serve as the featured speaker. Beacham is retiring from the college this summer after 45 years of service. In addition to his work in the President’s Office, he also worked with the college’s admission and advancement staffs, including 12 years as chief advancement officer, during which he oversaw a $90 million campaign, the largest achieved by the college at that time.

Honorary degrees will be presented to Dr. Michael A. Dirr, emeritus professor of horticulture at the University of Georgia; Alexandra Nunez, president and CEO of Esperanza, a microfinance institution in the Dominican Republic; and Dr. Leo Franklin Twiggs, a renowned artist who developed and chaired the fine arts department at South Carolina State University and is professor emeritus at the institution (read the full biographies of the honorees and the featured speaker).

Find more Commencement details, including a complete list of events and links for livestreams.
Hector Ortiz ’22, Wofford College’s 2021-22 Presidential International Scholar, will discuss his year of research during Commencement weekend’s Senior Showcase at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

Wofford College’s Presidential International Scholars are often tested on their abilities and willingness to be flexible and adapt to changing circumstances. That’s understandable considering international travel is involved, and many times scholars are trying to navigate across developing countries.

Shortly after being named the scholar for the 2021-22 academic year, Hector Ortiz ’22 faced challenges stateside. The COVID-19 pandemic would shape and change the countries he planned to visit for research. Argentina and South Africa were his first choices.

“Things were uncertain and changing,” says Ortiz, who conducted research in Kenya and Ecuador once it was clear the pandemic would interfere with his initial plans. “I knew from the beginning there could be a change in plans.”

Ortiz, a triple major from Saluda, South Carolina, studying biology, philosophy and Spanish, will discuss his research during a presentation at 11 a.m. on Saturday in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts during Commencement weekend. It will be part of the Senior Showcase, which will include exhibits of art, research and more from the Class of 2022.
Celebrating senior artists

Studio art majors in the Class of 2022 discussed their work during an artist talk on Tuesday, May 17.

Athletics

Alexis Tomlin named Southern Conference Graduate Scholar

Women’s track team sets team and facility records

Ryan Galanie named CoSIDA Academic All-District