

Runners Compete In Classroom

With a combined grade point average of 3.11, the 19 members of the Brevard College cross country team prove themselves to be excellent students as well as championship runners.

The term student-athlete has taken some flak in recent years, but the BC harriers show they are indeed worthy of the title. Their consistency in the classroom just might win them another national championship, this one as the top-ranked team in the country.

Coach Norm Witek says, "This is by far the best team academically I've ever coached." Witek explains that the NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) chooses its top academic teams from the athletes who compete in the regional and national championship meets. The five best averages from team members who finish in those meets are used to compute the national team average.

Brevard's top five average is 3.39. The students responsible for this fine performance are Rodney Curry, Patrick O'Grady, Henning Brandt, Charlie Purser, and Glenn Roach. For the seven run-

ners who went to the 1984 national meet, the grade-point average is 3.18. This includes the above runners plus David Coulter and Winston Brown.

Witek says the group has a good chance of being the top academic team in the country this year, having already claimed the national title in running. Last year Brevard finished 10th academically with a 3.097 average. "The top ranked team had a 3.4-3.5 average," Witek said. Though final computations won't be made until after the school year is completed, BC is almost certain to finish in the top five.

The classroom performance of the Tornado runners is even stronger than first glance indicates. Brevard cannot claim the averages of its two best students, Adam Jagelski and John Fillyaw, because they did not compete in the regional meet. Both men have GPA's above 3.8.

This same reason applies to runners David Mays, Charles Hinkle, and John Furnell, all of whom have averages above, 3.5.

Why do cross-country runners seem to make such good students? Witek thinks he

understands. "This kind of regimentation, running 10-15 miles a day, helps them with studies," he said. A runner learns to be independent. Though there is much team spirit and en-

couragement, it still comes down to individual performance. The demands on their time for running and studying require efficiency and productivity. "Without the discipline of running," Witek said, "these guys might be just average students."

Team members Glenn Roach and John Furnell agree. "You don't always want to run, but you have to," Roach stated. "It's the same with studying. And if you can make yourself run at times, you can make yourself study." Furnell added that team commitment is a big factor in their academic success. "We not only help each other when running, but we help with studies too," he said. "We get along so well, most of us living together in the New Complex, that we naturally support each other."

However it is, there's no arguing with success. And succeeding, whether on the field or off, is what the cross-country team does best.



Patrick O'Grady and Adam Jagelski compete at the Marriott-Bud Invitational at Virginia Tech.

Three Brevard Runners Qualified For Nationals

In their first meet of the season, three members of the Brevard College Track Team qualified for the nationals to be held in Arkansas on March 1-2.

At the Eastman Invitational held at East Tennessee University on January 19, Kelvin McRae qualified for nationals in the 300 yard run with a time of 31.92. Patrick O'Grady finished first in the three-mile run with a time of 14:22.9, qualifying for nationals. Henning Brandt qualified for nationals by winning the two-mile race with a time of 9:13.

John Furnell, David Coulter, James Thompson, John Fillyaw, and Winston Brown also participated at the meet. Furnell ran the one-mile race finishing with a

time of 4:29.2. Coulter, Thompson, and Fillyaw competed in the two-mile race finishing with times of 9:41.3, 10:01.7, and 10:39.5 respectively. Winston Brown finished the three-mile run with a time of 15:05.

Brevard track team members also placed highly at the Marriott-Bud Invitational held at Virginia Tech on January 26-27. Patrick O'Grady finished 7th in the 1300 meter run and 4th in the 3000 meter run. Charlie Purser also competed in the 3000 meter run and placed 7th. In the distance medley relay, team A, consisting of John Furnell, Kelvin McRae, Rodney Curry, and Henning Brandt, finished 3rd with a time of 10:22.9.

Men's Basketball BC "On The Upswing"

By Jill Avett

In a conference match with Spartanburg Methodist, the Brevard men's basketball team was victorious, 62-57. Richie White and Ricky Chatman lead in scoring with 12 points each. Theodus Baker, Anthony Hailey, and Andre James followed with 10 points each. Calvin Butler, Holace Hill, and Greg Reese were next with 5, 2, and 1 point respectively. At game time Spartanburg was ranked nationally in the top twenty junior colleges. The win over Spartanburg Methodist was BC's first conference win of the season.

The Tornados have several outstanding players. Among

them are Ricky Chatman and Richie White. Chatman leads the team in scoring with an average of 17 points per game and 90 percent free-throw average. A forward, Chatman is ranked second in the region for free-throw percentages. White is the team leader in assists and averages 5.5 assists per game. In addition he made 8 out of 8 free throws against Spartanburg.

The Tornados have played several tough teams and currently have a record of 9-5. However, Coach Doug Rogers feels that they're "on the upswing now" and knows the team members will continue doing their best.

Tennis Season Begins

By Megan Johnson

The Brevard College women's Tennis team has begun organized practices and things are really looking well. The coach for the women's Tennis team will be coaches the women's basketball team. Coach Sunbury has great experience as she herself played for Erskine College of South Carolina for four consecutive years.

The team will consist of three returning sophomores: Kristin Iberger, Mara Klein, and Megan Johnson. New members of this year's team include Carol Beckman, Donna Kilpatrick, Sonya King and Lynn Smirl. The players are looking forward to a winning season. Official practices will begin in February and matches will start about the second week of March.



Ivet Concepcion goes for the basket against Warren Wilson College earlier this season.

Women's Basketball Ranked First in WCJCC

By Jill Avett

Presently with a 13-5 record, the Brevard College women's basketball team is ranked first in the Western Carolinas Junior College Conference. Earning the conference title takes hard work and the Lady Tornados proved they were up to it with an overtime defeat of Spartanburg Methodist, 81-77. That conference win was followed by another victory; in a tight match

with North Greenville, BC came out on top, 89-84.

Much of the team's success lies with four of the five members of the starting line-up. Each of these four score at least 10 to 15 points per game. Currently, Ivet Concepcion, who plays center leads the team with an average of

15 points. Pam Lyons, wing guard, is close behind with an average score of 14 points. Angie Vickers, forward, and Sheila Gibson, wing guard, follow with each

scoring an average of 13 points per game.

This is Coach Maryann Sunbury's fifth year of coaching the Brevard, and she says "this is definitely the best team so far

and they are really playing well." She hopes they will be top seeded at the conference tournament to

be held at BC on February 27-March 1. "Right now," she adds, "we need the fans and all the support they can give us."