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Last week's mud in front of Jones was just too tempting for this gang of football players, seen here scrambling for a loose ball.



Survivors of the Mud Bowl pose for a group shot. (Clarion photos by Lin Redmond)

Jeff Campbell to run in XC world championships

by Scott Holmes Clarion Sports Editor

Jeff Campbell will follow in the footsteps of former BC cross country star Jeff Pajak when he represents Brevard College and the United States at the World Cross Country Championships in Aix-Les-Baines, France on March 24.

Jeff finished 5th in the USA Junior Trials at Tyee Valley Golf Course in Seattle, Washington, on Febuary 10. The top six runners qualified for the championship out of a total of 27 runners from 20 states.

The race consisted of three laps around a rain-soaked, mud-drenched golf course that included two fairly difficult hills. At the end of the first loop, Jeff and seven others had pulled away from the rest. Jeff says, "I was scared but I was doing what coach told me to do."

By the beginning of the second loop, the top six runners had pulled away 50 yards from the rest of the field. The first three pulled away from the other three and Jeff just stayed with the three in his group and hung on for fifth place.

"Everything went according to plan," Jeff says, "It all happened the way coach said it would if I ran that way."

Coach Dave Rinker, who accompanied Campbell for the trip, was very pleased with the performance. "Jeff did an excellent job of carrying out the game plan. We knew that he had to go with whoever was in fourth place and not let him pull away no matter what it took."

Rinker was also pleased with the way Campbell ran considering the conditions. "Jeff is a good mud runner because he runs more off of determination and strength than pure talent." Rinker also noted that "this is a great opportunity for Jeff. How many people ever get a chance to compete in a world championship? Jeff has worked very hard and kept the faith and that's what it takes to be a success in any area of life."



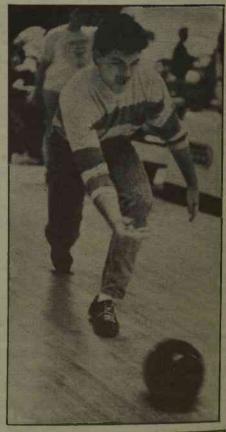
Headed for France after Spring Break, Jeff Campbell will compete in the junior World Cross Country Olympics

The top 8 finishers were:

- 1. John Coyle, Notre Dame, 22:00
- 2. Jason Mohr, Adams State, 22:07
- 3. Andy Maris, Washington H.S.,
- 22:164. Mark Johansen, Brigham Young
- University, 22:22 5. Jeff Campbell, Brevard College, 22:33
- 6. Paul Stoneham, University of Texas, 22:36
- 7. James Harris, Fresno State, 22:45
- 8. Teddy Mitchell, Florida H.S., 22:46

Campbell and Pajak, (the latter represented BC in 1988 in New Zealand), helped BC join the University of Tennessee and Adams State College of Colorado as the only three schools to have two athletes qualify for the junior team over the past three years.

This is just another high point in an incredible year for Jeff. Campbell finished first in the North Carolina State Cross Country Championships in October and earned NJCAA All-American status by placing 10th in the November cross country nationals and leading BC to a third place national finish.





Bowlers let it fly during the Feb. 17 Midnight Bowling madness sponsored by Jan Gillean and Co. (Clarion photo by Laura Clark)