

STUDENT ATHLETE PROFILE
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S SOCCER

Sports

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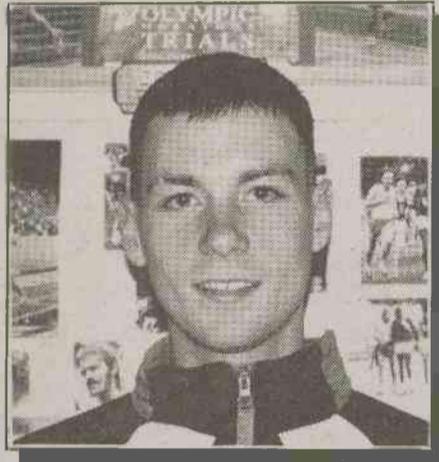
Student Athlete: Gibson excels on track

Scott Wolfe
Sports Editor

Joe Gibson said his freshman year at Brevard College was average, but an average campaign for the former Spotswood High School phenom may be better than a good year for many of his teammates.

Gibson capped his first year of collegiate competition with a sixth place finish in the 3,000 meter steeplechase during last spring's NJCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Odessa, Texas. The All-American finished the race in nine minutes, 38 seconds, which was just 10 seconds off his personal best time despite temperatures above 100 degrees and winds in excess of 25 miles per hour.

"It just seemed like another race," Gibson said when asked about the experience of competing at nationals. "We didn't run at Ratliff Stadium, where there was a big crowd and everyone else was. We had to go run at Odessa College."



Gibson said the atmosphere and track surface were different at the smaller stadium but that he preferred to run there. "I didn't really care where we ran," he said. "I just wanted to go out and race."

"And I feel like I did pretty well," added Gibson. "I passed seven guys in the last two laps, three in the last lap... Maybe I started moving up too late. I could have finished fifth.. But I did what Coach Rinker told me to do and I felt pretty good about it."

When asked to recap and sum up his first year here at Brevard, his feeling changed. He shook his head even before he could start speaking. "I think it was just an average year for me," Gibson said, noting that perhaps he had placed too much pressure upon himself. "I didn't really do anything I wanted to do. I only got one of my goals accomplished, and that was when I did the 3,000 meter run indoors in 8:35."

"Other than that, I think my improvement was gradual," he added. "Some other people came to Brevard and immediately took off, but I think my improvement was a little slower, more gradual." Gibson has, however, blossomed into one of the finest athletes to come to Brevard. He hopes to build on the accomplishments of last year and make his sophomore campaign even better than his freshman one.

Rinker's runners ready to roll in '96

Scott Wolfe
Sports Editor

With the changing of the seasons and the weather turning colder, it is time for Brevard College to showcase one of its most successful and traditional athletic programs in school's history. The 1996 Brevard college Men's and Women's cross country season is about to get underway, and this is a preview of what you can expect for the upcoming season.

On the Men's side, Coach Dave Rinker returns 4 runners with collegiate experience, but a host of red shirt freshmen with a track season behind them and a large group of new freshman expect to make this season interesting following last years 3rd place team at the National Championships. The women's situation is very different from what Coach

Rinker is used to working with, as a large group of very talented freshmen runners to go along with a few very talented and experienced sophomores should make this season one to remember for Brevard College.

Coach Rinker expects good things from both squads this season. On The Men's side, he has a lot of question marks but, expects very good things from Sophomores Joe Gibson, Will Hodges, and Tommy Lancaster. He also says he expects good things from Freshman Keith Natti and Kevin Hudnall. Thus far, Rinker says he is "Very ecstatic about the steps the runners have taken to improve," adding that though this team is not as experienced as some of the past squads, they are only training at one level below last year's team. The recruiting class of the women's team is the best ever at Brevard. Rinker says

that they are "An exciting group."

With the makeup of this year's teams different from those of the past, it will be a new-look Tornado squad. However, with the experience of the sophomores, coupled by the quiet determination of the freshmen, this team looks to exceed the potential and expectations of the teams of the past. It should be great! The tornados traveled to USC-Spartanburg on September 28, 1996, for the first meet. The only home action of the season will take place November 2, 1996, at 4:00. Come out and support your Men's and Women's Cross Country teams in '96.



1996
Brevard College
Mens and Womens
Cross Country Schedule

- Sept 28 USC-Spartanburg Inv.
Spartanburg, SC
- Oct 5 Appalachian St. Inv.
Boone, NC
- Oct 19 N. Carolina Intercollegiate
Charlotte, NC
- Oct 26 Southeast Championships
Nashville, TN
- Nov 2 Region 10 Championships
Brevard, NC
- Nov 16 National Championships
Overland Park, KS

1996
Brevard College
Women's Soccer

- Sept 7 Louisburg College
4:30 Louisburg, NC
- Sept 13 Spartanburg Methodist
5:00 Spatanburg, SC
- Sept 14 Western Carolina Univ.
12:00 Brevard, NC
- Sept 19 Dekalb College
5:30 Atlanta, GA
- Sept 21 St. Mary's College
3:00 Brevard, NC
- Sept 29 Louisburg College
2:00 Brevard, NC
- Oct 5 Cantonsville Comm. Coll.
12:00 Baltimore, MD
- Oct 6 Essex Comm. Coll.
11:00 Baltimore, MD
- Oct 12 Lewis & Clark College
1:00 Brevard, NC
- Oct 17 Spartanburg Methodist
5:00 Brevard, NC
- Oct 19 Broward Comm. Coll.
3:00 Melbourne, FL
- Oct 20 Brevard Comm. Coll.
11:00 Melbourne, FL
- Oct 27 Andrew College
12:00 Brevard, NC
- Oct 28 Dekalb College
4:00 Brevard, NC
- Nov 2 Region 10 Tournament
TBA
- Nov 15 District H Tournament
TBA
- Nov 21 NJCAA Tournament
TBA Baltimore, MD