

Women make strong showing

Men capture state XC crown ... again

from BC News Bureau

For the second year in a row, Brevard College has captured the North Carolina Intercollegiate Men's Cross Country Championship.

And the Tornados did it in high style, with Tornado runner Jeff Campbell winning the individual championship. The Mariottsville, Md., freshman won the five mile event with a time of 25:37 — even though he got lost at one point.

Behind BC with the low score of 30 and second place UNC-Wilmington with 60 came Duke in third with 92 and ASU in fourth with 99. Twelve teams completed in the meet, including, in order of finish, Methodist, Davidson, St. Augustine's, Wake Forest, East Carolina, Pembroke State, Campbell and N.C. A&T. Neither N.C. State nor UNC-CH competed in the men's meet.

Stunned by the running of Jeff Campbell, Coach Dave Rinker of BC observed "Jeff hung back for the first two miles, moved up to the leaders, then pounced on the pack at the three and a half mile point (of the five mile race).

Out of the meet comes this amazing story: with a considerable lead near the end of the race, freshman Jeff Campbell of Brevard made a wrong turn on the course. The second place runner at that time was Brad Dodson of Appalachian State, who, seeing Jeff make that wrong turn, shouted at Campbell to get back on course.

Jeff stopped, turned around, leapt a ditch to get back in the race and in a sprint to the finish line, overtook ASU's Dodson to win by only seconds.

What makes the story incredible is this: ASU's Dodson is a former BC All-American and member of the 1987 National XC Championship team for BC and son of RD Sybil Dodson.

President Billy Greer commented, "Only a guy like Brad Dodson would do something like that. Any other runner going for the lead might have let Jeff go wrong."

Bill Mantooth of BC also went out conservatively, then moved up to finish fifth in 26:02, just in front of BC's Brad Smith in 6th. Then came a heard of Tornado runners: Taitso Pitkenen, 9th; Rob Cowles, 11th; Chris Griggs, 12th; Chris Dunn, 13th;



BC's top three finishers in the victorious state XC meet at UNC-W, left to right, state champ Jeff Campbell, Bill Mantooth (5th) and Brad Smith (6th)

and Craig Goodroe, 17th.

Rinker praised his runners. "We did a great job of attacking throughout the race. Campbell was great at staying under control, then making a commitment and following through." Rinder said, "We had a few sick athletes out there, but they ran hard and made no excuses."

Ranked 6th in the nation in the NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association). The BC men travel to Overland Park for the NJCAA Cross Country Nation Championship on Nov. 11. The men finished fourth last year, after going into that meet at Twin Falls, Idaho, as the defending national champions.

The BC men have won the NJCAA cross country championship five times since 1980, and three other years they were runner-ups.

BC Women Finish Sixth

BC women finished sixth in the same. Freshman Heather Weldon led the Lady Tornados with what Rinker called an "excellent showing," ending up seventh with 19:16 in the 5k course. Holly Higgins ran number two for the team in 24th with a time of 20:14. Rounding out the team were Allyson Cottrell in 38th, Tina Wiegierink in 41st, Hope Pickett in 43rd and Vicky Ruiz in 44th.

In the women's meet, the finishers were: ASU, 37; Duke, 65; Wake Forest, 80; UNC-W, 94; East Carolina, 108; Brevard, 147; Davidson, 185; Campbell, 243; St. Augustine's, 319.

'Jock Dorms' -- they can work

by Doug Meredith

Clarion Reporter

Athletic residential halls. This concept — better known as "jock dorms" — is common at most major colleges and universities. Designed to promote team unity and spirit, they also can promote other unwelcome concerns such as crime and drugs. Sports fans well remember such incidents as shootings and gang rape at the University of Oklahoma's Bud Hall.

Brevard College has two athletic dorms on campus — Ross Hall, where the men's track and cross-country teams live, and the Cottage, where the men's golf team resides.

According to Kevin Binkley, Director of Housing, athletes were placed in these residence halls for three reasons: Building coinciding with team sizes, lack of interest by other special-interest groups in populating these halls, and coaches' ability to indirectly supervise their players.

When asked about the potential rate of discipline problems in these dorms, Binkley said he believed "they would be lower due to the coaches and to the fact that the residents had a common interest." He thought their common interest was "a key to keeping the peace." Binkley added that, so far, there have been no discipline problems in either the Cottage or Ross Hall.

The concept of Athletic dorms on Brevard College's campus is not a new one. At various times throughout the school's history, every men's athletic team has had their own dorm or residence hall.

Just for argument's sake, why do the female athletes not have a residence hall of their own? Apparently, this idea has not been implemented before, so why not give it a try? Brevard College has gained a reputation for innovativeness (as evidenced by the community service requirement recently approved for next year's freshman class) and this certainly would be an interesting innovation. If not a dorm, then just give the girls a floor or two and try the concept out to see if it is feasible.

What are the pros and cons of having athletic dorms on Brevard College's campus? Some pros, such as the promotion of team spirit, are obvious, but some others, like getting to know a teammate, are not so obvious. A major con of athletic dorms is the fact that many athletes think they can get away with more illegal activities simply because they are athletes.

Here at Brevard College, that is not going to happen. Athletes cannot and will not get away with violations of the Uniform Guidelines because they are scrutinized more heavily than other students for the very reason that they are athletes.

The concept of the athletic dorm at Brevard College is not a bad one. No problems have occurred so far, and the athletes have not abused their privilege of living together as a team. Barring any major problems, should Brevard College continue their present housing policy and provide separate quarters for their athletes? The answer is a resounding "Yes". The concept is working very well, indeed.

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