

# Sports

## Cross Country Runs Regional- National

Taylor Essick  
Staff writer

The Brevard 1995 Cross Country team ended their season November 11 in Alford, finishing with a fine season. Both the men's and women's team came out very successful, with no disappointments.

In November, the teams ran their last two meets, which were the Regional and National meets. The first was the Region X meet, where both the women's and men's team were, "as usual," favored to win. After all the team hasn't ever lost a regional meet as far as the team can remember. The meet was held here on the campus of Brevard. As expected, both teams finished first to win the region.

The men were led by Scott Wolfe and Sean Brosnan, finishing first and second respectively. The team dominated the race, placing six runners in the top six spots and advancing to the Nationals. The Nationals were held in Alford, where the team entered the race with a number two national ranking. Commenting on racing conditions, Scott Wolfe stated, "Every bad weather condition was present. Rain, mud, snow, and wind were dominant factors." Leading the Tornado charge were Bill Baldwin-16, Joe Gibson-21, John McMillion-25, John Johnson-27, and Chris Pluchos. Bill Baldwin missed All-



American status by one spot. Brevard was the only team in the race with every member being from America. When the grueling race was over, the men had finished third in the nation! Definitely a feat to be proud of.

The injury-riddled women's team, "needed a good finish at Regionals," said Coach Rinker. They certainly responded to that statement and surpassed it. The Brevard women overwhelmed the competition, placing

five girls at the head of the pack. Jennifer Vrobel, Summer Calder, and Carmon Mastrando lead the onslaught. At Nationals, dealing with a lot of adversity, they finished a very solid eighth place in the nation, with all six runners doing well.

With Brevard's rich tradition at stake, both teams upheld their fine reputation as one of the nation's class acts of cross country racing.

The success of both teams was

started by Norm Witek, who now is a member of the NJCAA Hall of Fame. The renowned success has been kept alive by Coach David Rinker, who has already captured two national championships, along with many other awards. Rinker continues the winning ways at Brevard College. Recently, runners Joe Gibson and Scott Wolfe agreed that David Rinker is the best cross country coach in the nation.

### Psychology Instructor Is Olympic Hopeful

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Have you ever dreamed of the National Anthem playing loudly at the summer olympics and the gold medal being placed around your neck? Well, for one teacher here at Brevard College, that is his dream.

Dr. Windy Gordon, a psychology teacher here at Brevard, has been on the U.S. national team in whitewater canoeing, and in 1993 he was a Whitewater World

Champion and won an Olympic Festival Gold Medal. At present, Dr. Gordon is training in preparation for 1996 Olympic Trials in whitewater slalom racing.

Dr. Gordon first became interested in kayaking when he was attending Wofford College. He said his psychology teacher got him involved in the sport. Dr. Gordon became so involved in the sport that in 1992 he decided to try to "go for the gusto" and train for the '96 Olympic games in Atlanta.

The sport of kayaking is not one of the main sports in the Olympics that receives prime time coverage. In fact, it's not even being held in Georgia. The Olympic time trials and the Olympic medal competitions are being held on the Ocoee River in Tennessee. This probably is not a big problem to the individuals who will participate in the games.

Dr. Gordon is a man of dedication and determination. He is able to teach and still train for the olympics. However, he, like all other olympic athletes, does not receive money or prizes for the sport he participates in.



### BC Baseball Hosts Kids Night Out

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The Brevard Tornado baseball team is getting involved in the community. On December 9 the team and a few other BC students hosted local youths from ages 6 to 12 for fun and games in Boshamer Gymnasium on the campus of Brevard College.

Activities included soccer, basketball, swimming, music. A main feature turned out to be rock climbing, which the kids really enjoyed because it was a new experience for them. For this activity, Mark Casson was kind enough to offer his services and equipment.

There were pizza and other foods and refreshments, for the event was long and there were lots of hungry kids.

This was all in the effort to get the kids and the community involved in Brevard baseball and the college itself. It turned out to be an enjoyable way of doing it.

This is the fifth year of the annual "kids night out." The program was implemented by the much respected baseball coach, Rusty Stroupe. Coach Stroupe stated, "It gives the local kids in the community a chance to interact with athletes on the college level and the team a way to make a difference and possibly a friend. The program is also an effective way for the players to receive PIO hours for their graduation requirements."