



## BC hosts SECCC cycling championship

By Caleb Welborn  
Staff Writer

Road bicycle racing will hit the streets of Brevard this weekend for the Southeastern Collegiate Cycling Conference championship.

The weekend's events will include a team time trial and road race starting from Rosman High School on Saturday and a criterium (crit) just outside of downtown Brevard on Sunday.

Students are encouraged to come support BC athletics at the crit race on Sunday, which

will take place only half a mile away from campus on a loop that includes Caldwell Street, Probart Street, Railroad Avenue, and King Street. The start/finish will be located in front of Area 22 Guitars, which is across from El Rancho Mexican Restaurant.

### *What is a criterium?*

Fast, furious, and spectator friendly, a crit is a type of bike race that follows a loop of about one mile. Racers contest the loop for a set period of time, usually around one hour, plus two laps. Lapped riders are disqualified from the race. Because the loop is so short,

spectators are able to watch most of the race, with riders coming around every two minutes or so.

### *What do A, B, and C mean?*

The different categories allow riders to race those of similar ability to them. A is the fastest category, B is for intermediate riders, and C is for beginning riders. The 'A' category is the only category that counts for conference points, and those riders are the only riders who can qualify for nationals. In order to progress through the categories, riders must get good results at numerous races and go through an upgrade process with USA Cycling.

### *Team Time Trial*

In the team time trial on Saturday morning, teams will enter four riders each who will contest the 15.5 mile course, working together to try for the fastest time. The clock stops when the third rider crosses the line. Teams are separated by two-minute gaps.

### *Road Race*

In the Men's A road race, riders will contest four laps of the course for a total of 62.7 miles. The course includes a short but steep 1.1 mile climb on Walnut Hollow Rd. The climb, which starts at a 5% gradient but steepens towards the end to 16% will likely prove to be a decisive part of the race. The race starts and finishes in downtown Rosman.



Erica Zaveta

Brandon Milet, Caleb Welborn, and Lewis Gaffney on a training ride in Brevard, North Carolina.

### **Saturday road race schedule:**

- 12:00p.m. – Men's A, 4 laps
- 12:10p.m. – Men's B, 3 laps
- 12:15p.m. – Women's A, 3 laps
- 3:00p.m. – Men's C, 2 laps
- 3:05p.m. – Women's B, 2 laps

### **Sunday crit schedule:**

- 9:00a.m. – Men's C  
(BC Rider: Park Baker)
- 9:50a.m. – Women's B
- 10:35a.m. – Men's B  
(BC Rider: Keith Marek)
- 11:30a.m. – Women's A
- 12:35p.m. – Men's A (BC Riders: Wyatt Briggs, Lewis Gaffney, Brandon Milet, Jimmy Schurman, Caleb Welborn)