

Daylight Savings
ends Sunday
at 2 a.m.

Fourth national title won in five years



By Kody Adams
Staff Writer

This last weekend (25th-27th) was the collegiate mountain bike national championships held at Beech Mountain, NC just above Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk. Brevard's national team headed out early Thursday morning the 24th to prepare for the races starting on Friday morning.

They were met by cold weather and light snow dusting on the mountain. With a height of over five thousand feet, cold was to be expected but the snow would add another difficult element to the races ahead. Friday morning brought more cold weather and the first race of nationals, Short Track, an endurance based event where riders race

around a track with climbs and descents for twenty minutes.

Brevard would start with the Division 2 colleges and the Brevard men would be off at ten o'clock. Lewis Gaffney, Zachery Valdez, Spencer Lowden and Dylan Johnson would represent Brevard in this event. Gaffney would take an early lead, but as racing goes he had a mechanical on his bike and was unable to finish the race. Luckily for Brevard, Gaffney's teammate Zachery Valdez would take over the first place spot and continue the race, taking the first win for Brevard and for Division 2. Dylan Johnson and Spencer Lowden also had great rides and grabbed 8th place and 12th.

Division 2 women started at 12 o'clock. Brevard's women attacked the steep climb and fast decent of the short track showing

why we were conference champions. Erica Zaveta took home Brevard's next win of the day. Sarah Hill also had a great ride only letting one rider get in between her and her teammate and took home 3rd for short track. Nicole Miranda snagged 16th place ending the day and a great one at that for the Brevard team. Saturday morning would hold two of the events, Cross Country, an endurance based event where riders climb and descend over a longer course taking up to 2 hours and downhill, a gravity based event where riders bombard down a steep, rocky course going as fast as possible.

Ice still stained the ground when the Brevard men headed out for their race at 8:40 Cross Country race in the morning.

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