

BC presents new climbing team

By Florian Peyssonneaux
Staff Writer - Nov. 30.

For the first time in Brevard College history a climbing team will compete as a collegiate sport after recent approval from the Board of Trustees.

The team was already competing in the Appalachian Division, but now raise to a higher level of acclaim by becoming the newest officially recognized team on campus.*

For the time being, nearly a dozen students are part of the team, and are looking forward to competitive competition.

The Tornados climbing team will compete against other schools under three different categories such as sport, speed-climbing, and bouldering. In sport climbing the anchors are permanently on the rock, while bouldering is a more simple form of climbing without a rope, that requires short and strong moves. In the speed category, the climber has to scale a 10-meter wall.

Brevard College Vice President for Strategic Planning and Athletics Juan Mascaro com-

mented on the new addition to the athletics department, saying “Rock climbing will be an exciting addition to our athletic program here at Brevard.”

The climbing team follows the route that Brevard’s cycling team took few years ago when the team made the switch from a successful club to an officially recognized team. Similar to cycling, BC climbing team has the geographical advantage over other schools. Indeed, Brevard has an ideal location for rock climbing with spots like Looking Glass Rock located in Pisgah National Forest, or Brevard Rock Gym if the climbers want to practice inside.

Travis Gray who is an alumni of Brevard College, and sponsor of the team, as of Monday, Nov. 21 assumes the role of head coach of the climbing team.

“This magnificent group of students are true champions on this campus, and the potential for each of them is endless. There is truly no height that each of them cannot reach on and off the wall. I am truly honored to help mentor

them to many more accomplishments as their coach” said Gray.

BC student Audrey Ashburner who is also the president of the climbing club contributed to make this transition from club to competitive team.

“I have been working towards turning the climbing club into a competitive sports team for the past two years of my college career, and it has been the most rewarding experience of my life,” she said.

Ashburner also added, “I am so proud of what the club has accomplished, and overjoyed with all of the support I received from Brevard College and the Brevard community in order to make this possible.”

*Article includes corrections from Dec. 7 issue

Tornados stun #1 Bulldogs

The BC men’s soccer team stunned the No. 1 Wingate Bulldogs by a final of 1-0 in South Atlantic Conference quarterfinal action Tuesday night in Wingate, N.C.

“Absolutely brilliant effort by this team tonight,” head coach Shug Shinohara said. “We dreamed this, believed in that dream and made it happen.”

The Tornados jumped on the scoreboard early in the first half as junior midfielder Gabriel Garcia netted the goal that would prove to be the game-winner at the 5:10 mark, capitalizing on a Bulldog miscue to give Brevard the early 1-0 lead.

Brevard then turned the game over to a brilliant defensive performance by senior goalkeeper Heath Turner and a solid back line. Turner ended the evening with one of the all-time greatest performances as a Tornado.

Turner turned in the play of the evening on a Wingate penalty kick by Callum Ross at the 62:15 mark, as the netminder dove to his right to turn away a game-tying scoring attempt. Turner would make three incredible saves to close out the second half and give the Tornados their biggest win in NCAA Division II history.

The Tornados will move on to the semifinal round of the SAC tournament as they prepare for the #5 Lincoln Memorial Railsplitters. Action is schedule for Friday, Nov. 4 in Rock Hill, S.C.



Members of the Climbing Team pose in front of the “Welcome to Tennessee” sign as they head to one of their competitions.



Senior goalkeeper Heath Turner saved a penalty kick in the SAC Quarterfinal victory versus eventual National champions Wingate.