



Tornados finish second, Punchard wins title at Cyclocross National Championships

The Brevard College Cycling team finished second in the nation and BC junior Cole Punchard won an individual national championship at the USA Cycling Cyclocross National Championships, held last week at Joe Creason Park in Louisville, Kentucky.

A total of 11 Tornado cycling student-athletes made the trip, competing in the Men's Collegiate Varsity, Women's Collegiate Varsity and Team Relay events on the 1.7-mile course.

"We are extremely proud of the team's effort this past week," said Brevard College Cycling Head Coach Brad Perley. "These victories and results take so much time and preparation so we are certainly taking nothing for granted. This result is extra sweet following a tough cyclocross nationals last year and it's very motivating looking ahead to next season."

The second-place finish for Brevard College was one place higher than last year's third-place team result in Hartford, Connecticut. This season, the Tornados finished second only to Colorado Mesa University, making BC once again the highest finishing school east of the Mississippi River. Fort Lewis College finished third with Marian University placing fourth and SCAD Atlanta fifth in the Collegiate Team Omnium.

To secure the second-place finish, Brevard put together a strong Team Relay in the final collegiate event of the week. BC's team of Owen Clark, Punchard, Kiara Lylyk and Nicole Bradbury finished second in the exciting event behind Colorado Mesa. Marian finished third with Fort Lewis and SCAD Atlanta placing fourth and fifth in the relay. In the relay, Clark started the race and handed the baton to Punchard, who maintained position at the front. Lylyk served as BC's third rider, keeping a solid second position throughout her lap. Bradbury then hammered home a solid anchor ride to secure the result for the Tornados.

Punchard won the Collegiate Men's Varsity championship with a win in the highly competitive race, topping Colorado Mesa's Jack Spranger (2nd place) and Ivan Sippy (3rd place). The win was the third national championship of the season and the fourth in the career for Punchard, who won the Cross Country and Short Track national titles at this year's USA Cycling Collegiate Mountain

Bike National Championships to go along with an Individual Omnium Mountain Bike title in 2022.

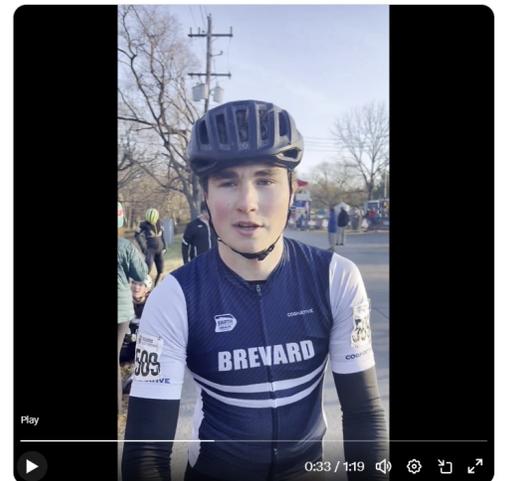
In the wild race, Punchard was caught up in an early crash, yet consistently put in fast laps to eventually catch up with the lead group. The native of Ontario then bettered his competition in a final sprint to the finish line with a time of 48:53, defeating Spranger by four seconds and Sippy by seven seconds.

Brevard junior Clark, also hailing from Ontario, finished seventh with a time of 50:10. Matthew Leliveld (22nd), Kyle McDonald (38th), Philip Ford (41st), Dylan Richardson (42nd) and Caleb McCaskill (53rd) rounded out the scoring for BC.

Four Tornados competed in the Collegiate Women's Varsity competition held later in the day following the men's race. Lylyk, who recently won a Pan Am Gold Medal in the Team Pursuit for Canada, placed seventh in her career debut at the Cyclocross national championships. Bradbury finished 14th to go along with a 22nd place result by Madeleine Pollock and a 32nd place finish by Kelly Lawson.

For full results from the 2023 USA Cycling Cyclocross National Championships, go to usacycling.org.

The ten-time national champion Brevard College Cycling program features varsity programs in the disciplines of Mountain Bike, Cyclocross and Gravel Racing.



Cole Punchard gives a [post-race interview](#) Dec. 7 after winning a national championship in Cyclocross (and his 3rd overall in cycling this year). Click the image to view his interview on X, formerly known as Twitter. For more news and updates in BC Cycling, follow [@brevardcycling](#) on Instagram and 'Brevard College Cycling' on Facebook.



Photo by Brevard College

Brevard College cyclists gather for a group photo at the Cyclocross National Championships in Louisville, Kentucky.

What happened at BC this semester?



Photo by Brevard College

Brevard celebrates its seniors with senior pinning!



Photo by Brevard College

BC Drumline seniors pose together on Senior Day!



Photo by Brevard College

Volleyball is celebrating success!



Photo by Brevard College

Students love riding mechanical bulls at Harvest Fest.

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Photo by Brevard College

Grace Dempsey, Olivia Ervin and Anna Ervin enjoy their delicious pancakes at the Pancake Break to chill out after the first grueling day of finals.



Photo by Brevard College

Lena Hatter and Ishmeal Parsons win homecoming queen and king.



Photo by Brevard College

The choir and faculty come together to present Lessons and Carols.



Photo by Brevard College

The BC cheerleaders hype up the homecoming crowd to start the pep rally.



Photo by Brevard College

The BC Tornados celebrate after a big win for football!



Photo by Brevard College

Women's soccer is always ready to play.



Photo by Brevard College

Gonzalo Olvera wows audiences at BC's Got Talent.



Photo by Brevard College

Creek Week kicks off with an intense battle of rock, paper, scissors.

11 Fingers:

Making noise not music: artistic apathy

Isaiah Collison
Managing Editor

For Dad

When I was mentally blind in high school, my father asked me if in 50 years I would listen to the same music as I was then. I resisted blurting out an ignorant “hell yeah.” The answer is a small fraction of a fraction. Huh.

You ever get left with a sliver of a sliver and wonder why it's not bigger?

Sharp bullets and C4 are deadly weapons, but today pointless music has the potential to take out any sleeping individual and blow up an entire generation.

Music is about delivering a message not making a noisy sale at the expense of all things creative. I often wonder where meaning went and why music makes increasingly less sense.

Art is the remedy to wounds Life gives us. Fans identify with the pain in music; that's what makes it last; that's what makes it stand the test of time, seeing the other side of a journey. In this sense, the artist's personal journey or struggle is on display. We all have songs we return to again and again for this reason.

When there is no fight with life or endurance of suffering, no one learns or grows. Musicians should feel like if they don't make music then they'll die. Yes, artists are overdramatic — that's why we love 'em. However, we must fall out of love with music that has no substance or weight, only consisting of catchy pull. We each have a responsibility to admit it.

I'm exposed, and I'm taking shots. Go straight through pain to the desktop, for suffering is inspiration, I'm mad as hell — it's time to plot! Punch the clock 'til my body drops...

Music has gotten shorter. The outcome is questionable and borderlines chicken-cheating*. Who can tell if it's laziness or the attitude that music is easy money? Should we look at an artist who is runs out of the booth differently when they admit it?

"I'll get a million on a one-minute song." - Duwap Kaine, Geeked Out My Body

An artist who shortcuts the creative process cheats more than themselves because art is a service. We are talking about time theft, employee misconduct. To an artist, this is crossing your own soul. How do you expose talent that takes advantage of its own fans? Let the '90s in, please.

"Maybe your soul you'd sell to have mass appeal." Gang Starr, Mass Appeal

¹Chicken-cheat //Def. Money too hard to earn; hack process syn. get easy money

²Ham //Def. Half Ass Mediocre

³Fliutenant //Def.A fake role model, fake leader—a real trendhopper

Before they die, I want them to hear this: “You lie here in this closed casket alive but guilty of advancing your own interests. You, who had a loyal fanbase, cheated knowledge and wisdom, for you lived the life of an opportunist and brought the walls in on yourself. You unwisely invested in cheap skills and convinced yourself you were intelligent. Payback, King of Weakness! Ignorance fills your closed casket as you lie here buried alive. I can't help you because I can't touch you, and your final visions will be the nightmares of your temporary fame.

No love,

Art

*“You might fade, cause punk you live for today”
Guru, Take a Look (At Yourself)*

Life as a creative may not be too lucrative. Either way, artists creatives kiss themselves on the fingers to thank the universe for good ideas. It pours liquid space into the galaxies of their brains, and they bless us with creativity; art is how they show gratitude. Art is not about selfishness or monetary gifts.

Young artists who have traces of older ones are living proof that love is still the message. Self-hatred can only kill people who hate themselves and everything else. This happens to us when instead of embracing pain to create art — we teach others how to escape it. That has never been nor will it ever be the point of creation because creation is therapy. You don't need a shortcut; you can muster up enough energy to do a complete job.

In the 21st century, record labels are not looking for talent. They want knuckleheads and easy money! Anyone can make the radio, Apple Music, Spotify, you name it — they're on it. When the labels listen to auditions and say, “Save it. I don't deal with emotional musicians anymore. Only toxic ones,” know there is another way.

Art is about the victory of knowing soul went into it. We know what a story is. We found it and wrestled with ours. Good.

Did they wrestle with the themes in their story? Do they have a story? Do they know what a story is? No? *Nothing?* This is how the soul of music dies. Standards are so low, trash workers fish them from dumpsters and say to each other, “I found an album and a mixtape with no theme!” One day

Shazam will hear the garbage and instead say, “C'mon. You're better than this!”

You say, “I don't wanna have to think while I'm listening to music.” Yeah? Is thinking hard for you?

I am embarrassed for artists who are not embarrassed for themselves. When they take a dump on their canvas, it is hard to believe someone wanted us to know. If this doesn't haunt you, you may not be able to evaluate effort. Some musicians believe releasing mediocre music is the best thing for their career. Why do we hold these hams* in such high regard again? Why do we position these flieutenants* as leaders, these fake role models?

A warning! Flieutenants still possess the ability to convince an audience that they are indeed leaders. The root word is still “lieutenant,” and is it easy, possible, perhaps even natural, to go with the flow. We can all be suckered by their qualifications, awards and statistics and find ourselves blindly trusting them to lead us to safety or the promised land. Never underestimate their ability to charismatically lead people astray. If you find yourself being led nowhere quick, fast and in a hurry!, identify all who give directions. Your head depends on it. You mustn't keep descending with the sick into madness.

I do not write to you pretending that I am above this surplus of noisy music from these hams and flieutenants. Last time I checked, we're all trapped in trap beats. What I'm pressed about is the character that kids can become when they tap into unregulated poison. J. Cole made a great point—
“One day, them kids that's listenin' gon' grow up. And get too old for that shit that made you blow up.” J. Cole, 1985

—but I'm concerned they may not have what it takes to stay permanently free. If imitation musicians can keep an entire generation ignorant to the quality of good music, how can kids recover? Following different trends at the right time is not mature development.

Unfortunately, I do not have the power to convince those who make money easily to work harder for their dollars. If groaning, mumbling, farting and doing drugs into a microphone makes money, it makes money. And we're all gonna pay for it one way or another.

Encouraging notes for final exams

Anyone who visited McLarty-Goodson during final exam week may have noticed the hundreds of encouraging notes on the walls. A sign in the lobby explained the colorful display was created by Psi Chi, the international honor society in psychology, and everyone was encouraged to take one as some additional reinforcement during the stress of finals.

Sophia Ogawa, a psychology major and vice president of Psi Chi, came up with the idea early this semester. To learn more about how it came to be, see [this video](#) on the [Clarion's YouTube channel](#).

