RMC Races Fast in Bozeman
9-15-12

The Battlin’ Bear cross country teams competed in the Bozeman Running Company-Montana State University Invitational over the weekend. While racing against mainly NCAA DI and NCAA DII schools, the women finished seventh out of ten teams. The women were paced by Ana Richter for the second consecutive week, followed closely by Rachael Hart and Selene Johnson. Richter’s time of 18:17 was good enough for 20th place while Hart placed 34th with a time of 18:34. Johnson ran 18:41 for 39th place. Rounding out the top five were Megan Breeding (50th) and Autumn Charges Strong (72nd). Breeding ran 19:10 followed by Autumn with a 19:59.

“I was pleased with the women’s effort today,” stated Coach King. “We focused on being aggressive the first mile in preparation for the Erik Anderson meet next weekend. I was encouraged by our results because we had a tough week of training and they were all tired. We were still able to improve over last week’s performance without one of our top women competing today.”

The men’s team did not field a complete team for the second week in a row. However, all three men did not compete last week. For the men, Michael Anderson, a freshman from Nine Mile Falls, WA crossed the finish first for the team. Anderson’s time was 28:25. Second on the team was Riley Ruppenthal with a time of 30:06 followed by Shawn Peden with a time of 30:19.

“All three guys competing today were freshman and all three were experiencing the five mile distance for the first time,” said Coach King. “Now that they have run the distance once, we can work on proper race strategy and their times should improve dramatically over the next few weeks. We have seven guys on the team, but we haven’t had the chance to get them all to race at the same time. Next week will be our first opportunity to race as a team.”

Both teams will be racing at the Erik Anderson Invitational on Saturday. The meet will be held at Plantes Ferry Sports Stadium. The women will compete in an 5k at 10:45am followed by the men’s 8k at 11:30am.