21st Nationally Ranked Bears Finish Second in Helena
9-7-12

The women’s cross country team at Rocky Mountain College finished second in the Carroll College Early Bird Open on Friday. With strong performances from junior Ana Richter (7th overall) and freshmen duo Selene Johnson (18th overall) and Autumn Charges Strong (20th overall), the Battln’ Bears were able to secure second place by a narrow margin of four points over NCAA DII MSU-Billings and 33 points ahead of NCAA DI University of Montana. Carroll College women won the meet with a score of 33 compared to 72 points by the Bears.

“Ana ran great today,” stated Coach King. “I’m happy with her fitness right now. Last year she battled injuries all season and she wasn’t able to practice at a high level consistently. This year is different. She is at a new level.”

Crossing the finish line in second on the team was Rachael Hart, a Sophomore from Kalispell, MT. She finished 11th overall in the race. Rounding out the top five was Megan Breeding, a Junior from Kimberly, ID. She crossed in 21st place, just three seconds behind Autumn.

“Our women have great depth this year. It’s exciting. A few of the ladies ran well, most ran average or sub-par. The fact that we were able to finish second is encouraging. The next few weeks will be a true test of what we are made of.”

For the men, Rocky only had three runners finish the Race. First to cross the finish for the Battln’ Bears was Ryan Hall (48th place). Following closely was Toryn Rogers (49th place) and Albert Rodriguez (53rd). “We weren’t competing at full strength today. Next week we should have a full team and that will give us a true idea of where we are at. All I know right now is that I have a talented bunch of freshmen who have run fast times on the track. How that is going to play into cross country is all up in the air right now.”

Up next for the team will be the BRC-MSU Cross Country Invitation on September 15. The race will be held at the Bridger Creek Golf Course in Bozeman, MT.

Click here to view Complete Results