FOUR RMC RIDERS QUALIFY FOR ZONE COMPETITION IN CALIFORNIA

For more information: Meredith Burton, RMC IHSA Equestrian Team Captain, 719-641-6421 / meredith.burton@rocky.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS – Four Rocky Mountain College Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Equestrian Team riders qualified for the Zone competition after winning first and second place at the Regional show last weekend in Logan, Utah.

Riders moving forward to the Zone competition include: Meredith Burton, of Camillus, N.Y., first place in the Intermediate Hunt Seat on the Flat class; Kelsey Merriam, of Lakewood, Wash., first place in Novice Hunt Seat on the Flat; Linnea Warlick, of Warren, N.J., second place in Novice Hunt Seat; Amber McNally, of Spanaway, Wash., first place in Novice Hunt Seat over Fences.

The Zone competition, hosted by Stanford University, will run April 7-8, 2012.

Utah State University hosted the last shows of the IHSA 2011-2012, including two English shows on Saturday, March 10, 2012. The weekend concluded with the English Regional show on Sunday, March 11, 2012.

“All the RMC riders had their best rides of the show season and were at the top of their classes,” Christi Brown, RMC equestrian studies instructor and IHSA team coach, said. “Everyone is peaking at the right point to bring their ‘A game’ to zones. The competition will be extremely tough and I am so delighted that my riders are competing at this level.”

The RMC Equestrian team competed against teams from Carroll College, Montana State University, University of Montana, University of Montana-Western, College of Southern Idaho and Utah State University.

“It was really great qualifying for the Zone competition,” Kelsey Merriam, a sophomore on the RMC IHSA team said of her regional ride. “The day got even better when I found out my best friend, Amber McNally, qualified as well. I’m excited to compete in California.”

Kathy Cahill, of Egg Harbortownship, N.J., won reserve high point champion in the morning Saturday show after winning first place in novice hunt seat over fences and second place in intermediate hunt seat on the flat.

The RMC Team results of the Regional Show are as follows:

Kristin Dillehay, of Rosewood, Ohio, placed fourth in the walk trot canter class.
In novice hunt seat on the flat Merriam placed first and Warlick placed second. Kathy Cahill, of Egg Harbortownship, N.J., and Rhiannon Laird, of Granger, Ind., placed third and fourth respectively.

McNally placed first in novice hunt seat over fences. Merriam placed third in the class.

Burton placed first in intermediate hunt seat on the flat.

RMC Team results of the two Saturday English shows are as follows:

In walk trot canter, Erin Burns, of Larkspur, Colo., placed fifth and sixth. Liz Marklin, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, placed third and fourth. Becca Wolf, of Boise, Idaho, placed third and fifth.

Dillehay placed second in both the morning and afternoon show in novice hunt seat on the flat.

In intermediate hunt seat on the flat, Warlick and Merriam placed fifth and sixth respectively in the morning show. Cahill placed second and fifth. Laird placed fourth and sixth.

Burton placed first in both shows on Saturday in the open hunt seat on the flat.

In novice hunt seat over fences, Dillehay placed first and sixth. Cahill placed first and second.

In intermediate hunt seat over fences, Merriam and McNally placed third and fifth respectively. Taylor Day, of Las Vegas, Nev., placed sixth.

#    #    #

03/12/2012