

## RMC EXCELS AT FIRST EQUESTRIAN SHOW IN DILLON, MONT.

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS – The Rocky Mountain College Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Equestrian Team had a successful weekend at their first show in Dillon, Mont., October 1-2, 2011.

The RMC equestrian team competed against teams from Carroll College, the University of Montana, Montana State University, Utah State University, University of Montana Western and the College of Southern Idaho in two English shows on Saturday and one western show on Sunday.

The RMC riders quickly gained momentum winning reserve high point team in the afternoon English show, reserve high point team in the western show as well as RMC rider Sunni Hecht winning high point rider.

“It was a fantastic start to our show season,” said Christi Brown, RMC equestrian studies instructor and IHSA team coach. “With a full Western team, that is a Rocky rider in every class, I’m excited about this year and how far we can go.”

A total of fifteen team members represented RMC over the weekend. With the option to show in one or both disciplines, 13 riders competed in the English shows on Saturday while 10 competed on Sunday in the western classes.

The results of the two English shows on October 1 are as follows:

In Advanced Walk, Trot, Canter, Kelsey Horton, of Salt Lake City, Utah, placed 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>; Kristin Dillehay, of Rosewood, Ohio, placed 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>; and Shalena Neilson, of Missoula, Mont. Placed 6<sup>th</sup>.

Seven riders from RMC competed in Novice Hunt Seat on the flat in three sections. In Section one, Amber McNally, of Spanaway, Wash., took 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> place; Rhiannon Laird, of Granger, Ind., took 2<sup>nd</sup> place; and Kelsey Merriam, of Lakewood, Wash., placed 1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>.

Section two, Kayla Schlosser, of Shepherd, Mont., and Liz Parkman, of Granger, Ind., placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Section three, Linnea Warlick, of Warren, N.J., placed 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>; Kathy Cahill, of Egg Harbortownship, N.J., placed 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>.

In Novice Hunt Seat over fences Kelsey Merriam placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kathy Cahill took 4<sup>th</sup> and Amber McNally placed 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> over the two shows.

Meredith Burton, Camillus, N.Y., and Taylor Day, of Las Vegas, Nev., placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively in Intermediate Hunt Seat on the flat in the afternoon show.

Taylor Day, the only RMC competitor in Intermediate Hunt Seat over fences, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>.

Sunni Hecht, RMC's open rider, placed 4<sup>th</sup> in both the morning and afternoon show on the flat.

Results of the Western show on Sunday, October 2 are as follows:

Rachel Phillips, of Laurel, Mont., placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the Walk Trot class.

In the Novice horsemanship class, RMC riders Kristin Dillehay, Liz Parkman and Linnea Warlick placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively.

In Advanced horsemanship, Rhiannon Laird and Kayla Schlosser placed 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Sunni Hecht won high point rider with 1<sup>st</sup> place in the open reining and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the open horsemanship class.

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