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Keller '13 earns All-American honors at NCAA championship

Summary: The cross-country runner broke her own school record and placed 19th.

(November 24, 2010)-Cougar cross-country runner Linda Keller '13, Paynesville, wrapped up the 2010 season with a 19th place finish at the NCAA championship meet, earning All-America honors.

The top-35 finishers earn All-America accolades, with Keller easily making the cut. There were 279 total individuals participating in the championship meet.

Keller was competing in the second national championship meet of her Cougar two-year tenure. In the best race of her career, she crossed the finish line at 21:35.1 to place 19th, which was less than a minute behind champion Wendy Pavlus from St. Lawrence, who defended her 2009 title. Keller's time broke her own school record of 22:03.0, which she set last year at the NCAA Regional Meet.

Keller was under 10 seconds away from a top-10 finish and was part of a log jam in the front with nine runners finishing within three seconds of her.

This marks the first All-America honor of Keller's career, as she improves on her 86th place finish from her freshman campaign. Last season Keller posted a 23:29.0, a time she dropped nearly two minutes off of this year.

Keller earned UMAC women's individual cross-country champions in 2010 and 2009.

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