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PCC's Fernandez places 7th at Mesa CC Thunderbird Classic

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Raymond Suarez Pima Community College

The Pima Community College men's and women's cross country teams competed in the Mesa CC Thunderbird Classic on Saturday at Mesa Community College.

The No. 19-ranked men's team finished tied for seventh place out of 10 teams with 153 points. Paradise Valley Community College took third place with 131 points while Glendale Community College was fifth with 140 points. The Aztecs finished tied with Mesa Community College, who also had 153 points and Estrella Mountain Community College was 10th with 273 points.

Sophomore David Fernandez (Ironwood Ridge HS) finished the men's 8K (4.97 mile) race in seventh place out of 80 competitors with a time of 26 minutes, 21.8 seconds.

Sophomore Armando Antonio Jr. (Desert View HS) finished in 30th place with a time of 27:48.2. Fellow sophomore Nick Hald (Mountain View HS) took 40th with a time of 28:33.4 while freshman Alonso Sodari (Walden Grove HS) placed 43rd at 28:41.8. Freshman Victor Bustamante (Flowing Wells HS) was 56th as he crossed the finish line at 29:51.9.

In the women's 5K (3.1 mile) race, the Aztecs finished sixth place out of seven teams with 141 points. Mesa Community College placed second with 81 points and Paradise Valley took third place with 88 points.

Sophomore Samantha Felzien was the top finisher for the Aztecs as she placed 13th out of 69 runners with a time of 19:14.2.

Freshman Alondra Carrasco finished the race in 41st place with a time of 21:29.9 while fellow freshman Arianna Roche (Cienega HS) took 44th at 21:59.1. Freshman Monique Ochoa (Sahuaro HS) placed 52nd as she crossed the finish line at 22:36.8 and freshman Ericka Rios (Sabino HS) was 53rd at 22:40.7.

The Aztecs will compete at the Mt. SAC CC Invitational at Mt. San Antonio Community College on Friday in Walnut, CA. The women's race will be at 10 a.m. and the men's race will follow at 10:45 a.m.

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Ben Carbajal/PCC

Sophomore David Fernandez (Ironwood Ridge HS) took seventh place in the men's 8K race at the Mesa CC Thunderbird Classic with a time of 26 minutes, 21.8 seconds. The Aztecs' men's team took seventh place in the standings and the women's team took sixth.