



Cross Country

The 2002 Bitburg High School Cross County team, led by talented Coach Geary Schwartz, proved that running is not for the average person. This sometimes overlooked sport had a dedicated group of students that proved to be the cream of the crop. Under the leadership of co-captains Kirstin Pope and Steve Gutschow, the team was able to overcome the odds and beat not only some school records but personal records as well. The super star runner of the season was the very talented Ramie Gibson. Leading the female runners, you could always depend on her to place in the top twenty. We can't forget our talented male runners. They, like the females, were able to strut their "stuff" and show the other schools who was boss. With the talents of Steve Gutschow and Joel Parker, the boys really shined. At the first meet of the season hosted by Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, the boys team came home to announce that they had placed 6th overall. What a start!! Then at Brussels International School the boys teamed stunned everybody once again by placing second for a second time. While the girls were unable to place overall due to the absence of players, the runner still soared high. Kirstin Pope and Ramie Gibson both qualified for the 2002 Europeans Championship race held at Ramstein High School. Unfortunately none of the boys qualified, but that doesn't mean they weren't deserving of it. Hopefully next year's cross country team will be filled with as many talented runners as this year's.



Top: The team is huddled together for an inspirational talk before their meet.

Below: Brian Metzger is struggling to keep ahead of the opponent behind him.

Next: The boys stand on the sideline and cheer their female teammates on.

Bottom: Mr. Schwartz is wondering how he was so lucky to get such talented runners.

2002 Cross Country Team



2002 Cross Country Team: Ray Lichtenberger, Kirstin Pope, Joel Parker, Jacob McMahan, Ray, Gutschow, Steve Gutschow, Chris Lyng, Casey Martin, Jamie Romero, Madeline Munitz, Meghan Weeg, Melissa Louis, Ramie Gibson, Sharika Allen (not shown)

