Weber Speech Team Wins First Tournament


The tournament featured 13 schools including Lower Columbia College, Carroll College, Pacific University, University of Idaho, Lewis and Clark College, and University of Montana.

“I am proud of how well our team did,” said Mark Galaviz, Director of Speech. “We weren’t expecting to do as well as we did because we have only had our team built for roughly two months, and every student we have is very new to college speech and debate.” Mark Galaviz was hired in August to build Weber’s Speech team.

In individual speaking events, Emma Harris (Junior) took 1st in Novice Prose and 4th in Novice Informative; Brad Baker (Freshman) took 3rd in Novice Prose and 2nd in Novice Extemporaneous, Nate Tanner (Freshman) took 3rd in Novice Extemporaneous and 4th in Varsity Persuasive, Morgan Allen (Freshman) took 6th in Novice Extemporaneous. Additionally, Nate Tanner and Brad Baker advanced all the way to Semi-Finals in IPDA Debate.

“Our students were bumping up against competitors and schools that have been well established,” says Kayla Griffin, assistant coach for Mark Galaviz. “We went against competitors that have a lot more experience which really shows how hard our students worked to do so well.”

“Though this win is incredible we still have a lot of work ahead of us,” said Mark Galaviz. “This is a smaller tournament than the ones ahead of us. We are going to Linfield College in two weeks and are expecting to compete against 35-40 other schools with much larger teams. “In preparation for the next larger and more competitive tournament, Mark and Kayla are hosting a multitude of practices for their students. They are taking six students and are hoping that their hard work shines at Linfield.

Weber State University Speech Team

If you would like more information about this topic, please call Mark Galaviz at 509-869-1909, or email either markgalaviz@weber.edu or kaylagriffin2@weber.edu