

Swede speech competitors score big at CNFL tournament

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

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B. COSTELLO BRUNTZ



DAHARSH POTTER

Varsity, novices join winner's circle.

First-place wins were in the cards for both Swede varsity and novice competitors at the first of two Central Nebraska Forensic League tournaments Saturday in Grand Island.

On the varsity level, Brennan Costello was a double winner in persuasive and informative speaking while Ashlee Bruntz took top honors in entertainment speaking.

“Our kids really worked hard in practice last week and it paid off big for them,” said speech team adviser Dan Jensen about all competitors. “Both varsity and novices had a large number of high places.”

Novices scoring first place were Carlin Daharsh in persuasive speaking and Betsy Potter in extemporaneous speaking.

Jensen explained that novices are first-year speech competitors, regardless of high school year, while varsity competitors are students who have competed in any speech event the previous year.

At a coach's discretion, he noted that first-year students can compete at the varsity level.

“Our novices were able to finally compete on their own level and the results were very encouraging,” Jensen said.

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Because it's early in the season and the Swedes are still rough in most areas, he said students must keep up the hard work in practice "to stay on top of things."

The CNFL contest was a large one, he said, with 29 schools of all class sizes competing.

This Saturday, the team travels to Broken Bow to compete.

Other results include:

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