Destination Imagination students share highlights of competition, trip

Practicing their movie trailer before global finals on the University of Tennessee campus wasn't going well.

And when Maddie Daup burst into tears after smashing her thumb on a falling prop, the Dudley Elementary Destination Imagination team didn't know what to expect during their performance before global judges in Knoxville, TN.

"But we knew we did our best," said team member Adam Groenke.

"And it was the best we'd ever done," said Maxwell Jinks. "Even though when we were practicing, it was horrible."

The team's best was placing seventh in their challenge and the name of their school—as well as the other top 10 teams in each challenge—showed up on a big screen in a campus arena.

Korea, China, Texas and Colorado took the lion's share of the awards, according to team co-manager Jenny Daup.

"When Gothenburg Schools showed up on the screen as No. 7, I was shocked and incredibly honored that our kids competed up there in the big league," Jenny said.