

PRESS RELEASE

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JHHS Speech & Debate Team Takes First Overall at Worland Tournament

The Jackson Hole High School Speech and Debate Team delivered an outstanding performance at the Worland Invitational Speech Meet, held December 12-13, 2025. Competing against 20 schools with a total of 289 individual entries, the Jackson team, coached by Londe Gagnon, Peggy Gagnon and Jacob Toler, earned 1st place overall and 1st place among 3A schools.

The team saw success across a wide range of events. In Public Forum Debate, freshmen Greta Ramsey and Helen Feagin captured the championship placing in the novice division. Lincoln-Douglas Debate also produced strong results, with senior Isaac Zdeerski placing 3rd and senior Tylee Scott finishing in 7th in the varsity category, while sophomore Caroline Brokaw earned 5th in novice.

In Congressional Debate, junior Elaina Wronko placed 2nd in novice, while senior and team captain, Cameron Marlowe finished 5th in varsity and junior Lillyke Martinek placed 10th in varsity. Duo Interpretation was a highlight of the tournament, with sophomore Silvia Kim-Miller and Martinek earning the varsity championship spot.

In Drama Interpretation, freshman Evelyn Gonzalez Morales won the novice championship spot and Kim-Miller followed with 2nd place in varsity. Extemporaneous Speaking saw junior Tara Preston earn the novice championship placing, with freshman Eliette Shuptrine finishing 5th in novice.

In Humor, senior Owen McGowan competing in his first tournament, placed 3rd in novice. Informative Speaking novice competitors also had a strong showing, led by freshman Ruby DuRoss who took 4th, Feagin who took 5th, and freshman Emmy Ricks who took 7th.

Original Oratory was another standout event, starting with Kim-Miller who took home the championship in varsity. Freshman Juan Sanchez placed 3rd, freshman Annabelle Dombroski placed 4th, Gonzalez Morales placed 5th, and Ricks placed 6th in the novice division of the event.

In Impromptu Speaking, DuRoss claimed the championship in the novice category, followed by Ramsey placing 2nd and Shuptrine placing 4th. McGowan and Wronko both advanced to the novice semifinals with Marlowe placing 5th in the varsity category of the event.

With depth across novice and varsity divisions, the Jackson Hole High School Speech Team's performance at Worland reflects a strong start to the season and sets a high bar for upcoming competitions. Coach Toler commented, "This tournament showed us what we're capable of, and it gives us great momentum as we move into the rest of the season." The team members all graduate to varsity status as of January 1, 2026 and will next compete in Evanston January 9-10, 2026.

