

PRESS RELEASE

Londe Gagnon Coach

Jackson Hole Speech and Debate Team

699-0537

lgagnon@tcsd.org

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Speech Team Earns Third Place!

The Jackson Hole High School Speech and Debate Team maintained its successful season, earning third place at the Mustang Classic, held at Natrona County High School in Casper January 27-28. This meet saw seven schools in attendance with over 200 total entries. Jackson's third place finish was achieved with only half the team in attendance. The team, coached by Londe and Peggy Gagnon, finished behind Riverton and Green River in the 3A category but did earn more overall points than 1st place 4A finisher, Rock Springs. The Jackson team brought home many incredible individual finishes.

Senior and team captain, Julieta Anaya led the way by securing the championship in both Poetry Interpretation and Program Oral Interpretation. Anaya also placed 5th in Impromptu Speaking and paired with fellow senior, Blanca Sartillo in Duet Interpretation where the duo brought home 4th place.

The Public Forum Debate teams on the Jackson squad also proved to be a formidable force. The team of sophomore Oscar Andersen and junior Lauren Guh-Siesel along with the team of senior and team captain Alexis Hernandez Lopez and junior, Jackson Neishabouri all tied for the championship spot in the event, "closing out" the finals round.

Lincoln Douglas Debate proved to be strong for JHHS as well, with junior Maya Worcester and senior Ventura Garcia Perez tying for 3rd place in the event. They spent the weekend arguing whether or not justice requires open borders for human migration.

The JHHS squad made a strong showing in Congressional Debate with Worcester and Guh-Siesel tying for 6th place and Garcia- Perez placing 7th.

Junior Melany Hernandez Garcia placed 2nd in Poetry Interpretation with her selections about healing from body image trauma. She went on to place 4th in Impromptu Speaking and she reached semi finals in Dramatic Interpretation.

Neishabouri placed 4th in Extemporaneous Speaking while Hernandez Lopez placed 6th in the event and Andersen tied for 7th place. Freshman Maddie Earl tied for 7th in Humorous Interpretation

Coach Londe Gagnon commented on the weekend, saying “The weather was responsible for many canceled activities this weekend. We feel fortunate that we were able to compete and excel in this tournament. The Jackson squad, though small, proved themselves to be very mighty at this meet.”

