

Speech team dominates recent tournament; first place win scores them trip to nationals

by Heidi A. Hoffman
Feature Editor

They went, they spoke and they conquered; the Clackamas Community College Speech Team drove to Lower Columbia with nothing and they returned with 14 trophies.

"It was absolutely incredible when we were in the awards ceremony. We were between all of the other schools with almost all of the trophies collected at our table," commented one of the team members, Todd Alexander. "Of the four year schools and two year schools we won the sweepstakes award. That's more than unusual... that's unheard of!"

This tournament enabled the Clackamas team to qualify for nationals.

"We met our goal and we're on our way to Disneyland," exclaimed David Nash, speech team member.

One of the new members, Paul Henry, felt that this tournament was "just a warmup."

"I got more than my feet wet and next time I plan to drown in trophies," said Henry.

The team really felt that Henry's positive attitude helped

Threat of chemical warfare increases in Persian Gulf

by Kyle Moe
Staff Writer

As The war moves toward a ground confrontation, a major threat continues to be that of chemical weapons. Even though Iraq now apparently has only limited ability to fire SCUD missiles, Saddam Hussein still has the ability to deliver chemical agents by other means. Alternative delivery systems include helicopters, airplanes, artillery, and even grenades.

According to Sgt. Rick Kelly of the Oregon National Guard, every Infantryman and pilot stationed in the Persian Gulf has protective gear with them at all times, and receives training in its use every year.

The protective gear consists of a charcoal lined suit, heavy rubber boots and gloves, and a gas mask to keep chemical agents from coming in contact with the wearer. If the soldier doesn't get the suit on in the required time, or the suit should somehow fail, each individual carries three doses of an antidote called atropine which is injected into their thigh. They also carry a neutralizing agent that is applied to the skin.

"U.S. forces have been training in chemical warfare every year since 1973," said Sgt. Kelly. "We are required to spend at least six hours in the suit without taking it off, and perform all normal duties."

In combat a soldier may be required to spend as many as 72 hours in the protective suit, eat-



Photo by Allan Ziemke

The speech team came home from Lower Columbia with 14 trophies. From left: Frank Harlow, Paul Henry, Cheron McGuffee, Jared Thatcher, Dave Nash, William Andersen, Tammy Recknor, and Todd Alexander.

them out at this tournament.

"Even though Paul didn't get a trophy he kept our spirits high. He was the element of our success. He wins the support trophy," commented Alexander.

"I thought the last tournament was going to be hard to live up to, but now we have to enter more events and win ALL of the trophies."

-Tammy Recknor

Of the eight members that went to the tournament seven received trophies and three members received one in every event that they entered.

"Now that we've all won trophies we can all begin to concentrate on what's important," said William Andersen, "which is that we all set performance standards and goals and that we feel satisfied that we've accomplished it."

According to the team members the team now has an even bigger reputation to live up to.

"I thought that the last tournament was going to be hard to live up to, but now we have to just enter more events and win all of the trophies," explained team member Tammy Recknor.

Jared Thatcher, who took first place in extemporaneous, just

couldn't believe that he'd actually won.

"After I received first place in extemporaneous I set it down on the table and stepped back and looked at it for a few minutes then slowly and cautiously I reached out to touch it and make sure it was real," said Thatcher.

The team took first place

"It just goes to show you that if you don't limit your possibilities there's no telling what you can do."

-Frank Harlow

overall. They were competing against both community colleges and universities.

"University of Oregon is number one ranked in the nation and they scored 21.1 points overall and we scored 75.2. That's kind of how the whole tournament went; it was that one sided," said Andersen.

Frank Harlow, the team coach, was really proud of his team.

"It just goes to show you that if you don't limit your possibilities there's no telling what you can do," said Harlow.

Their next meet will be at Willamette University on Feb. 1-2.

According to Andersen, the team is looking for more members. The team meets Mondays and Wednesdays in McLoughlin 111 at 2 p.m.

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