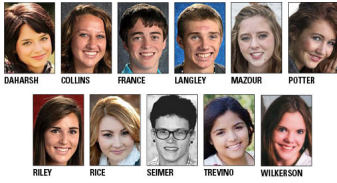


## Eleven in winner's circle at NP speech meet

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

Thursday, 13 March 2014 14:21 -

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SWC crown decided Tuesday.

The “Best of the West” speech competitors congregated in North Platte Saturday and if scores were kept, the Swedes would have ridden off with the trophy.

Eleven Swedes traveled home with gold and seven earned silver in their respective events.

The meet was the last one of the regular season for the speech team.

On Tuesday, the varsity team traveled to Ogallala to vie for the Southwest Conference crown. Results weren't known by press deadline.

Rachel Rice earned double gold last Saturday, taking first in humorous prose and as part of the winning oral interpretation of drama team.

Others on the team include Ashley Wilkerson, Rebecca Riley, Jett Seimer and Drake Langley.

In individual events, first-place medalists were Carlin Daharsh in persuasive speaking, Dylan France in entertainment speaking, Abbie Mazour in serious prose and Betsy Potter in poetry.

Speech coach Dan Jensen described the Saturday meet as fun.

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"In addition to the very positive results, some other things are clicking as well," Jensen said, noting that satisfying success from some of the students made the meet a perfect conclusion to the regular season.

Saturday was also a successful trial run of new ideas.

Most events have undergone some small, but important changes in the last week and half, Jensen said.

"Some have been re-blocked, some have been cut or partially re-written and in one case, some new cast members have been brought in," he explained.

Jensen said the team wants to compete at districts with a fresh, new look to some events that have gotten a little tired.

The Swedes will compete at districts in Gering on March 20.

Besides Gothenburg, 19 schools competed Saturday. They included: North Platte, Broken Bow, Chase County, Eustis-Farnam, Grand Island, Sutherland, Maxwell, Hayes Center, Arthur County, Lexington, Ansley, Northwest, Valentine, Ogallala, Brady, McCook, St. Pat's, Kearney and Arapahoe.

Results are as follows:

Extemporaneous speaking

2. Ashley Wilkerson, 4. Abbie Mazour, 10. Roman Schmidt

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### Persuasive speaking

1. Carlin Daharsh, 3. Alayna Collins, 10. Sara Picci

### Informative speaking

2. Rachel Rice, 3. Kelsey Kuhlman, 4. Kylee Beyea, 7. Trenton Long

### Entertainment speaking

1. Dylan France, 2. Alayna Collins, 5. Rebecca Riley

### Humorous prose

1. Rachel Rice, 2. Dylan France, 7. Brett Mann, 9. Abbie Mazour

### Serious prose

1. Abbie Mazour, 2. Carlin Daharsh, 5. Drake Brand, 6. Kennedy Wahlgren, 9. Betsy Potter

### Poetry

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1. Betsy Potter, 3. Carlin Daharsh, 10. Kennedy Wahlgren, 12. Roman Schmidt

Duet Acting

2. Kayla Trevino and Drake Langley, 7. Jett Seimer and Joseph Darling, 11. Drake Brand and Brett Mann

Oral interpretation of drama

1. Ashley Wilkerson, Rebecca Riley, Jett Seimer, Drake Langley, Rachel Rice, 3. Gage Taylor, Kylee Beyea, Trenton Long, Sara Picci, Georgina Dishman.

Also competing was Joseph Darling.