Rice Speech and Debate Team Wins 2004 Texas State Championship

Fourteen students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, November 5-7, in the Texas Intercollegiate Forensics Association State Championship Tournament, hosted by Texas State University at San Marcos in San Marcos, TX.

In this diverse competition, composed of 27 debate teams and 224 individual event entries representing 18 universities and colleges, the Rice team won the state championship, winning 27 individual awards and 4 overall awards.

The rice team won 24 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University, Texas State University—San Marcos, West Texas A&M University, and the University of Texas at El Paso.

Team Awards:
First Place Overall Sweepstakes
First Place Debate Sweepstakes
Third Place Individual Event Sweepstakes

Individual awards are listed below.
James Rapore and Greg Miller: Second Place Varsity Parliamentary Debate.
Robert Crider and Nathan Smith: Third Place Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Kim Hartson and Hrishi Hari: Fourth Place Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Felipe Valdez and Greg Miller: Third Place Duo Dramatic Interpretation
Felipe Valdez: Fourth Place Overall Individual Event Speaker, Third Place Dramatic Interpretation, Sixth Place programmed Oral Interpretation, Fifth Place Poetry Interpretation.
Greg Miller: First Place Extemporaneous Speaking, Fourth Place Overall Varsity Debate Speaker, Fifth Place Overall Individual Event Speaker.
Kim Benett: First Place Junior Varsity After Dinner Speaking, Fifth Place Junior Varsity Extemporaneous Speaking.
James Rapore: Second Place Persuasive Speaking, First Place Varsity Parliamentary Debate Speaker.
Ted Torous: Fifth Place Junior Varsity Debate Speaker, Semi-Finalist Extemporaneous Speaking
Sarah Brandenberg: Fourth Place Junior Varsity Prose Interpretation, Fourth Place Junior Varsity After Dinner Speaking.
Hrishi Hari: Second Place After Dinner Speaking, Second Place Junior Varsity Impromptu Speaking, Third Place Informative Speaking.

Matilda Young: Third Place Junior Varsity Programmed Oral Interpretation, Fourth Place Junior Varsity Poetry Interpretation.

Kim Hartson: Sixth Place Extemporaneous Speaking, Third Place Junior Varsity Persuasive Speaking.

Anna Valkovich: Second Place Junior Varsity Extemporaneous Speaking, Third Place Junior Varsity Impromptu Speaking.

Robert Crider: Fourth Place Persuasive Speaking.

Harry Long: Fifth Place Impromptu Speaking.

Nathan Smith: Semi-Finalist Extemporaneous Speaking.

The team is coached by Director of Forensics Dr. David Worth and Assistant Director of Forensics Professor Jeremy Grace.

The team will be competing next at the Texas Tech University Tournament at in Lubbock, TX, November 19-21.