Rice Speech and Debate Wins in Nebraska, Looks Toward Air Force Academy Tournament

Twelve students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, January 18-20, in the “Sun and Sleet Swing” invitational tournament, hosted by Concordia University of Nebraska and Concordia University--Irvine, CA.

In this national “swing” competition (two tournaments in one weekend), composed of 35 debate teams from 15 universities and colleges, and 500 individual event entries, the contingent from the Rice team finished in First Place for the first half of the weekend and third for the weekend, winning 31 individual awards and 4 team awards at two separate tournaments.

The Rice team won 17 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were Creighton University, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Wheaton College, Kansas State University, Hastings College, and Bethel College.

Awards are listed below.

Overall Sweepstakes for Part 1: First Place.

Overall Debate Sweepstakes for Part 1: First Place.

Overall Individual Event Sweepstakes for Part 1: First Place.

Overall Swing Sweepstakes (full weekend): Third Place.
First Tournament:
Hrishi Hari: 1st Place Communication Analysis, 2nd Place After Dinner Speaking
Everette Kreider: 6th Place Impromptu Speaking, 1st Place Persuasive Speaking, 1st Place Informative Speaking
Kirti Datla: 4th Place Informative Speaking
Hilary Dowdy: 5th Place Informative Speaking
Daniel Shanaberger: 3rd Place Programmed Oral Interpretation, 5th Place Extemporaneous Speaking, 3rd Overall Speaker
Richard Flores: 5th Place Impromptu Speaking
Aparna Bhaduri: 4th Place After Dinner Speaking

Nick Kamas & Brittney Espinoza 1st Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Richard Flores & Jason Siegel: Octo-Finalist Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Everette Kreider & Hillary Dowdy: Quarter-Finalist Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Kirti Datla & Hrishi Hari: Semi-Finalist Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Aparna Bhaduri & Cathy Yang: Semi-Finalist Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Cathy 7th Place Debate Speaker
Kirti 5th Place Debate Speaker
Hrishi 2nd Place Debate Speaker
Nick 1st Place JV Debate Speaker
Brittney 2nd Place JV Debate Speaker

Second Tournament:
Hrishi Hari: 3rd Place Communication Analysis, 3rd Place After Dinner Speaking
Cathy Yang: 1st Place Informative Speaking, 6th Place Programmed Oral Interpretation
Everette Kreider: 6th Place Informative Speaking, 4th Place Persuasive Speaking
Kirti Datla: 4th Place Informative Speaking
Richard 5th Place Impromptu Speaking

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

The team will be competing next in the United States Air Force Academy Tournament in Colorado Spring, Co., February 8-10.