



For Immediate Release

Another Weekend; Another Championship; Another School Record

Debate Team Attends 3 Tournaments in One Weekend

Wins, Wins, and Almost Wins!

For the first time in school history, the UCSD Speech & Debate Team attended three tournaments in a single weekend, earning a Tournament Championship, multiple awards at a second tournament, and came so close in a third.

On Friday, October 13, the UCSD Speech & Debate Team attended the Dahlin Tournament hosted by Palomar College. This tournament featured a single, Open Division (most experienced) in IPDA (one vs. one debate) and speech events. Your **First Place Tournament Sweepstakes Champion: UCSD!** Although this was a relatively small tournament, it is noteworthy that the UCSD Team amassed more Sweepstakes Points towards the Championship than all the other schools (7) combined.

In IPDA debate, taking **Silver Awards** were Team Captain, Jared Hoffart, and Felip Gerdes. Closely behind with **Bronze Awards** were Kiran Kumar, Srujam Dave, and Kyle Matsuno. Srujam Dave captured the **Top Speaker Award for the tournament**, while Kiran Kumar earned **4th Place**; Asa Quadri and Felip Gerdes **tied for 8th Place** and Julian McKenzie garnered **10th Place**.

In Extemporaneous Speech, Dayyan Rizvi rose to **1st Place and won the "Patrick Mills Award", granted to the top limited preparation speech competitor at the tournament.** Thomas Zhang rose to **2nd Place** and captured the **Top Novice Award**. Brianna Newton was a close **3rd Place** and Khoa Le came in **4th Place**.

In Impromptu Speech, Dayyan Rizvi won **2nd Place**, Leslie Cheng, **3rd Place**, and Sina Sabet, **5th Place**. Sina Sabet also placed **4th** in Persuasive Speech.

In Informative Speech, Beverly To won **2nd Place**, Evelyn Valenzuela Rodriguez, **3rd Place**, Amy To, **4th Place**, and Leslie Cheng, **5th Place**.

Ghazal Saedi and Aracely Tobias teamed up to **win** the Dramatic Duo event.



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Saturday, October 14, seven new NPDA (two vs. two debate) Teams competed in the “Parli Free at ECC” Novice Tournament at El Camino College. Although there was no Team Sweepstakes award, UCSD led the pack. David Zheng and Eugene Kong won **Gold (1st Place)**, while three UCSD teams shared **Bronze (3rd Place)**— Nika Radgoudarzi and Kyle Matsuno, Irina Shemonaeva and Joel Jo, and Kailey Coronel and Eric Buetz. Speaker Awards were as follows: David Zheng **3rd**; Eugene Kong **5th**; Nika Radgoudarzi **7th**; and Marielle Lazaro **9th**.

Also, on October 14 and Sunday, October 15, six British Parliamentary (BP) Debate format Team Members competed in the “Steve Hunt Classic” hosted by Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. The team of Rafi Overton and Joey Wang fell **a single point short** of qualifying for the elimination rounds, while Indira Iyer and Ash Binoy were **two points behind** the pack.

Head Coach, Robert Campbell observed, “When invited to attend three superb tournaments this past weekend, the Team decided we could effectively compete in all three...and we did! The dominance in winning the Dahlin Tournament is testimony that this Debate squad could be the most powerful ever. This claim was further supported by the results of our novice NPDA debaters at El Camino College. And the Lewis & Clark Tournament was truly a national tournament, which included BP powerhouses of the University of Vermont, University of Idaho, the Claremont Consortium, and Lewis & Clark College. For our fledgling BP Team Members to finish so close to those schools is testimony to UCSD’s potential national presence. Our Lewis & Clark College hosts were most laudatory.

Special recognition also goes to the Administrative Leadership and Event Coaches on our Team. With their Head Coach out ill with Covid-19, they still organized and prepared for three tournaments in the same weekend--operating superbly and continuing the mantra of UCSD Speech & Debate: winning! I could not be prouder of this Team and how they represent UCSD.”

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