

Wessel Qualifies for State at Trego Meet By Kaylie Schaben

Koi Wessel qualified for the State Champs Forensic tournament in Extemp his first time competing this year when the Golden Plains High School Forensics Team went to Trego, Saturday, February 14th for their second meet of the season. Koi also competed at state last season in Extemp.

Kade Wessel and Koi Wessel (Juniors) were tied for first going into finals in Extemporaneous Speaking with only one quality point separating them. After finals round, Kade was in a three-way tie for third place and ended up with a fourth place finish. Koi received first place qualifying him for State Champs. "It feels good to know I've qualified for State," said Koi. "Now I can concentrate on the judge's comments to improve for state. Hopefully other teammates can qualify for state in the coming meets."

In addition to Extemp, Koi also competed in Oration, Carmen Sepulveda performed in poetry and IDA (Improvised Duet Acting), Clayton Bange competed in poetry, and Devin Carter was Carmen's IDA partner and presented in Prose.

Koi Wessel's Oration was well received, but with a number of excellent competitors, he wasn't able to break finals.

Carmen Sepulveda, sophomore, performed a timely piece about a husband who sends flowers on Valentine's Day, even though he has since passed away. She also did well, but with stiff competition in the poetry division, also did not advance to finals.

Clayton Bange, freshman, finished in the middle of the pack in poetry. "Clayton has improved upon it each time," said Coach Robynn Wessel, "and I can see him doing well later in the year after getting more practice with it."

Devin Carter, freshman, partnered up with Carmen in an IDA for the first time and they did quite well. They received first place in one of their rooms. However, more experienced teams won out and they did not break into finals. Devin also did well in Prose for his first time out. He was always running in the middle but it wasn't enough to take him to finals in such a competitive event.

At the end of the day, the Golden Plains team, with only five members competing, performed well enough to place 5th out of 12 very competitive teams. Their season is off and running with many more meets for students to fine-tune their performances.