By Carolyn Lee
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The Chase County Schools speech team took second place at the McCook Speech Invitational in McCook Saturday. Most team members also scored medals.

Arapahoe High School placed first, while McCook High School took third place. Seven teams were represented.

First place medal winners were Anna Bauerle in persuasive speaking and Mindy Castle in extemporaneous speaking.

Second place medal winners were Andrea Hogsett in poetry; Emma Bauerle and Ryan Moline in duet acting, and Anna Bauerle, Emma Bauerle and MaKenna Ketter in Oral Interpretation of Drama.

Third place medal winners were Emily Johnston in serious prose; Korey Krutsinger in informative speaking and Blair Hartman in persuasive speaking.

Jessica Hartman, Jake Lueth and Claire Kuenne took fourth place in Oral Interpretation of Drama with their first-time presentation of a news broadcast.

Kuenne, in her first contest, took fifth place in entertainment speaking with “High School for Dummies.”

Moline placed sixth in the entertainment division, while Tapainga Kahle took sixth in humorous prose.

“We received a lot of positive feedback from judges at the McCook meet,” Coach Jill Bauerle observed. “We have made great progress since our last meet, and we have some state-ready speakers.”

Bauerle said Monday that she will not have a full team for SPVA competition, held March 5 in Sutherland, which will make it difficult to place in the top half of the conference.

However, the coach is planning on several speakers and groups to make finals at district competition in Ainsworth March 11, “and finish high enough in their events to qualify for state.”

The state speech meet is scheduled for March 21.