



**By Carolyn Lee**

***The Imperial Republican***

Chase County Schools' (CCS) one-act play, "Beyond Tolerance," is headed for state competition. The 34-person production took first place at district competition in Oxford Monday. The three judges all placed CCS first, with 178 points out of a possible 180. Southern Valley was second with 172 points, followed by, in order, Bayard, Bridgeport, Kimball, Hershey and Ainsworth.

Students honored with acting awards included seniors Anna Bauerle and Tapainga Kahle, juniors Jacob Lueth and Paige Spady, and freshman Kelly Christensen.

Director Jill Bauerle said the cast's only rehearsal between conference and district meets was a public performance Dec. 1.

"I am sure it made a difference in regaining what we lost over Thanksgiving break," she said. "Between now and state we will be working on getting state-ready by incorporating some of our judges' suggestions."

The State Play Production Championship will be held Dec. 12 between 1-5 p.m. MT at the Johnny Carson Theatre in Norfolk.

There are six teams competing in Class C1, but only CCS and Homer had qualified as of Tuesday. Competition continues for the other four places through Saturday.

Bauerle said of the district performance, "Wow! They were determined to make state. They performed with focus and energy, and every cast member contributed to impress our judges and audience."



"Beyond Tolerance" concerns common sense versus extreme tolerance and political correctness at U. Burnem, an institute of higher learning.

A new student challenges the conformity of the school, with a surprise ending to the play. "It is a bizarre play that uses 'absurdist humor to address a serious and disturbing theme,'" Bauerle explained.

Assistant director is Jodie Liess.