News from Saddleback College

For Immediate Release

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Saddleback’s Speech and Debate Team Takes Third Place at the Ray Dahlin Individual Events Tournament

El Cajon, CA -- The Saddleback Speech and Debate Team led by Co-directors Heidi Ochoa and Larry Radden and Co-directors Lucas Ochoa and Shawn O’Rourke, competed at the Ray Dahlin Individual Events Tournament held at Grossmont College on November 8, 2013. The Saddleback team proudly placed 3rd out of 16 colleges and universities. Heidi Ochoa stated, "Bailey Prince’s win in Senior Division Impromptu Speaking was a great feat for Saddleback College. He beat a strong field of competitors, and this is only his second tournament in the speaking genre." Larry Radden, who has served Saddleback College as a speech professor and speech and debate coach for 18 years, stated, “I feel that a stable growth of our team this semester will make for consistent results at speech tournaments in the Spring Semester.”

The Saddleback College Speech and Debate Team for the first time demonstrated excellence in all of the categories of speech. They can truly call themselves a full-service team. Shawn O’Rourke organized an outreach event for the Fullerton High School Speech and Debate Team. The Saddleback team worked with the high school team in refining their speeches. The Saddleback team was awarded a donation for their efforts. The money will be used to offer Saddleback students more opportunities to compete at tournaments outside the region of California which is beneficial for National Competition.

The results are:

1st Place Impromptu Speaking- Bailey Prince
3rd Place Impromptu- Mitchell Carter
2nd Place Programmed Oral Interpretation- Dennis Meador
3rd Place After Dinner Speaking- Dennis Meador
Finalist Persuasion- Alex Sherwood
Finalist Programmed Oral Interpretation- Sarah Santoyo
Finalist Programmed Oral Interpretation- Danny Roy
The Saddleback Forensics Team started in the 1970s and prides itself on offering students the ability to create innovative arguments for future writing and speaking engagements to strengthen their critical thinking skills and to better communicate with others. On the forensics team, students write, rehearse, and perform at 6-7 tournaments against students from Universities and Community Colleges to qualify for the national tournament. The students representing Saddleback at the national tournament have placed above several competitors representing institutions throughout the year, including: Concordia University, Point Loma, California State University, Los Angeles, California State University, Long Beach, and UCLA.

Located in Mission Viejo, Saddleback College provides quality higher education and training to the greater south Orange County community. Having served more than 500,000 students since 1968, Saddleback College offers over 300 degree and certificate programs to help students reach their personal, career, and educational goals. For more information, please visit www.saddleback.edu and for Fine Arts information, please visit www.saddleback.edu/arts.

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