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**Seth Sweep makes UMM speech competition history**

*Summary:*

(October 29, 2003)-University of Minnesota, Morris senior Seth Sweep, Hibbing, became the first person in the eight-year history of the UMM Intercollegiate Speech Team to take first place during competition October 24-25 at Concordia College in Moorhead. UMM competed against 14 other teams from across the Midwest during Valley Forensic League (VFL) competition with exciting results. Sweep earned the honor for the first tournament in Drama Interpretation. He also earned fifth place in Communication Analysis and sixth in Drama Interpretation for the second tournament.

Other award winners were Laura Hildreth (So., Grand Rapids), who earned third in Extemporaneous Speaking, and Jacqueline Rhode (Fr., Morris), who received the Top Novice award in Impromptu Speaking. Other competitors from UMM included: Meghan Jensen (Jr., Brownsdale), Danelle Orange (So., Bloomington), John Schrom (Jr., Minneapolis), Kate Raymond (Fr., Mankato), Sam Geller (Fr., Mankato), and Kate Craig (Fr., Sauk Centre). Grant Olson, UMM alumnus '03, accompanied the team as a judge. All students who participated did very well, as reflected in their high rankings.

The Intercollegiate Speech Team is a student-run team that travels to compete in forensic events in order to promote and improve communication skills. Unlike most teams in the forensic community, the UMM Intercollegiate Speech Team is completely student run and coached, with the assistance of faculty adviser, Dr. Mary Elizabeth Bezanson, providing a unique experience to all those who participate.

The 2003-2004 team is led by the Speech Officers: President Laura Hildreth, Student Coach Seth Sweep, Treasurer Danelle Orange and Secretary Meghan Jensen. The team is open to all UMM students who wish to participate. For more information email the team at [ummspch@mrs.umn.edu](mailto:ummspch@mrs.umn.edu).

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