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To: [Archive](#); [Shelly L Armstrong](#)
Subject: Ferris Speech/Forensics Team Competes
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Included below is a press release regarding the Speech/Forensics team at Ferris State University. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

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Ferris Speech/Forensics Team Gets Feet Wet at Weekend Tournament

BIG RAPIDS – On Jan. 23 and 24, three students represented Ferris State University at the Eastern Michigan University “Tower Classic” invitational individual events forensics tournament. The students also competed on Jan. 25 at the first University of Michigan invitational individual events tournament, also held on the EMU campus.

All Ferris speakers were participating in their first collegiate forensics competition. Sam Callen, a junior in Business Administration from Ravenna, placed third in one round of Persuasive Speaking at the EMU tournament. Cory Kowalski, a junior in Welding Engineering Technology from Lowell, and Leah McLean, a senior in Technical and Professional Communication from Ann Arbor, competed in Informative Speaking and Impromptu Speaking.

The team is coached by professor Sandy Alspach in public address and limited preparation events, and by associate professor Cami Sanderson in interpretation events.

These tournaments drew nationally-ranked forensics teams from across the country. The top three schools at the Tower Classic were Ohio University, Bowling Green State University and Berry College (Ga.), chased closely by the University of West Florida. On Jan. 25, the top three sweepstakes finishers were Northwestern University (Ill.), Eastern Michigan and Bowling Green, pursued by the University of Akron (Ohio).

The Speech/Forensics team now prepares for the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League Novice (first collegiate year of competition) tournament on Feb. 7 at Wayne State University. Schools also expected to compete at this tournament include Central Michigan University, Delta College, Eastern Michigan, Hillsdale College, Jackson Community College, Northwood University, Oakland Community College, Saginaw Valley State University, University of Michigan, University of Michigan-Flint and Wayne State.

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