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#### **(Neb.) - Panhandle 4-Hers compete at District Speech Contest**



By: John Thayer Posted at: 05/03/2012 12:40 PM

Fourteen youth participated at the annual 4-H Panhandle District Speech Contest. All participants previously competed at the county level and received purple ribbons on their speeches in order to become eligible for the district competition. The Panhandle Contest is unique in the state as the speeches are presented to the judges through the ESU 13 Distance Learning Labs. The youth were located in Gordon, Sidney and Alliance, while the judges were in Scottsbluff. This use of technology helps our families reduce their travel costs and time, although it can be a little challenging for the youth to give their speeches to the judges on a TV screen.

This year Senior 4-Hers Robin Ferguson (Sheridan) and Kane Wellnitz (Dawes) received the top placings winning purple ribbons, medals and the chance to compete at the State 4-H Contest held during the Nebraska State Fair. Seniors Melissa Jech (Sheridan) and Jada Jensen (Grant)

received blue ribbons.

Our two Intermediate 4-Hers, Jacob Lemmon (Dawes) and Bailee Lake (Morrill) also received purple ribbons and medals.

In our largest group of competitors, Junior 4-Hers Morgan Edmund (Sioux) and Cameron Jensen (Grant) received the purple ribbons and medals. Tristan Hunter (Dawes), Felicity Beyer (Cheyenne) and Lexie Jackson (Banner) received blue ribbons. The red ribbon winners were Haddie Grubbs (Banner), Clark Orr (Sheridan) and Grace Skavdoll (Sioux).

All of our participants did a great job and we look forward to hearing more from them in the future!

4-H District Speech Contest participants at the Gordon location. L to R Front Row: Clark Orr, Jakob Lemmon, Tristan Hunter and Cameron Jensen. Back Row: Melissa Jech, Kane Wellnitz, Jada Jensen and Robin Ferguson.