

DATE: May 24, 2018

MAX BIBEAU PLACES SIXTH AT STATE TOURNAMENT

Dripping Springs High School junior Max Bibeau placed sixth in Extemporaneous Speaking at the UIL State Speech and Debate Tournament May 22, 2018.

Max was one of 12 state qualifiers based on his regional performance in April; the top three speakers from each of four regions advance to the state meet. The state tournament consists of a preliminary round and a final round. The top three students in each preliminary round advance to the finals. Max was ranked first by all three of his preliminary judges after delivering a speech on the topic was "Is the political voice of the NRA becoming less relevant to American voters?" He then placed sixth in the final round on the topic "Is the Republican Party likely to lose control of the U.S. Senate in the 2018 elections?"

In Extemporaneous Speaking, students randomly draw five written questions out of an envelope, from which students select one to speak about. They are given 30 minutes to prepare a speech using journal and newspaper articles that have been stored in the weeks leading up to the tournament. At the end of the preparation time, students deliver the speech without notes to a judge or panel of judges. Students are judged on analysis, content, organization, and delivery. The maximum length of a speech is seven minutes.

Earlier this year, Max earned a fourth-place medal at the UIL State Congressional Debate competition.