

## Academics: SSSH UIL takes second place at district

Written by From Staff Reports  
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The Sulphur Springs High School UIL Academic Team returned from the District 14-4A Spring Meet with the second place sweepstakes award after earning 307 points; Hallsville High School was the overall sweepstakes winner.

Twenty-five SSSH students scored high enough individually or as part of a top or alternate team at the March 28-29 district competition to advance to the regional meet May 2-3 at the University of Texas at Arlington.

“Three of these students will be competing in two events and another is first alternate in a second contest,” noted SSSH UIL Coordinator Gina Wilder in a press release Monday. “Both the students and their sponsors have worked very hard preparing not only for the district meet, but also for the regional and state meets. Therefore, these regional competitors are positioned to perform well at the regional meet. They are all awesome and I am so honored to be a part of it. Brag on them when you see them.”

In accounting, Devin Mitchell placed fifth and Nima Sherpa placed sixth. The team, which also included Iris Gutierrez and Alyssa Gutierrez, won second place.

Ariel Gonzalez placed third in the current issues and events competition.

MiKayla Jones placed first in computer applications.

In computer science, M. Hunter Allen placed first, Ryan Moore second, Karl Sehnert third and Devin Mitchell fourth, earning the group first place team honors.

In the journalism events, Jenna Ash placed first in editorial writing, and Lacey Jackson placed fifth in editorial writing and second in feature writing.

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In literary criticism, Jessica Boyd placed third and McKenzie Hohenberger fifth. The team, which also included Laura Graham and Sofia Guerrero, won second place team honors. The literary criticism team also won the wildcard spot for region, which advances them to the regional meet.

Reilly Hale placed fourth in persuasive speaking.

In poetry interpretation, Triston Pullen won first and Reilly Hale third.

In prose interpretation, Sadie Evans came in fifth.

In ready writing, McKenzie Hohenberger placed second and Lacey Jackson placed sixth.

In social studies, Mariela Bravo placed first, Ariel Gonzalez second and Alma Zapata third. They, along with Peyton Howard, won first place team honors.

In spelling and vocabulary, Jacqueline Tovar Yanez placed first, Jenna Ash second and Jessye Castro fifth. They, along with Jordan Eckerd, placed first as a team.