



PHOTO BY DILKUSH KHAN

RAPTOR PRIDE: Junior Jack Fenimore practices his debate for Nationals in June.

JACK-JACK ATTACK

BY JEVONNA CANADA

Jack Fenimore, an extremely outgoing junior, became one of the few to qualify to compete in Student Congress at the National Speech and Debate Association's National Tournament.

Fenimore was the only qualifier from the district tournament who doesn't attend Cherry Creek High School. Fenimore has been working hard for the kind of recognition that comes with qualifying for Nationals.

"It feels like a big relief," Fenimore said. "I've been trying since freshman year."

Congress is a form of debate where students pretend to be representatives to Congress; they debate and vote on different resolutions and gain points for giving speeches. The National Qualifiers tournament, held at Cherry Creek, determined the five people going to the National Tournament.

Qualifying for the national tournament gave a great sense of accomplishment to Fenimore, as well as his teacher, Ashley McCulloch.

"It's really exciting," McCulloch said. "I knew how badly he wanted it, and I am incredibly proud."

Jack is known by his peers to be hard-working and industrious.

"He's a phenomenal competitor when it comes to Congress," Sophomore Dante Falco said. "He's always striving towards excellence."

Fenimore is known for his involvement in basically everything, including Speech and Debate, NEHS, SNHS, JNHS, lacrosse, Supercrew, and Council of Clubs.

"I love being involved, love to experience as much as possible, and allow myself a lot of opportunities," he said.

One such opportunity was the Mr. EHS pageant last month, which he won with a skit with the cheerleaders.

"I've always known all the cheers, I would do it with the cheerleaders during the games, and thought why not take it to the next level," he said.

Fenimore has taken it to the next level

by qualifying for the National Tournament, but to do well in competition, he needs to research intensely.

"I'm just researching different political topics, improvised speeches, just finding the topic," he said.

Jack's success translates into higher team morale.

"It shows a better reputation knowing one of your teammates is making it. He's been able to compete with the big leagues," Falco said.

It all started in Raptor 101 freshman year, when Jack saw that Speech and Debate was an option for the club requirement. From there, it's been a long road of success, culminating with this achievement.

Fenimore is ecstatic that he gets to represent Eaglecrest.

"It's such an honor to be recognized for the work I've done, Eaglecrest has had one other national qualifier in the past six years so I'm very blessed," he said.