

# Talk Prizes Go to Area Teen-Agers

CHENEY, Wash. — Semifinals for the Soil and Water Conservation Speech contest were held here Wednesday evening.

The contest was sponsored by the Washington Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

First place in the contest went to Chuck Wyborne, a 10th grader at Wilbur High School from Northwest Lincoln SWCD.

Marilyn Beitzel, a junior at Palouse High School, won second-place honors. She represented the North Palouse SWCD.

Jessica Hanford, an Oakesdale High School senior, was third. She represented the Pine Creek SWCD.

The three winners were awarded plaques. The first-place winner will also receive an expense-paid trip to Tacoma, Wash., where he will compete in speech finals Dec. 1.



## Team isn't 'typical'

"They aren't typical high school athletes," he said. "I'm so convinced now that by 1981 we'll be State champions . . . these girls are already planning summer camps and retreats that will take us one step closer to the championship. They want to do whatever they can from right now to August of next year so that we'll be ready."

Whoever has followed the volleyball season this fall knows who is talking. With unfaltering optimism Coach Chuck Wyborney is already preparing for the 1981 season.

It's beside the point that his 12 young players have just finished a hard-fought season against bigger and more experienced teams; and that they've just returned from the State playoffs as third, a team that was to have had a "building" year.

That's all in the past. This team is now looking to the future. Coach Wyborney says the girls are the ones with the foresight. And he places all credit for the third place on the team. "I've never had a team in five years that would work to solve their own problems like this team."

Yet one can't help but attribute a lot of the credit to the coach. Wyborney started coaching in 1975 with little training in volleyball. Every year since then his team has progressed from the Bi-County playoffs, to Bi-County

to District to State, improving every year except this year.

And this year was quite a shock for everyone. With six seniors graduating from last year's second place State team, Wyborney was pleasantly surprised when this year's two seniors, five juniors and five sophomores started winning.

"We've got a tradition of winning. Success feeds itself and these girls aren't afraid to face anybody," Wyborney agrees with the philosophy that "Everyone wants to win but not everyone has the will to prepare to win." And this has apparently rubbed off on his athletes.

"Our kids work hard. They have very high standards. Winning isn't everything but giving 110 percent of yourself is everything . . . I still enjoy winning though."

And win they have. Wyborney's overall coaching record boasts 105 wins and 20 losses. This year the Redwings finished 21-4. In league play the girls, with no home games, lost to Rittrville and Davenport. They beat every other team in the league and even Newport, State A champion, in pre-season play.

But when they got to District, and then State they met the tough Freeman Scotties again. The Scotties, who plan to join the A ranks next year, boasted a team of five seniors. And every time they met

Wilbur they beat us. (During league play Freeman barely won and then had to forfeit to us because of an ineligible player.)

"We struggled with Freeman all year. The only difference was age and by age I mean composure in tough situations." Freeman took first in State with Rittrville taking second.

In his career Coach Wyborney has found not to treat girls as "girls" but as athletes. "As a male I tend to give in a bit and accept excuses but I found out they want to be pushed just as boys are pushed. I'm still not great at it . . . I still say please."

During the season four years ago when the WHS volleyball team was just starting to make a tradition of winning a coach said to Wyborney, "When we knock off some of the easier teams like Wilbur, we'll be on our way."

Now, Wyborney says, they're calling Wilbur "the power of the Bi-County."