



### **Hancock sophomores debate at nationals**

Hancock High School sophomores Lily Ogazalek and Emily Rubera competed at the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Tournament for forensics and debate from May 26-27 in Washington, D.C.

The tournament featured 1,500 of the top students in the country from private and public schools. Lily and Emily performed their Duo piece titled *"Gary Trotter and the Man We Whose Name We Cannot Say Due to Copyright Infringement,"* a parody of Harry Potter by Patrick Bates, during five rounds of preliminaries.

The two, who fell short of the semifinals, advanced to nationals after taking second in the Leatherstocking Region District Tournament in early March at Mount Markham High School.

Lily and Emily are coached by Monica Whitt, who has served Hancock as its speech and debate coach since 2001. Monica also is the chair of the Math Department and a National Honor Society advisor.

The girls will compete next in the National Speech and Debate Association Tournament from June 17-22 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.