

Jamie Carroll, Elizabeth Gedmark, Patrick Speice, Becca Eaton, David Leung, Anjali Garg, Lindsay Littlefield; Second row: Allan Loudon, Ross Smith, Jarrod Atchison, Casey Kelly, Kristen McCauliff, Jason Mika; Back row: Michael Perry, JP Lacy, Wes Lotz, Chris DeVault, Brad Hall, James Morrill, Derek Shores




courtesy WFU Debate

## *Debate team competes, and Wins nationally*

Most people don't really understand what the debate team does. Beginning in early August, when the annual national topic is released to the debate community, the coaching staff and members of the debate team work tirelessly to prepare for tournament competition. The topics are broad enough that an entire year is taken up developing arguments and researching all aspects of the issue at hand. This year, our topic involves the desirability of US ratification of a number of treaties on a variety of issues from global warming to arms control to human rights. Most of the time that goes into preparing for debates is spent researching all aspects of a particular issue to find "evidence," or published excerpts, to support various arguments. We spend most of our time Xeroxing hundreds of articles and books to find relevant passages, which we cut out and tape down on paper with the proper bibliographic

information so that we can cite relevant authorities in debate rounds. The number of issues surrounding the ratification of these treaties is immense, and the result is that our team generates thousands of pages of organized "evidence". We carry this evidence in file folders and expanding files in 14-gallon Rubbermaid tubs as we travel around the nation to compete with debaters from other schools who have done the same thing.

Debate is a very challenging and demanding activity that requires a lot of dedication and a competitive drive. Wake Forest University has such a longstanding and prestigious history of debate that it is a great honor to be a part of the team. "I have so many wonderful memories of success and friendship from my four years on the team...I'll never forget a single second of any of it" states senior Rebecca Eaton. 

# The Kings and Queens of the Files

by Charles Kemp

