Debate team captures national championship

By Elisa Costin

Wake Forest University's Brian Prestes and Daveed Gartenstein-Ross captured the national title in intercollegiate debate March 24 at the 51st National Debate Tournament by defeating a team from the University of Georgia. The United States federal government should increase regulations requiring industries to decrease substantially the domestic production and/or emission of environmental pollutants.

While the duo went 6-2 in the preliminary rounds, the team rattled off five in a row in the elimination rounds to capture the national title. It was a proud moment for coach Rose Smith and Director Al Louden. While both coached many students who had the potential to win the national championship, they didn't have the right combination of luck, talent and hard work. Brian Prestes and Daveed Gartenstein-Ross did.

At the same time, both Smith and Louden could just as easily argue that every student and every coach who participated in the debate program at Wake Forest over the past fifty years were the real winners.

"Brian and Daveed did this for all those who came before them," Louden said. "Everyone who's been part of this program is part of this because they have all taught us something." Louden and Smith have received hundreds of calls from alumni and former coaches. The two-and-a-half foot trophy Prestes and Gartenstein-Ross brought back from Lynchburg, Va., sits on a table in Louden's office.

The Wake Forest debate team was more than ready to win the national championship. "The team has been in the 'final four' four of the last five years," says Louden, using a sports term to describe the elimination round system of the national round system.

The road to the finals of the NDF was difficult. Prestes and Gartenstein-Ross lost the coin flip in the last two rounds and had to hold the ground through new and unexpected cases presented by the University of Michigan and the University of Georgia. In the semifinals, Prestes and Gartenstein-Ross, entering the tournament as the second seed, defeated the first-ranked Michigan team. The team lived up to the challenge of pokings holes in the Michigan case for installing air filters on international flights to impede the spread of viruses and other airborne diseases. The win was close, but not surprising, as the team had not lost to Michigan in their nine meets this year.

The win in the semi-finals gave the team the right to go on to the final round, lose the flip all over again, and stand firm against the University of Georgia's proposed solution to global warming. Georgia's case was to mandate installation of solar units in all new federal buildings in hopes that Asia and the rest of the world would follow suit.

Since the affirmative team is known to win well over half of all debates and Prestes and Gartenstein-Ross were arguing the negative, Wake Forest supporters held their breath when the tournament director announced that the judges had selected a winner four to one. But that was before he added "for the negative, Wake Forest."

Gartenstein-Ross and Prestes won't be caught debating what made them a good team. Both will tell you they have complementary strengths.

"Brian taught me a lot about affirmative debating," Gartenstein-Ross said. "I think he's one of the best affirmative speakers in the nation. He also taught me a lot about political process arguments and how the ramifications of an affirmative proposal can affect the process of agenda-setting in Washington."

Prestes complemented Daveed's versatility by saying, "No matter what the other team would say, I'd always have a response. He's interested in almost everything and was able to fill holes... I've been debating a long time, but I've always tried to avoid the philosophical side of things. He helped me build that up."

Daveed and Brian will be missed during the 1997-98 season. Brian, who graduated last spring, will be the assistant coach for Dartmouth during the 1997-98 school year. Daveed will return to debate after studying in Italy this fall.
Championship trophy sits proudly today in the library.

Future looks bright for Wake Forest Debate
Underclassmen finish year strong

On March 21-22 members of the Wake Forest University debate team competed at the National Debate Tournament held at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. While the Wake Forest debate team of Daveed Gartenstein-Ross (class of '98) and Brian Prestes (class of '97) won the national championship, two other Wake teams finished among the top 32 teams and participated in the elimination rounds. The team of Emma Flister (class of 2000) and Justin Green (class of '99), as well as the team of Andy Cogpert (class of '99) and Clay Rhodes (class of '99) finished respectively as the 26th and 258th seeds. Wake's first-year collegiate debaters concluded their season by competing successfully in the Novice National debate tournament held annually at Northwestern University. While Brian Prestes was the 3rd place speaker and his partner, Daveed Gartenstein-Ross, 6th at the National Debate Tournament, Emma Flister was the third place speaker at novice nationals. All underclassmen debaters are returning for the 1997-1998 season.

Shirley scholarships help less affluent students

The Franklin R. Shirley Memorial Scholars Fund, founded in 1986, has helped dozens of Wake Forest debaters meet the costs of college. Each year the fund provides $100 scholarships to the program. These scholarships help students meet the costs of college as the cost of tuition and books rise. This supplementonal financial assistance often makes the difference for students deciding whether or not to debate or to even attend Wake Forest.

Over the years debate alumni have contributed to a scholarship fund honoring Dr. Shirley, some making a one-time contribution, while others have directed their annual giving to the fund. You can contribute to the Franklin R. Shirley Debate Scholarship by designating the fund via University Advancement, Box 7225, Reynolds Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27111. Substantial giving can be discussed with a Development Officer at (910) 738-5224. Annual contributions can also be designated for the scholarship fund.

CEDA and NDT unify under one topic for second year

Spearheaded by Wake Forest coach Ross Smith, the two largest intercollegiate debate organizations adopted a joint topic for the 1996-1997 season. The two will continue to utilize a joint topic for the 1997-1998 season. The 1997-1998 topic is: Resolved: The United States federal government should increase its security assistance to one or more Southeast Asian nations: Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Fall tournament schedule

SEPT. 13-15—National Earlybird hosted by Wake Forest Debate
SEPT. 17-20—University of South Carolina Roan Robin
SEPT. 21-23—University of South Carolina
SEPT. 21-23—University of Northern Iowa
OCT. 4-6—University of Kentucky
OCT. 11-13—University of Richmond
OCT. 18-20—University of North Carolina
NOV. 3-5—Appalachian State and Liberty University
NOV. 15-22—Dixie Classic hosted by Wake Forest Debate

Alumni Notes

KEVIN GRIFFIN (71-72) heads The Organization Development Associates in Davidson, NC.
KAREN Klimento ROBERTS (79-80) is a business litigation attorney in Houston, TX.
THOMAS CLARK (80-81). Living in Wilmington, Delaware, where he is retired from the legal department at DuPont.
REV. CHARLES L. HARRIS (51-52) provided some very interesting materials on the history of the program. He resides in Delaplace, VA.
HENRY HUFF (49-50) retired from his Louisville law practice to Mars Hill, NC.
TOM DULANEY (67-68) works with HTS Sports via Slonaker and Associates in Charlottesville, VA.
WALTER DOUGLAS, Jr. (41-43) resides in Lutherville, MD.

ALLEN CARROLL (56-58) is with the Dept. of English at the Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville.
LINDA Hepler CARTER (82-86) has moved with husband Ron Wastyn to Davenport, IA where they are taking new teaching/development positions at St. Andrew's Univer. They are also proud of a growing family.

CLAUDIA PRIEB (51-53) debated in the glory years of the early 90's and lives in Charlotte, NC.
CHARLES BARRAUL (53) debated for a short period before returning to the ST. WU. Basketball team. He resides in Raleigh, NC.
David Clark (49-51) in a letter recalls his lifetime friends from debate. He is an attorney in Greensboro, NC.

Larry Williams (42-43; 47-48) remembers his debating days from his home in Alexandria, Virginia.

Edward Panetta (80-82) coached the University of Georgia team to a semi-final and final team in the 1997 National Debate Tournament.

Cadwell LeRoy (61-65) who resides in Charleston, SC, shared a wealth of materials from one of Wake's golden era of debate in the early 90s.

Jennifer Burningham Waxline (90s), has taken a position with Residence Life at the University of Kansas.

Martha Ann Allin Tournament (42-44) stays busy writing books at her home in Annapolis, MD. She retired from her position as Vice President for University Relations at Ohio University.

Michele Hale Williams (88-89) is finishing a Ph.D. in Political Science and currently resides in Wartburg, NJ.

Vicki Leonard Henderson (76-79) continues her work with volunteer programs and resides with her family in Snow Camp, NC.

Shane Baudisch (95-97) has accepted a position coaching at Cathedral Prep in Erie, PA.

David Chesher (early 80's) has completed his Ph.D. at the Univ. of Iowa and is the Director of Debate at George State Univ. His boss is Dean Chair Carol Windler (MA.83).

Alan Covington teaches at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, TN where he coaches debate.

Bar Frank (MA. early 70's) has moved to a new academic position at Morehead State Univ., KY.

UPDATE ON RECENT ALUMNI (THE 90s):

Marc French is Associate Director of the Wake's Multi-Cultural Affairs Office.

Misao Fujimaki is finishing a Ph.D. at the Univ. of Iowa.

Brian Lain is working on a Ph. D. at the Univ. of Iowa.

Mark Grant is finishing a law degree at Emory Univ.

Joe Bellon is finishing his Ph.D. in Communication at the Univ. of Georgia.

John Hughes (91-96) married Tiffany Earl (Univ. of Iowa debater) and resides in Iowa City, IA.

Craig Gordon is pursuing a law degree at Yale Univ.

Keith Jones is pursuing graduate work at Michigan State Univ.

Megan Reif just finished a nine month Fulbright Grant doing research in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

J.P. Lacy is starting as the assistant coach at Whittman College, Walla Walla, WA.

Dan Leslie is coaching at Dallas Jesuit HS in Texas.

Gordon Mitchell is the Director of Debate at the University of Pittsburgh, where he is assisted by two former Wake Assistant coaches, Max Schreiber and Tom O'Donnell.

Siew and Janette Mur are both tenured at George Mason Univ., VA, where they continue to prolifically publish.

Scott O'Donnell is working as a banker in Frankfurt, Germany.

Sixi Park resides in Gereva, Switzerland where she works for K.R. International.

Mike Ridge and Robin Flag reside in Chapel Hill where Mike is finishing a Ph.D. in Philosophy.

Matt Rogers has returned to Wake Forest to complete his law degree.

Sandan Borgwardt is teaching at Wayne State Univ., who, along with her husband Shane Stafford (who coaches debate at the Liggett Schools), is raising a new daughter.

Lydi Schull is completing his Ph.D. at Duke University.

Michael Serzin is finishing his Law Degree at the Univ. of Tennessee.

Bill Shamburger has been awarded a Ph.D. in Communication at the Univ. of Tennessee.

Jeff Scoro is in the final stages of a Law degree from Wake Forest.

Jordan Strohmberg is completing his Law degree from the Univ. of Texas. Austin.

Marcia Treacy is working toward a Law degree from Northwestern University.

Bel Zellerµller is practicing law in Chicago and was married this summer.

Kristen Henszeck has completed advanced degrees from NYU and currently resides in Houston, TX.

Amirone Boros is an associate coach at the Univ. of Michigan.

Bryan Pringles is a coaching assistant at Dartmouth College.

Brock Kooper recently finished his law degree from Yale.

Corey Cooper is working on Capitol Hill as an arts lobbyist.

Joe P闰sy is working as a stock broker in Durham, NC.

Marc Rockenstein has completed his law degree in California and will practice in Korea.

Melanie Henson is working with Sports promotion in Winston-Salem.

Gordon Hill is finishing his Ph.D. at Vanderbilt Univ. and is currently studying in England.

Jason Jarvis is the Debate Coach at Augusta College at Rock Island, IL.

Patrick McMullen has accepted the position as Director of Debate at Mary Washington College, VA.

Elsia Cohen (Louisville, KY) graduated from the University of Louisville in 1997, having completed several years of successful high school and college competition. Elsia debated for the University of Louisville and has a major in political science. Elsia says, "It's exciting to be a part of a program with so much new talent!"

Jim Lyle (Liverpool, ON) graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1997 with a degree in political science. A successful intercollegiate debater, Jim follows a long line of Pittsburgh debaters who continued their education at Wake Forest.

New Deacon debaters include:

Thomas Allen (Round Rock, TX) broke records at Round Rock High School. During his senior year, Thomas made it to the elite elimination rounds at both TEA and UIL Texas State Championships and was the first team from his high school to qualify for NFL Nationals. Thomas plans on a political science major and then law school to utilize his superb debating skills.

Jarrod Atwood (Shreveport, LA) Presidential Scholar, competed a very successful debate career before joining Wake Forest this year as a freshman. In his senior year, Jarrod and his partner won every major Round Robin in the nation, including Harvard, Greenhill, and Baylor. Jarrod loves debate and wishes to be a debater coach, possibly for Wake Forest.

Cyclone Coye (Atlanta, GA) follows in a family tradition of debate at Wake Forest, with his parents meeting while members of Wake's debate team. Cyclone and his partners were in the late elimination rounds at many national tournaments including Harvard and the Tournament of Champions.

Matt Barser (Issaquah, WA) is a former parliamentary debater. Matt debated for Liberty High School in Issaquah. The team welcomes him to his first year of ND-T-style debate!

Michael Bonera (Newburgh, NY) is one of two Wake Forest debaters attending Wake. Mike's year was spectacular, reaching the late elimination rounds at Bronx, the Barkley Forum at Emory University, Montgomery Bell Academy, the TOC, and winning the Harvard University tournament. Mike is a part time chef, an excellent cook, and will bring many assets to the team.

Mare DeMarco (Newburgh, NY) is the second Wake debater attending Wake. Mare's year was the 5th place speaker at the prestigious Westminster tournament and had an equally spectacular year as his friend, Mike Bonera. We are glad to have him part of the team.

Liz Ellis (Dunwoody, GA) is one of two Georgians on the team this year. Liz was a great debater.

Squad Update by Amy Ryan and Elsia Cohen.

Wake Forest will once again have a large contingent of Deacon Debaters. Because of the overwhelming success of last year's program, this year's freshman class is the largest ever. There are numerous new Deacons waiting in the wings hoping to fill departing Deacon shoes. While this year's team will be young, the team's strength will come in its depth of new talent. The team also will have three assistant coaches this year. Eric Trueitt will return to coach. Joining him in the ranks are:

Continued on page 4.
from St. Pius high school and was in the elimination rounds of several national tournaments her senior year. Liz and Mike Bonura, who debated each other in high school, now will be part of a winning team (as partners) this season.

Thomas Lohavan (Tucson, AZ) was the Arizona state debate tournament champion in 1997. One of two Tom’s on the Wake team this year, he traveled across the country to attend Wake from San Salvador Catholic High School.

Wesley Lott (Houston, TX) is from a school with a strong debate tradition, Memorial High School. Wes finished his high school debate career by reaching the semi-finals of the Tournament of Champions. We hope that he finds similar success at the NDT during his collegiate career!

Amy Powell (Elizabeth City, NC) is a hometown favorite! Amy debated at Northeastern High School in Elizabeth City. As a senior, Amy captured the state debate tournament championship as well as the top speaker award at the tournament.

Brad Roesler (Little Rock, AR) is one of two debaters on the Wake Forest squad who attended Little Rock Central. Brad was an outstanding high school debater and was in the elimination rounds of several Arkansas tournaments.

Andy Ryan (Shreveport, LA) is the second Presidential Scholar from Cadmus Magnet High School, along with his teammate Jarred. Andy and his partner had an outstanding senior year, winning The Glenbrooks, The Berkeley Forum at Emory University, the Pace Round Robin, and finally the Tournament of Champions. Andy plans to major in economics and one day teach as a professor at a business school.

Clint Watson (Erlanger, KY) is the newest recruit on the Wake Forest squad! He joins the team in his first year at Wake Forest. While Clint has never debated before, he says, “I have always loved to argue over anything!” Clint should fit right in!

Mark Yopp (Nashville, TN) was an outstanding senior at Montgomery Bell Academy. Mark and his partner were the most successful team from their school at this year’s Tournament of Champions. Mark’s coach, former Wake NDT finalist Alan Coverstone (90), says Mark’s help and skill will be instrumental to Wake Debate’s success. In order to debate, Mark loves pro wrestling.

**Wake Forest Debate awards—1996-97**

**TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIPS AND FINAL ROUNDS**

**UNIV. OF KENTUCKY**, Round Robin, 1st Place, Brian Prestes & Justin Green

**Harvard University**, 1st Place, Brian Prestes & Davide Gartner-Rosen

**State Univ. of West Georgia**, 1st Place, Div. II, Rob Shaw & Joe Gagnon

**George Mason University**, 1st Place, Novice, Joe Gagnon & Rob Shaw

**Dartmouth College**, Round Robin, 1st Place, Brian Prestes & Davide Gartner-Rosen

**University of Akron**, 2nd Place, Novice, Rob Shaw & Joe Gagnon

**National Debate Tournament**, 1st Place, Brian Prestes & Davide Gartner-Rosen

**SEMI-FINALS (3RD PLACE FINISH)**

Liberty University, Varsity, Josh O’Dell & Drew Brown

Liberty University, Novice, Joe Gagnon & Andy Harris

Liberty University, Novice, Chris Mills & Michelle Young

University of Southern California, Brian Prestes & Davide Gartner-Rosen

University of Texas, Round Robin, Brian Prestes & Davide Gartner-Rosen

State Univ. of West Georgia, Brian Prestes & Davide Gartner-Rosen

Northeastern University, Davide Gartner-Rosen & Brian Prestes

**QUARTER-FINALS (5TH PLACE FINISH)**

Univ. of Northern Texas, Davide Gartner-Rosen & Brian Prestes

Univ. of Nebraska, Las Vegas, Kristin Langwell & Nicole Runyan

Univ. of North Carolina, Arren Zohra & Sean Nowak

James Madison Univ., Novice, Chris Mills & Michelle Young

**Liberty University, Varsity, Emma Fltstrump & Justin Green**

Liberty University, Varsity, Eric Deltour & Kelly Wallace

George Mason University, IV Khalid Jones & Chris Mills

Liberty University, Clay Rhodes & Andy Gagnon

**District VI NDT Qualifier, Qualified, Emma Fltstrump & Justin Green**

**OCTA-FINALS (9TH PLACE FINISH)**

Univ. of North Carolina, Justin Green & Emma Fltstrump

Harvard University, Nicole Runyan & Kristin Langwell

State Univ. of West Georgia, Nicole Runyan & Kristin Langwell

**DOUBLE-OCTA-FINALS**

University of South Carolina - Emma Fltstrump & Justin Green

University of South Carolina - Kristin Langwell & Nicole Runyan

University of South Carolina - Sean Nowak & Arren Zohra

University of Kentucky - Justin Green & Brian Prestes

University of Southern California, Clay Rhodes & Andy Gagnon

California State Univ.-Long Beach, Clay Rhodes & Andy Gagnon

Baylor University, Justin Green & Emma Fltstrump

Northeastern University, Justin Green & Emma Fltstrump

Northwestern University, Clay Rhodes & Andy Gagnon

Tuscon State University, Rob Shaw & Joe Gagnon

National Debate Tournament, Andy Gagnon & Clay Rhodes

**CUT-ON-POINTS**

Liberty University, Novice, Joy Vermillion & Emily Turner

**Wake Forest Debate**

**Designers**

Thomas Allen, ’01 (Round Rock, Texas)

Sara Ackerson, ’01 (Shreveport, Louisiana)

Matt Barber, ’01 (Isaacs, Washington)

Michael Bonner, ’01 (Newburgh, New York)

Clayton Corder, ’01 (Murrow, Georgia)

Mario DeMarco, ’01 (Newburgh, New York)

Tamara Dye, ’01 (Greenville, South Carolina)

Liz Ellis, ’01 (Dacula, Georgia)

Emms Fltstrump, ’00 (Alexandria, Virginia)

Joe Gagnon, ’99 (Greensboro, North Carolina)

Andy Gagnon, ’99 (Ashland, Oregon)

Lawrenceville Georgia

Justin Green, ’99 (Katy, Texas)

Khaid Jones, ’00 (Little Rock, Arkansas)

Thomas Lohavan, ’01 (Tucson, Arizona)

Wesley Lott, ’01 (Houston, Texas)

Sean Neumark, ’99 (Rye, Pennsylvania)

Clay Rhodes, ’99 (Orange, Texas)

Amy Powell, ’01 (Elizabeth, North Carolina)

Brad Roesler, ’01 (Little Rock, Arkansas)

Andy Ryan, ’99 (Shreveport, Louisiana)

Rob Shaw, ’99 (Greensboro, North Carolina)

Clint Watson, ’01 (Erlanger, Kentucky)

Mark Yopp, ’01 (Nashville, Tennessee)

**Director**

Allan Louden

**Head Coach**

Ross K. Smith

**Assistant Coaches**

Elisia Cohen, ’99

Jen Leyk, ’99

Eric Truett, ’98

**Debate UPDATE Editor**

Elisia Cohen