

# Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

## Winter 2007 Newsletter

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**2007-2008 Speech Registration Form.** WHSFA has hired a computer programmer to create a new scheduling system for the 2007-2008 State Speech Festival. Kent Grainger, Chris Verges (Section II Chair) and Chuck Malone have met several times and the tests of the new system have proven exciting. Using the 2006-2007 registration forms for the Friday, 5:30 p.m. round, the program was able to schedule the entire round in 47 seconds. Some adjustments will have to be made yet but everyone involved is excited.

Coaches will register on the web site and a confirmation will be sent to them from the web site showing the students and groups that have been registered. If confirmation is not received, it means all fields were not filled out.

Keep your eye on the web site for further details from the State Office in January with the specifics of registering.

**2007-2008 State Theatre Festival.** The 2007 State Theatre Festival at U.W. Stevens Point was a success with over 1,700 students participating. This year 48 schools presented their one act plays in front of enthusiastic audiences. Thursday night students and directors were treated to a full-length performance of *Marvin's Room* presented by The Prairie School, Racine and Friday there were two presentations of *Anything Goes* presented by Verona Area Schools.

**Critic's Choice** schools were: Appleton North, Catholic Memorial, Dominican, Kenosha Bradford, Madison West, Northland Pines, Platteville, Plymouth, Ripon, Seymour, Wabeno, Waukesha South, Waukesha West, Waunakee, and West DePere.

**Directing Awards** went to: Ron Parker – Appleton North, Chris Andacht – Catholic Memorial, Clare McCain – Homestead, Holly Walker – Madison West, Dave Strong and Mike Long – Northland Pines, Jeffer Scheuer and Julie VanArk – Owen-Withee, Barb Ames – Ripon, and Marie Brink – Waukesha West.

**Acting Awards** went to: Zach Erdmann – Burlington, Ame Andacht, Kate Booth, Katie Kuemmel, Meggy Demeter, Morgan Dowling and Alyssa Voboril – Catholic Memorial, Doug Nogrady – Dominican, Nate Seager – Green Bay West, Elizabeth Sikorski and Michael Lynn – Greenfield, Steve Lebedz and Katie Woods – Kenosha Bradford, Alicia Homan – Northeastern, Wade Dobrzynski – Owen-Withee, Sarah Ellis and Jared Beebe – Platteville, Cliff Newton – Plymouth, Troy Marshall – Viroqua Youth Initiative, James Held – Waukesha South, Kim Cordova – Waunakee and Christopher Baldwin – Wonewoc-Center.

**Ensemble Acting Awards** went to: Appleton North, Augusta, Catholic Memorial, DeForest, Dominican, Drummond, Madison West, Manitowoc Lincoln, Northland Pines, Platteville, Plymouth, Ripon, Riverdale, Sussex Hamilton, Waukesha South, Waukesha West and West DePere.

**WECA Grant.** WEAC has given WHSFA a grant of \$1,000 toward the printing of new handbooks

**Forensic Night with the Milwaukee Bucks.** Again this year the Milwaukee Bucks are sponsoring Forensic Night with reduced prices for forensic students. For more information or to order tickets contact: Tom Demeter 414-227-0584 or [tdemeter@bucks.com](mailto:tdemeter@bucks.com)  
More details available on the web site: [www.whsfa.org](http://www.whsfa.org)

**Ethel Heise.** Ethel Heise passed away this past fall. Many of us worked with Ms. Heise for years in WHSFA and WFCFA. During her career, she was an outstanding Speech Coach, Adjudication workshop trainer and long time State Speech Festival evaluator. She will be greatly missed by all of us.

**Middle School Level I and Level II Sites.** The web site contains up-to-date Middle Level Sites, but WHSFA still need more schools to step forward and offer to host. On the web site, if you click on the event, you will find deadlines for registration, parking instructions and whether or not food is available at the event.

**Level I Sites:**

January 17 – Gibraltar

January 28 – Nekoosa, Edgar and St. Croix Falls

February 2 – Little Chute

February 4 – Beaver Dam, St. John the Baptist (Green Bay) and Hayward

February 5 – Spooner and Menomonee

February 7 – Red Smith (Green Bay), Arkansaw and Arcadia

**Level II Sites:**

February 9 – Little Chute

February 18 – Fort Atkinson

February 21 – Blessed Sacrament (Madison)

February 22 – Edison (Green Bay)

February 25 – Bangor, Bay View, Nekoosa, Tomahawk, Edgar and St. Croix Falls

February 28 – De Long (Eau Claire) and Arkansaw

March 6 – Lombardi (Green Bay)

**Student Testimony.** The State Office recently received a letter from a three year State Speech Festival participant who said: “I have been shy and quiet ever since I was a child. By participating in forensics, I’ve learned that everyone gets nervous and makes mistakes. Now, thanks to forensics, I am able to talk to my classmates, friends, and all other people without fear.” This is why speech coaches give so much of themselves to help students grow in to confident speakers.

**2007-2008 State Debate Tournament.** South Milwaukee High School was the site of the 2007-2008 Wisconsin State Debate Tournament. For the second year the Wisconsin Debate Coaches Association and the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association joined together to host the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament. 23 high schools and middle school participated with teams competing in Varsity Switch Sides, Varsity Four Person, Lincoln/Douglas and Public Forum. Results can be found on our web site: [www.whsfa.org](http://www.whsfa.org)

**Important Dates:**

Latest Sub-District Date: March 8, 2008 (check with District Chair for exact date)

Latest District Date: March 29, 2008 (check with District Chair for exact date)

State Speech Festival: April 18 and 19, 2008 at U.W. Madison

Board of Control Meeting: May 8, 2008