

## 1990-92 WHSFA TWO-YEAR CALENDAR

Subdistrict dates and the dates for District Debate, Theatre and Speech are the latest dates the contests may be held. Dates for all State Senior Division contests are firm.

1990-91	Theatre (1990)	Debate (1991)	*Speech (1991)	JR Division 1991
Subdistrict	Oct. 20		March 9	February 16, Level I
District	Nov. 2-3	January 5	March 23	March 9, Level II
Section	Nov. 16-17			(Latest Dates)
State	Nov. 30-Dec. 1	4 & 2SP Jan. 24-26	April 19-20	
Board Meetings	Oct. 23-24, 1990 May 2-3, 1991	Thanksgiving Easter	November 22, 1990 March 31, 1991	

1991-92	Theatre (1991)	Debate (1992)	Speech (1992)	JR Division (1992)
Subdistrict	Oct. 19		March 7	February 15, Level I
District	Nov. 1-2	January 11	March 21	March 7, Level II
Section	Nov. 15-16			(Latest Dates)
State	Nov. 29-30	4 & 2SP Jan. 23-25	April 10-11	
Board Meetings	Oct. 22-23, 1991 April 30-May 1, 1992	Thanksgiving Easter	November 21, 1991 April 19, 1992	

\*Please note the date changes in Speech for 1991. The incorrect dates of March 8, Subdistrict and March 22, District were inadvertently printed previously. The **correct** dates are March 9 and March 23. (see calendar above)

### Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

Lowell Hall  
610 Langdon Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

### NEWSLETTER

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## WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION

A program of UW-Madison Continuing Education in the Arts

# NEWSLETTER

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### THEATRE IS HAPPENING IN WISCONSIN

**November 30-December 1 are the dates! UW-Oshkosh is the Place!**

- ... Two stages with showcase performances occurring during both days
- ... Talk-back experiences with adjudicators and other theatre personnel
- ... Workshop experiences in stage combat, puppetry, choreography, make-up, costuming
- ... and much, much more.

Plan now to attend these two days of theatrical delights.

More information regarding housing, costs and time frame will be forthcoming.

### DEBATE TOPIC RESOLUTION FOR 1990-91 MODIFIED

At the National Federation Debate Topic Selection Committee meeting held in Little Rock, Arkansas on August 3-5, the delegates voted to modify this year's resolution to add the words "**beyond the earth's mesosphere.**" The resolution now will read:

**Resolved: That the United States government should significantly increase space exploration beyond the earth's mesosphere.**

Schools registered for Debate in 1989-90 have received this notification, but current registrations indicate additional schools will be participating this year. If anyone needs more information regarding this matter, or any others connected with the 1990-91 season, please contact the State Office.

### NO DEBATE ADDENDUM, FOR 1990-91

No rule changes for the direction of Debate are in effect for 1990-91; therefore, it seemed monetarily wise to not publish an Addendum for this school year.

Any school, however, with a new coach or new program, or lost **Handbook**, may request a copy of the standard guide for Debate from the State Office, which will include an insert regarding the resolution for 1990-91.

### EDITORIAL

#### STATE SPEECH REFLECTIONS

Even the rain didn't seem to dampen the spirits of the 5000 high school students who were in attendance at the State Speech Festival last April 27-28 held in Madison. Mine was not dampened either. The last time I wrote you, I was not a "happy camper," as the vernacular goes. This time, I write with a much happier heart.

Yes, there were the injuries, the hurt feelings, the lost and misplaced students, the frantic coaches, the traffic jams, the late rounds, the irate parents, and the seemingly inevitable running out of tee shirts, all of which seems to go with the territory. More importantly, there were positive things that made this festival meaningful.

Having judges sessions before each round apparently improved the fairness in which students were adjudicated. In other words, everyone received the same information.

The use of judges provided by schools also improved the quality of the event. Not only did this mean that the hired individuals were not overworked, but a fresh new, understanding personality for students was able to be provided.

The diversification of responsibilities for Friday evening and Saturday morning between Advisory personnel, Board of Control members and State Office staff made it possible for all of us to spend more time with you. That is important!

Former Board of Control members as well as present ones were in attendance, and participated by both helping where needed and attending various events to get a "firsthand look" at what was going on.

The use of Bascom Hall for Headquarters has apparently improved the ability for coaches, students, bus drivers and parents to have a more central location for getting together.

Lastly, I am very happy to tell you that in the final swing through Bascom 260 and 272, it was only necessary to pick up six pop cans and 12 sheets of paper. What an improvement.

Good show, folks!

### TEE SHIRT PRICE INCREASED

Official WHSFA tee shirts will again be available at all state events in Theatre, Debate and Speech for 1990-91. The cost will increase from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per shirt.

BENEFITS OF WHSFA JUNIOR DIVISION MEMBERSHIP

When your school registers and pays the \$100 member fee, WHSFA provides the following services at no additional cost:

- \*\*\*\* Entry for up to 110 students at Level I Festival
- \*\*\*\* Entry for up to 110 students at Level II Festival
- \*\*\*\* Assistance to Festival Hosts
- \*\*\*\* Registration fee for as many adults from your school as you wish, for a 6 hour FORENSIC COACHES AND JUDGES WORKSHOP (provided to all parts of the state via the (ETN) Educational Teleconferencing Network).
- \*\*\*\* WHSFA COACHES AND JUDGES HANDBOOKS and **Newsletter** (WHSFA Junior Division Advisory Committee reviews and revises rules used for most forensics events in Wisconsin for middle level students, with the approval of the WHSFA Board of Control.)
- \*\*\*\* A voice in WHSFA Junior Division program decisions, via your elected representative on the WHSFA Advisory Committee
- \*\*\*\* Professional staff support
- \*\*\*\* Maintenance of WHSFA State Office as a center providing phone service, correspondence, development of program materials, mailings

PLAN NOW FOR STATE SPEECH

No, this is not a rerun of the March 1990 **Newsletter**. Instead, it represents innovative planning on the part of your Speech Advisory Committee and the State Office.

You will be receiving in October your registration/time preference card for the April 19-20, 1991 State Speech meet. A date for return of the card will be noted. One week after that date, the cards will be divided into requests and 90 will be drawn, by lottery, to fill each time slot of 5:30, 7:00, 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00. You will then be notified, again by postcard, within two weeks of that date when your school will perform.

It is the hope that this will allow you and your students to plan immediately for the State Speech meet and can make the necessary arrangements well in advance of the festival.

JUNIOR UPDATE

**Addendum.** This year, each returning WHSFA Junior member school will receive an **Addendum** to be used with the 1988-90 Handbook. New members will receive a copy of the **Handbook**, the **Addendum** and the **Criticism** publication.

**Groups** are not just for interpretation anymore! This season there are two new opportunities for students to participate in groups of 2 or 3, if they'd rather not go it alone right away.

**Demonstration Speaking** now has a two speaker option. **News Reporting** is a brand new category for one to three students. (Details are printed in the Junior **Addendum**.)

**Thanks to Host Schools;** twenty five schools have volunteered to host WHSFA Level I and Level II festivals in 1991. Dates and locations will be mailed to member schools with the **Addendum** and the Extemporaneous Reading novel for this season.

**Farewell** to our Junior Advisor, Dr. Larry Weiss. Larry has left UW-Oshkosh to take a position as a Curriculum Coordinator with the Hartford School District. WHSFA Junior Division will miss Larry's contributions, but we wish him well.

Members who wish to recommend a college or University person, involved with Communication Education at the middle level, to represent the Junior Division on the WHSFA Board of Control, please contact Marty Kaump at the State Office.

**ETN Workshop for Coaches, "Communication Skills for the Wonder Years."** This 4 session workshop for coaches and judges is FREE, for WHSFA Junior Division Members. Sign up now, November 13 & 20, 1990 and January 16 & 17, 1991. Details and registration materials are in the **"1990-1991 Wisconsin High School Forensic Association Learning Opportunities"** brochure, mailed to each member in August.

COMPLAINT POLICY TO BE INCLUDED IN HANDBOOK

At the direction of the Speech Advisory Committee, the WHSFA policy regarding State Speech adjudicator concerns will be published in the **Handbook/Addendum** under **General Rules: Speech Competition**. The statement will be:

**"Any coach of a WHSFA member school may register a complaint regarding a student(s) evaluation(s) by sending a letter which identifies the concerns, with a copy of the critique sheet(s), to the State Office within two weeks after the date of the event. The State Office will forward a copy of the letter and the critique sheet to the involved adjudicator and invite a response. If a response is received, a copy will be sent to the individual registering the concern."**

Just a reminder. This process will not result in the change of an award. As stated in General Rules: **"Once a ballot has been signed by a judge, no grade or decision on that ballot may be changed except to correct a recording error."**

It remains the intention of the Association to provide a vehicle for coaches to inform the State Office of their reservations/concerns regarding individuals being used in the adjudication process.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR SPEECH QUESTIONNAIRE

It is time to consider new category possibilities for our WHSFA Spring Speech series.

In your mailbox, about the same time as you are reading this, will be a survey which is divided into four parts:

- (1) New category possibilities; i.e. **Radio Speaking and Moments In History** - Rule sheets and critique items for both are included.
- (2) **Storytelling** changes - Rule sheet and critique items are included.
- (3) Review of previous categories - **Group Discussion/Significant Speech**.
- (4) Possible other new categories.

Each area is a separate voting issue. Please review carefully, discuss with colleagues and students and return by the deadline.

PLEASE, VOTE!



STATE SPEECH JUDGE REQUIREMENT

The Speech Advisory Committee and the State Office concurred that asking each school to provide one judge for the State Speech Festival should be continued. However, it is apparent that clarifications of this requirement are necessary. Please review the following, and call the State Office if you have any questions:

- (1) One adjudicator for one round is all that is requested.
- (2) The judge provided can designate which round they wish to adjudicate; i.e., Friday, 5:30, 7:00, or Saturday, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00.
- (3) A choice of either speaking, interpretative or acting will be provided to that individual who is the designated adjudicator from each school.
- (4) Each school should assume that their designated person will be adjudicating during the time the team is performing unless:
  - a. the State Office has sent a letter indicating we were unable to use that individual because of category/district restrictions.
  - b. the individual has requested a different time slot then when the school providing this person is performing, in which event that person would be confirmed separately.

The State Office continues to invite your suggestions for other qualified individuals to serve as adjudicators for this festival. We also encourage you and them to enroll in the ETN class, **"Learning to Speak: Speaking to Learn,"** The WHSFA Adjudicator Orientation class scheduled for this fall in preparation for the 1993 State Speech festival, when all individuals who serve as adjudicators must have taken this course.

GROUP DISCUSSION PETITIONS RECEIVED

Petition has been received in the State Office urging us to save **Group Discussion** as a category of participation. It was signed by sixty-four individuals, including coaches, judges, school administrators and students representing all areas of Wisconsin.

This petition was instigated by two graduating seniors. Their cover letter to all of us says:

To Whom It May Concern:

As senior participants on the Lodi Forensics team, we, John M. Payne and Roger D. Lovelace, have participated in Group Discussion for the past two years. In these two years, we have been able to see the importance of this category.

Group Discussion is an important part of everyday life and the basic structure of problem solving. People much like ourselves are unable to compete against others without being able to compete with them. By this we mean that we are unable to be a stand up solo speaker, but we are able to communicate and compete with other people successfully.

From this you should be able to see the importance of this category to people like us.

Another petition was received during the summer months, signed by eighteen students also requesting the reinstatement of this category.

Please consider this request when you return your survey questionnaire this fall.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Did you see the article **"Teachers Guide: Solo Acting,"** written by Susan Tews of Cumberland High School and published in The Forensic Educator, a publication of the National Federation Interscholastic Speech and Debate Association? It is well written and offers excellent help to coaches who have students interested in this area.

ADDENDUM FOR 1990-1991 TO BE PUBLISHED

The Speech Advisory Committee has made the recommendation to publish a second **ADDENDUM** for the speech series for 1990-91.

The elimination of Group Discussion, the survey regarding new category possibilities, **(see related story)** and the lack of any major constitutional or General Rule changes made this decision a cost and time saving measure.

Please note the new topic/questions for Public Address and Special Occasion as well as the **new** Storytelling selections in the **Addendum**.

In addition, an editorial change was made in Demonstration. Rule 2 will now read:

**"Objects functions and/or physical activity must be demonstrated by the participant."**

If you do not receive a **1990-91 Addendum** by mid September, please call the State Office.