

Wisconsin High School Forensic Association Newsletter

"Not to defeat each other, but to pace one another on the road to excellence."

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WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION

LOWELL HALL, 610 LANGDON STREET

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706

affiliated with

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - EXTENSION

OFFICIAL WHSFA DEBATE PROPOSITION FOR 1971-72

RESOLVED: That the jury system in the United States should be significantly changed.

CALENDAR FOR 1971-72

Dates for Contests

	Drama (1971)	Debate (1972)	Speech (1972)
Sub-District	*Oct. 30		*Mar. 11
District	Nov. 13	Jan. 29	Mar. 25
Section	Nov. 20	Feb. 12	
State	Dec. 3-4	Feb. 25-26	Apr. 22

* Latest dates for sub-district contests; all others are firm.

WEA Convention Nov. 4-5, 1971

Thanksgiving Nov. 25, 1971

WIAA State Basketball Finals Mar. 18, 1972

Easter Apr. 2, 1972

Board of Control Meetings

Madison Nov. 2-3, 1971; May 4-5, 1972

BOARD OF CONTROL

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Advisor in Speech, PROFESSOR HERMAN H. BROCKHAUS, University Extension
Advisor in Drama, PROFESSOR EDWARD L. KAMARCK, University Extension
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CONTEST CALENDAR FOR 1972-73

For more than a decade the state office of the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association has prepared a calendar of contest dates five years in advance. Since 1967 the five-year calendar current at the time has been published in the fall issue of the Newsletter. The September 1972 Newsletter will give the contest dates as far ahead as 1976-77.

Below is the WHSFA calendar for next year, 1972-73. It is printed in this issue as a convenience to teachers and administrators who are making plans for programs to be held during the 1972-73 school year.

DATES FOR CONTESTS--1972-73

	Drama (1972)	Debate (1973)	Speech (1973)
Sub-District	Oct. 28		Mar. 17
District	Nov. 11	Jan. 27	Mar. 31
Section	Nov. 18	Feb. 10	
State	Dec. 1-2	Feb. 23-24	Apr. 28

WEA Convention--Nov. 2-3, 1972

Thanksgiving.. Nov. 23, 1972

Board Meetings--Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 1972; Easter..... Apr. 22, 1973

May 3-4, 1973

State Basketball Mar. 17, 1973

Dates for sub-districts are the latest dates the contests may be held. Dates for all other contests are firm. District, sectional and state contests will be held on the dates shown.

NEW WHSFA SECRETARY-TREASURER

Mr. Larry E. Larmer will become the new WHSFA Secretary-Treasurer upon the retirement of Dr. Herman H. Brockhaus, July 1, 1972. Mr. Larmer comes to his new position from Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, where for the past two years he has been an Instructor in Communication and Director of Forensics.

Prior to his Oberlin appointment, he was at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for four years, doing graduate work toward the Ph. D. degree and serving the Department of Communication Arts in several capacities. For two years, 1966-68, he was the Acting Director of Forensics. At the same time, he taught these University courses: Fundamentals of Speech, Argumentation and Debate, and Theory and Practice of Persuasion. In 1968-69 he was awarded the Departmental Fellowship, which enabled him to concentrate on his graduate study. The following year, 1969-70, he was the Assistant Director of Forensics and a Teaching Assistant in the department.

Mr. Larmer was graduated from Kansas State Teachers College in 1962. Two years later he received an M. S. degree from the same institution. He stayed on at Kansas State as an Instructor

in Speech and Director of Forensics, teaching courses related to debate and the directing of forensic activities. He also participated in summer institutes for debate coaches.

During his four years at the University in Madison, Mr. Larmer became familiar with the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association and its activities. He judged in the WHSFA state debate tournament and one year assisted the secretary-treasurer in managing the event. He also directed workshop activities on the Madison campus for high school debaters and coaches and participated in the program. Besides his work in debate while in Madison, he judged in the WHSFA state speech contest and served as a critic-judge in the state finals of the Wisconsin 4-H speaking contest.

When Mr. Larmer comes to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he will be a faculty member in the Department of Communication Arts in Extension and in the Department of Communication Arts in the College of Letters and Science. His joint appointment, approximately 80% in Extension and 20% in Letters and Science, will give him administrative and instructional responsibilities in Extension, and University teaching assignments on the Madison campus. He will arrive in Madison on June 1, 1972 and work together with Dr. Brockhaus for a month in the state office. On July 1 he will assume his new position as Secretary-Treasurer of the WHSFA.

Mr. Larmer becomes the sixth person to serve as the executive secretary of the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association. For the first 20 years, from the beginning of the Association in 1925 until her retirement in 1945, Miss Almere Scott held the position. She was succeeded by Mr. Leslie E. Brown who filled the post until 1948, when he left Wisconsin for an assignment at Western Reserve University. Mr. Robert H. Schacht, the next appointee, completed his Ph. D. at the University while serving the WHSFA, and has remained with University Extension as an administrator and educator. With the transfer of the WHSFA state office to the Extension Speech Department in 1959, Mr. Frederick E. Haug, Jr. became the secretary-treasurer. Like Dr. Schacht, he finished his graduate work while serving the WHSFA; he received his Ph. D. degree in 1965 and accepted a position at Eau Claire where he is now Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Dr. Herman H. Brockhaus, then Chairman of Extension Speech, succeeded Dr. Haug in the WHSFA post in 1965 and has served as secretary-treasurer for seven years. His retirement from the University on July 1, 1972 will also be a retirement from the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association office.

CROSS-EXAMINATION DEBATE IN 1973-74

At its meeting on May 4-5, 1972, the WHSFA Board of Control voted to change the style of debating in all WHSFA tournaments to cross-examination in the 1973-74 school year. This coming year, 1972-73, the traditional style will continue to be used.

It should be noted that the change will not be made for another year; it will come in 1973-74. It should also be observed that when cross-examination goes into effect, it will immediately be used at all levels of WHSFA debate competition: district, section, and state.

In adopting the change, the members of the Board took into consideration the recommendations growing out of the various coaches meetings held at district debate tournaments last January. Board members were mindful of the fact that a large majority of debate coaches in Wisconsin favored a change. They also were aware of a suggestion made frequently that there be time for debaters and coaches to become familiar with the cross-examination style.

By announcing the transition now, but postponing the actual change until 1973-74, the Board provided a year in which instruction in cross-examination debating can be offered in workshops, and practice afforded through independent tournaments.

For an introduction to cross-examination debate, coaches are reminded of the two articles published in this year's Newsletters. In the issue for November 1971 is an article "Cross-Examination Debate" by A. S. McMillion, debate coach at Eau Claire Memorial High School. A companion piece, "Coaching Cross-Examination Style Debating," by Larry G. Weise, debate coach at Monona Grove High School, is in the February 1972 issue, plus a reprint of an exposition on cross-examination debating which appeared originally in The Rostrum, the official National Forensic League publication, for January 1972.

DEBATE PROPOSITION FOR 1972-73

The proposition chosen by Wisconsin High School Forensic Association debate coaches, for 1972-73 is:

Resolved: That governmental financial support for all public elementary and secondary education in the United States should be provided exclusively by the federal government.

This resolution was selected in a preferential referendum conducted by the WHSFA state office the latter part of April and early May. Ballots were mailed to the 109 member schools which had participated in WHSFA debate competition this past year. A total of 67 ballots were returned; five of them were invalid because the three propositions had not been ranked.

In determining the results of the voting, three points were assigned to the 1st place choice on a ballot, two points to 2nd, and one point to 3rd. The following is a summary of total points credited to each proposition:

PropositionPoints

- I. Support through a voucher system 109
- II. Support by federal government exclusively.. 166
- III. Public funds for non-public schools 97

For a number of years the state office of the WHSFA has informed forensic leagues in neighboring states about Wisconsin's choice of debate proposition. They, in turn, have let us know about their selection. To date, all of the states we've heard from have chosen the same resolution that Wisconsin has selected. These states are: Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

WHSFA DEBATE IN 1971-72

Mequon Homestead High School placed first in the WHSFA State Debate Tournament held in Madison on February 25-26, 1972. Second place honors went to Milwaukee Marquette, while third place was shared by Durand and Oconomowoc.

Other schools participating in the eight-team elimination bracket were Brookfield Central, Eau Claire Memorial, Milwaukee Pius XI, and New London. The eight schools won the right to compete in the elimination by achieving a record of 4 wins and 2 losses, or better, in the three qualifying rounds of the tournament.

In the consolation series held for schools which did not qualify for the quarter-finals in elimination competition, Wauwatosa East High School placed first. Middleton was the second place consolation winner, and Sheboygan North was third.

Besides the 11 schools named, 10 more took part in the State Debate Tournament: De Pere Abbot Pennings, Green Bay East, Greendale, Hartford Union, Janesville Craig, Kimberly, La Crosse Aquinas, Rhinelander, Sheboygan South, and Wausau West.

Compared with last year, more schools participated in the WHSFA debate program at all levels this year. A total of 109 entered district competition in 1971-72, as compared with 104 last year. In the 1971-72 sectional tournaments there were 49 schools, as compared with 40 last year. And in the 1971-72 State Debate Tournament, the 21 schools were five more than the 16 which competed for top honors last year.

The results of the 1971-72 debate program are included in this issue of the Newsletter because the February issue went to press before the state tournament was held. A single page announcement of the state winners and competitors was mailed out with the February Newsletter, but a more complete story was delayed because of publication dates.

RULE CHANGE IN POETRY AND PROSE READING

A major rule change in Poetry Reading and Prose Reading was adopted by the Board of Control at its meeting held in Madison on May 4-5, 1972. Beginning next year, 1972-73, a contestant in either of these events must change the selection(s) he reads as he advances from one level of WHSFA competition to the next: from sub-district to district, and from district to state. Since any local contest conducted by a school for the purpose of determining its representatives at the sub-district is not a WHSFA-sponsored contest, a contestant is not required to change selections between local and sub-district competition; however, he may do so if he wishes.

The enactment of the rule which now prohibits a student from using the same selection(s) at sub-district, district, and state in Poetry Reading and Prose Reading is a return to a regulation which was in effect prior to 1966-67. In adopting the rule requiring a change in selection(s), the Board was influenced by recommendations made by coaches in meetings held at district spring speech contests.

RULE CHANGES IN PLAY ACTING

Beginning in 1972-73, each Play Acting group is required to give an introduction before presenting its scene or cutting. In its presentation, it may give any transition(s) that it wishes. The rule change making an introduction in Play Acting mandatory was adopted by the Board at its meeting this spring; it is comparable to requirements enacted last year for contestants in Poetry Reading and Prose Reading.

The required introduction and optional transition(s) are to be included within the fifteen-minute maximum time allowed a Play Acting group. The necessity for one or more transitions will depend upon the nature of the cutting presented.

SUMMARY OF RULE CHANGES FOR 1972-73

Rule changes adopted by the Board of Control are usually proposals which have been considered by the Contest Study Committee. This standing committee of the WHSFA--Marylou Patterson, Chairman, Herman H. Brockhaus, George Buckingham, William Hintz, Wallace Hoffman, and Julia Mailer--met prior to the recent Board meeting and discussed what contest or rule changes should be recommended to the Board of Control.

After reviewing suggestions made by coaches in district coaches meetings, the committee concluded that recommendations for new contests needed further study before being presented to the Board. The committee also decided not to propose major amendments to rule changes approved last year, since the Board regards any rule change

as being on trial for two years. This policy is stated in General Rule 17g on page 28 of the September 1971 Newsletter.

The following is a summary of rule changes adopted by the Board of Control this spring. Almost without exception the changes are those proposed by the Contest Study Committee.

General Rules

Judges

In a sub-district speech contest, a single judge may be used for each section; however, by agreement of all participating schools, three or five judges may be used instead of one. No section shall be judged by an even number of judges; two or four, because of a possible difficulty in determining a contestant's final grade from the ratings turned in. (Change in wording is primarily for clarification; the number of judges is specified.)

In any contest, by agreement of the majority of participating schools, the coaches may serve as judges, with no coach judging contestants from his own school. (Change in wording is for clarification; "contestants from his own school" is substituted for "his own contestants.")

Contest Committee

The contest committee shall determine: (Change is for up-dating; obsolete items have been deleted.)

- a. the fee for judging
- b. the registration fee
- c. the order of contestants

Drama

A production in the drama contest may be a one-act play or a scene from a longer play. (Change is for up-dating; the type of material used is specified.)

Authors of original plays to be entered in the drama contest may send their play manuscripts to the Advisor in Drama for his counsel and advice. (Change is for up-dating; advisor's name is deleted.)

Debate

Starting in the 1973-74 school year, the cross-examination style of debating shall be used in all debate tournaments sponsored by the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association. (Change is new.)

Instructions for seeding teams in the quarter-finals of the state debate tournament shall be added to the Criteria for Scheduling After the Qualifying Rounds. (Change is new.)

Extemporaneous Speaking

The speech, as implied by the title of the contest, is to be presented extemporaneously; and notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card may, but need not be, used. (Change in wording is for clarification; "but need not be" is inserted.)

Four-Minute Speech

A speech in the four-minute speech contest may be either informative or persuasive in purpose. (Change is new; "intended especially for novice contestants" is deleted.)

The four-minute speech may be presented from memory or extemporaneously; and notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card may, but need not be, used. (Change is for up-dating and clarification; a rule interpretation published last November is incorporated and "but need not be" is inserted.)

A student may not use the same speech more than one school year in four-minute speech, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change in wording is for clarification; "category" is substituted for "event.")

Oratory

The oration may be presented from memory or extemporaneously; and notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card may, but need not be, used. (Change in wording is for clarification; "but need not be" is inserted.)

A student may not use the same speech more than one school year in oratory, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change in wording is for clarification; "category" is substituted for "event.")

Public Address

The speech is to be presented extemporaneously; and notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card may, but need not be, used. (Change in wording is for clarification; "but need not be" is inserted.)

A student may not use the same speech at more than one contest level, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change in wording is for clarification; "category" is substituted for "event.")

Significant Speeches

A presentation in the significant speeches contest should be chiefly informative in purpose, though it may contain some persuasive elements. (Change is new; "intended especially for novice contestants" is deleted.)

That portion of the presentation written by the contestant may be given from memory or extemporaneously, but is not to be read. Notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card may, but need not be, used in delivering that portion of the speech written by the student. The quoted material must be read from a manuscript or from cards. (Change is for up-dating and clarification; a rule interpretation published last November is incorporated and "or from cards" is added.)

A student may not use the same speech more than one school year in significant speeches, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change in wording is for clarification; "category" is substituted for "event.")

Declamation

A student may not use the same selection in declamation more than one school year, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change in wording is for clarification; "category" is substituted for "event.")

Play Acting

A presentation in this contest shall not exceed fifteen minutes in length, including a required introduction and any transition(s) the group wishes to make; there is no minimum time requirement. (Change is new, a required introduction.)

Poetry Reading

A student may not use the same material at more than one contest level in a given year; he must change the material as he advances from sub-district to district, and from district to state. Moreover, he may not use the same material more than one school year, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change is new; contestant must change material as he advances to the next contest level. For clarification, "category" is substituted for "event.")

Prose Reading

A student may not use the same material at more than one contest level in a given year; he must change the material as he advances from sub-district to district, and from district to state. Moreover, he may not use the same material more than one school year, nor may he use it in any other WHSFA contest category. (Change is new; contestant must change material as he advances to the next contest level. For clarification, "category" is substituted for "event.")

SPRING CONFERENCE OF ASSOCIATIONS

The Wisconsin Speech Communication Association held its annual Spring Conference at the Pioneer Inn and Marina in Oshkosh on May 5-6, 1972. The Conference was in conjunction with spring meetings of the Wisconsin Debate Coaches Association and the Wisconsin Forensic Coaches Association.

The three associations met together on Friday evening for the Conference dinner. The keynote speaker for the dinner program was Dr. Esther Jackson, Professor of Communication Arts of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who spoke on the Conference theme: "Bridging the Communication Gap."

Sectional meetings sponsored by the different associations were held on Friday evening after the dinner program, Saturday morning, and Saturday afternoon. A general session on Saturday morning featured Dr. Lee Huebner, Deputy Special Assistant to President Nixon, speaking on "Bridging the Communication Gap in Political Discourse." Dr. Huebner, a speech-writer for the President, was a debater at Sheboygan Central in his high school days. Coached by Mr. Arnold E. Melzer, he was on debate teams that placed second in 1955-56 and first in 1957-58 in the WHSFA State Debate Tournament.

In business meetings of the three organizations, officers were elected for the coming year. The following persons were chosen to provide leadership in the Wisconsin Speech Communication Association in 1972-73: President, Mr. Thomas Pinter, Oconomowoc Senior High School; First Vice-President, Dr. Charles Haas, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse; Second Vice-President, Mr. William O'Brien, Janesville Craig High School; Secretary, Miss Thelma Rothe, Fennimore High School; Treasurer, Dr. Patricia Townsend, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; Editor of the WSCA Journal, Mr. Craig Streff, Wauwatosa East High School.

Elected to office in the Wisconsin Debate Coaches Association for next year were: President, Mr. Ronald Ernst, Nicolet High School; Vice-President, Mr. Terry Parks, Sheboygan North High School; Secretary, Mrs. Janice Settle, Greendale High School; Treasurer, Miss Drucilla Munson, Brookfield Central High School.

Officers chosen by the Wisconsin Forensic Association for 1972-73 were the following: President, Mr. Karl E. Kocher, West Bend East High School; Vice-President, Mr. John Hughes, Waterford High School; Secretary, Miss Elaine Schroeder, Mequon Homestead High School; Treasurer, Mr. William Mitchell, Middleton High School.

At the Conference, a Saturday noon luncheon was sponsored jointly by the three associations. During the program following the luncheon, the Wisconsin Speech Communication Association gave its highest honor, the Andrew T. Weaver Award for outstanding service in the field of speech communication, to Mr. William O'Brien of Janesville Craig High School, and to Professor John Ezell of

the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The Wisconsin Forensic Coaches Association presented an award and a gift to Dr. Herman H. Brockhaus, Secretary-Treasurer of the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association, for his years of service.

WHSFA 1971-72 STATE SPEECH CONTEST

This spring, 1925 students from 393 schools came to the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the WHSFA State Speech Contest. This is the largest number of contestants ever to take part in the event, and is 128 more than last year. More than 100 rooms were used for the contest, and 87 judges were employed.

Below is a summary of the state contest results, showing the number of contestants from each district, the figures under Total in the final column. Also shown are the number and percentage of A's, B's, and C's received by contestants from each of the various districts. Total figures and percentages for the entire contest are also given.

Summary of State Speech Contest Results

<u>District</u>	<u>A's</u>	<u>B's</u>	<u>C's</u>	<u>Total</u>
Eau Claire	120 (50%)	114 (48%)	5 (2%)	239
Green Bay	133 (58%)	93 (40%)	5 (2%)	231
Kenosha	91 (54%)	75 (45%)	1 (1%)	167
La Crosse	64 (48%)	70 (52%)	0	134
Milwaukee	124 (69%)	54 (30%)	1 (1%)	179
Oshkosh	86 (48%)	90 (51%)	1 (1%)	177
Platteville	80 (48%)	84 (51%)	2 (1%)	166
River Falls	56 (45%)	68 (55%)	0	124
Stevens Point	78 (40%)	111 (57%)	6 (3%)	195
Superior	46 (37%)	75 (61%)	3 (2%)	124
Whitewater	101 (53%)	86 (46%)	2 (1%)	189
Total	979 (51%)	918 (48%)	26 (1%)	1,925

COURSES IN DIRECTING DEBATE AND FORENSICS

The following information about two University courses was received from Dr. Edna C. Sorber, Professor of Speech and Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Because the offerings are of interest to directors of debate and forensics, they are announced in this issue of the WHSFA Newsletter.

The two courses, which will be offered during the first semester of 1972-73, are titled Directing Debate and Directing Forensics. Both are designed to help coaches in their work with contestants.

Directing Debate (94465/665) may be taken for either graduate or undergraduate credit. It carries three credits and will be offered Monday nights. The course will deal with problems of, and suggestions for the debate coach, with particular attention given this year to cross-examination debate as an interesting and useful form.

Directing Forensics (94466/666) may also be taken for either graduate or undergraduate credit. It carries three credits and will be offered Wednesday nights. This course will deal with problems of, and suggestions for the coach working with speech events such as oratory, extemporaneous speaking, and the reading contests.

Both courses are flexible enough to be adaptable to the needs of those enrolled. Further information about them can be obtained from Dr. Edna C. Sorber, Department of Speech Communication, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190. The telephone number for the department is (414) 472-1034.

SUMMER THEATRE STUDY TOURS

For teachers, summer is a time for study, relaxation, or possibly both. For information about credit courses offered on the various campuses of the University of Wisconsin during summer sessions, teachers are advised to write directly to the university or universities in which they are most interested. The addresses of the speech, communication, and drama departments in all Wisconsin universities and colleges are given in the 1971-72 Directory of Speech Departments compiled and distributed by the WHSFA state office earlier this school year.

Teachers especially interested in drama and theatre may wish to combine study and recreation by going on a theatre study tour sponsored by University Extension Arts. Four such tours are planned for this summer -- two to Stratford, Canada; one to New York and Stratford, Connecticut; and one to Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The Stratford, Canada Theatre programs are weekend tours. One is July 13-16, 1972; the other is July 20-23, 1972. On either weekend, the tour group will attend performances of four plays: Lorenzaccio by Alfred de Musset, Shakespeare's King Lear and As You Like It, and The Twopenny Opera by Brecht and Weill.

The Stratford, Connecticut tour is scheduled for August 3-6, 1972. On the way to Stratford, the group will stop overnight in New York to attend a performance of the rock musical Two Gentlemen of Verona. In Stratford, members of the tour group will see Shaw's Major Barbara, and Shakespeare's two Roman plays, Anthony and Cleopatra and Julius Caesar.

The late summer trip to the Tyrone Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis, August 11-13, 1972, will be the sixth annual study tour to this well known theatre conducted by University Extension. The group will attend three performances: The Relapse by Sir John Vanbrugh, Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream, and Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck.

The unique feature of all University Extension Arts' tours is that they combine the enjoyment of seeing outstanding performances with stimulating study led by knowledgeable people in the world of theatre; study materials are sent in advance to persons going on the tour. For more information about any or all of the study tours described, write to Mrs. Grace Chatterton, University of Wisconsin, Extension Arts, 610 Langdon Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.