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LCC Debaters Do Well at Pacific University

The Lower Columbia College debate team did very well in the Fred Scheller Forensics Extravaganza, sponsored by Pacific University, January 27 and 28 in Forest Grove, Oregon. Twenty-five colleges and universities from five states attended.

J. Wylie was the top speaker in Novice Debate. Wylie won 4 rounds in the preliminaries with victories over debaters from Whitman, U. of Washington-Bothell, and the University of Portland. In the quarter-finals, he beat a Whitman debater on a 2-1 decision, and in the semi-final he beat a debater from Whitworth on a split decision. In the final round, he lost a 3-0 decision to Mt. Hood, placing second in his division. Also in novice debate, Brody Sargent ended up with a very respectable 3 win-3 loss record in his very first debate tournament.

In the Open division, Seth Stewart was ranked second after the preliminary rounds, with a 5 win, 1 loss record. His victories were over College of Idaho, Whitworth, BYE, Carroll College, and Clark. In the quarter-final, Stewart won a split decision over a College of Idaho debater, then lost in the semi-final to Clark College, finishing third.

In individual events, class conflicts limited LCC’s entry. The team’s top speaker, Daryl Pipkin, was a finalist in Editorial Commentary.

Michael Dugaw, LCC’s Director of Forensics, was pleased. “This was a good showing. We are getting even more competitive in debate in all divisions. Now we need to push hard to be ready for the regional and national competitions coming up March and April.” The team’s next event is the Earl Wells Speak Easy Feb. 25-26 at Oregon State University.

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Lower Columbia College is a public two-year community and technical college, founded in 1934. LCC serves more than 4,000 students per quarter, most from Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties, Washington.

LCC news releases are online at lowercolumbia.edu/news