

Phi Rho Pi Nationals comes to Portland



PHOTOS BY MANDY GOOD/ Clackamas Print

(above) Clackamas Speech Team gathers for a group photo (front row from the left): Alice Nelson, Jane Rickenbaugh, Brandy Brennan, Jennifer Page, Former Governor Barbara Roberts, college President John Keyser, Erin Brennan and Head Coach Kelly Brennan after Monday night's banquet.

Speech Team sounds off for nationals

MANDY GOOD
Sports Editor

The Clackamas Speech and Debate Team competed April 3-8 at the Phi Rho Pi National Forensics Tournament in Portland.

Head Coach Kelly Brennan, Assistant Coaches Liz Kinnomen and Brian Everest and the forensics team spent a week at the downtown Marriott, competing daily in individual events and parliamentary debate. The tournament was hosted by Brennan.

Preparations for the tournament began two years ago when Brennan was named as future host. The large scale tournament attracted schools from all around the nation-- 73 schools and 437 competitors traveled to participate.

The week was kicked off with a formal banquet on Monday night. The dinner included music by the Clackamas Jazz Band. Among

the guest speakers, Clackamas College President John Keyser spoke on behalf of the tournament; and former Governor Barbara Roberts shared how the power of her voice affected her life and political career.

After a week of competition, all contestants gathered again in a large banquet room, this time anticipating bronze, silver or gold plaques.

The week was well worth the work. Clackamas as a team brought home a bronze in Parliamentary Debate Sweepstakes; Matthew Steketee brought home a bronze in Impromptu Speaking; Melissa Stivers took a silver in Persuasive Speaking along with a bronze in Extemporaneous; Parliamentary Debate team Melissa Stiver and Sherrie Martin took silver; and debate team Kerrie Baker-Hughes and Wendy McKay earned silver recognition as well.



(above) Host Kelly Brennan and College President John Keyser look out on a crowd of people gathered for the opening night banquet.

(right) Melissa Stivers takes the opportunity to meet and shake hands with Barbara Roberts after the former governor's moving speech about her life in politics.



The Clackamas Jazz Band, directed by musician Lonnie Cline, entertained a large audience of speech competitors before their banquet.