

TSU Debate Team Breaks Its Own Record at Tennessee Meet

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The award winning internationally acclaimed Texas Southern University Debate Team continued its winning streak by outstanding performances of the team at the Swing Tournament held, recently at Carson Newman University in Tennessee. The team was one of fourteen schools represented, including two other HBCU schools, Tennessee State and Morehouse. At the end of the three days of stiff competition, the team had amassed a number of points sufficient to rank it second.

Overall Sweepstakes trophy was presented to the team at the Awards assembly held at the end of the tournament, as well as the second place Individual Events Sweepstakes award, and the first place Pentathlon award for the top speaker at the tournament. As a result of excellence in individual and group performances, the team was awarded a total of 43 trophies, one more than the record 42 set by the team when it competed at the Mt. Rainer Classic in Washington in 1995. Needless to say that the members of the novice team as well as the varsity team were pleased that they were the ones that topped the record held in tack for sixteen years.

The team received awards in the following categories:

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- Impromptu Speaking
- Prose Interpretation
- Dramatic Interpretation
- Duo Dramatic Interpretation
- Programmed Oral Interpretation
- Rhetorical Criticism
- After Dinner Speaking
- Forensic Analysis
- Informative Speaking
- Top Novice

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- Top Speaker (Overall)

Eleven First Place Awards, Six Second, Five Third, Eight Fourth, Six Fifth, and Seven Sixth.

The following students constituted the competing team:

- Marcus Esther Freshman
- Tiffany Massey Freshman
- Oneyka Oheyekwela Freshman
- Mashaum Williams Freshman
- Troy Owens Sophomore
- Dashawn Skipper Sophomore

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- Tameik Washington Sophomore

- Adrienne Newman Sophomore

- Shondell Curtis Sophomore

- Shirley Lee Junior

- Harmony Flowers Junior

- Nathaniel Harris Junior

- Jordan Williams Junior

- Nick Tenson Junior

The team was accompanied by assistant coaches Wendell King, James Hollins, and the head coach, Thomas F. Freeman, Distinguished Professor of Forensics.

The TSU Debate team is open to all undergraduate students and may be joined at any time during the course of the semester. Students are not required to have any previous debate or speaking experience, nor are they required to be speech majors. Students are accepted from

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any field of study. Freshmen are encouraged to join the team, to take advantage of the opportunity for four years of growth and development. Interested students are encouraged to consult the head coach, whose office is located in the Thomas F. Freeman Center For Forensic Excellence, located in the Rod Paige Education Building, Suite 112.