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Liberty Frontlines — Newsletter of the Debate Alumni Association

Liberty University Debate

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LU 2001
Vol. 3

Liberty Frontlines

A Publication of the Liberty University Debate Alumni Association

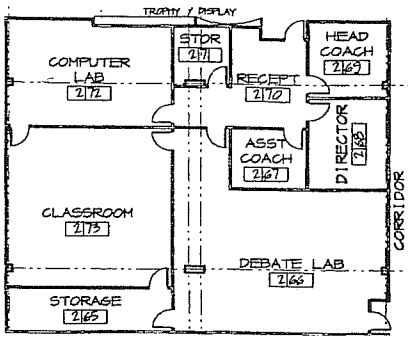
Debate Center Dream to Become Reality

Did you debate when the debate office was a cubicle in the DeMoss Office Suites, or when the debate lab was shared with a classroom, or in our present location in the "heat" of the Teacher Education Building? After years of little space for debate work, the debate team will move into a state-of-the-art 3300 square foot facility this January. This new space will include a work area for our team, a computer lab, a classroom for practice debates and instruction and new offices for the coaching staff. The new area will be located on the main floor of the new DeMoss Building addition. In addition to increasing our recruiting and competitive goals, the facility's location will be central to the campus and will better assist the program in running our college and high school tournaments, (Liberty hosts the largest American Debate Association college debate tournament and the Virginia State Debate High School Championships) and in providing quality instruction for our growing summer high school program. The new debate facility has been designated by the university as a Center of Excellence and will be titled *The Center for the Study of Argumentation, Critical Thinking and Public Discourse.* It is a product of the success of you, our alumni, who worked hard to establish the reputation of Liberty Debate as a Christ-centered debating team that is competitively excellent.

However, I need your assistance in completing the Center. Liberty has challenged each academic area with raising the necessary money to equip and furnish their individual area. I have been given the task of raising three hundred thousand dollars to finish the debate team's area. These funds are necessary to purchase computers, a video taping system and projector for the classroom, and furniture and cabinets for each of the rooms. Additionally, part of the money will be put into a technology endowment to ensure that the computers are consistently updated with the latest hardware and software. You can assist in two ways. First, your company, law firm, etc. may be interested in naming the Center. Any donor who provides the entire amount can name the Center. Speak with your development office, human resource or public relations department to inquire about the possibility of underwriting part or the entire center. Second, you can assist the Center's completion by donating the funds for an individual item. You can donate a desk, a worktable, the video equipment, or a computer for the new lab. Your donation will be noted on a plaque placed in the Center listing all individuals who have given to the team. See the back of this newsletter for a listing of the items we need. All monies given will go directly to finishing the debate center.

The new debate center is an incredible opportunity for our students to improve their Christian ministry, their education, and the competition of the team. However, the center cannot be effective unless it is properly outfitted. I hope you will help us locate potential sponsors or perhaps make a donation yourself to the Liberty Debate Team so that we can continue to increase students' spiritual and educational experiences while they are here at Liberty through the activity of debate.

-Brett O'Donnell
Director of Debate



There are some exciting things happening on the Liberty University Debate Team. Second place

3NR

rankings in last year's ADA and NDT final sweepstakes have motivated this young squad to work hard. The varsity team of Travis Ausland and John Ross are aiming for a 1st Round bid to the National Debate Tournament while the JV and Novice members are working to defeat their newest rival, Catholic University (who ranked first in the ADA and NDT rankings).

The new DeMoss building that will house the Debate Center has also motivated the team. Watching the progress of the building that will house the new 3300 square foot debate facility is a morale boost that can only be topped by alumni support in furnishing it.

In May, the team hosted the Virginia High School League State Debate Tournament. The tournament brought over 400 debaters and coaches to see the campus and hear about Liberty Debate. The League has already committed to allow us to host the tournament again in May 2002 for the fourth straight year.

This summer's Liberty Debate Institute was also very successful with over 40 participants. Camp lectures were video taped for the first time this year and are available for sale along with the camp evidence packets.

Keep up with the team's progress online at www.liberty.edu/debate

The debate team has grown both spiritually and competitively and we are excited to see what God will do in this new season.

--HHH

You are invited
To a
Homecoming Reception
for all alumni and friends
of the debate team
Saturday,
September 29th 2001
At 11:00am
Teacher Ed Hall 103

RSVP to Brett O'Donnell
by September 15th 2001
bodonnel@liberty.edu
804-582-2080

***WELCOME** new recruits Alyse Kraus of Niceville High School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida And Luke Scripter of Forest Lake High School in Blaine, Minnesota.*

Chris Lundberg joins coaching staff.

Chris Lundberg, a native of Salt Lake City, Utah, recently joined the coaching staff as a faculty assistant coach. He was a national level collegiate debater at the University of Redlands, CA where he studied philosophy. Chris graduated from Emory University, Atlanta, GA in May with a Masters in theology. As a debate coach at Emory, he coached teams to the final round of the National Debate Tournament four years in a row winning the tournament in 1999.

on the road

- King's College-Wilkes Barre, PA. Sept 20-23.
- University of Northern Iowa-Cedar Rapids, IA. Sept 21-24.
- University of Richmond-Richmond Virginia. Oct 5-7.
- Catholic University-Washington, D.C. Oct 19-21.
- Harvard University-Boston, MA. Oct 26-29.
- Liberty University-Lynchburg, VA. Nov 9-11.
- Wake Forest University-Winston-Salem, NC. Nov 16-19.
- John Carroll University, Cleveland, OH. Nov 29-Dec2.

THE BACKFILES

Leah Frazier (GOVT '00) is a second year law student at George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C.

Doug Johnson (PHIL '99) is working on joint degree in law and theology at Duke University in Raleigh, N.C. He is engaged to be married to Jodie Boyer on December 29th.

Michael Tilley (PHIL '00) will graduate in May 2002 with a Masters in Philosophy from Texas A&M, College Station, TX. He is engaged to marry **Rebekah Meador** (GOVT '01) on July 6, 2002 in Frankfort, KY.

Shanna (Twigg) Slovensky (HIST '01) married Marty Slovensky a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force on May 19, 2001. They live in Pensacola, FL where Marty is in flight school.

Devon Chwastyk is a second year law student at Georgetown University Law School in Washington, D.C. where he is a moot court participant.

If you would like to be included in The Backfiles, e-mail bodonnel@liberty.edu or call 804-582-2080.

WELCOME NOVICES!

Brian Aurelio, Joshua Autry, Joshua Byers, Justin Dewberry, Jason Ellison, Kimberly Harmison, Natalia James, David Klinedinst, Stephen Lind, Elizabeth Loftus, Samantha Moore, Samantha Parks, Esmeralda Ramirez, Robert Smith, Cristina Solmaz, Jessica Surratt.

PLEASE PRAY

- *For the novices on the team as they adjust to school and learn debate.*
- *For the upperclassmen as they lead the team both spiritually and competitively.*
- *For wisdom for the coaching staff as they guide the team spiritually, strategically, and emotionally.*
- *For the people on the debate circuit that they will be open to the love of God.*
- *For the entire team and coaching staff that they will be full of God's boldness and grace as they interact with the debate community.*

Liberty High School Debate Institutes!
This year's institute was a great success!
To learn about next year's institute or to order the 2001 evidence or videos visit www.liberty.edu/debate or call 804-582-2080

The Center for the Study of Argumentation, Critical Thinking and Public Discourse

Yes, I will help complete the new debate Center for the Liberty University Debate Team by donating the following item(s). My funds will go directly to the furnishing of the new Center.

_____	**Table(s)--We need thirty tables**	**100.00 Each**
_____	**Chair(s)--We need eighty chairs**	**50.00 Each**
_____	**Video Camera**	**750.00 Each**
_____	**Television**	**1000.00 Each**
_____	**Computer LCD Projector**	**2000.00 Each**
_____	**Computer(s)--We need fourteen computers**	**1000.00 Each**
_____	**Computer Printer**	**1000.00 Each**
_____	**Storage Cabinet(s)--We need ten storage cabinets**	**500.00 Each**

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Make Check payable to *Liberty University Debate* and Mail to:

Liberty University Debate Team
1971 University Boulevard
Lynchburg, VA 24502

MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ Yes, I want to join the Liberty Debate Alumni Association!

- ☐ Honorary Director—$100.00 (T-shirt size_____)
- ☐ Honorary Coach--$75.00 (T-shirt size_____)
- ☐ Varsity Member--$50.00
- ☐ Regular Member--$25.00

☐ I am unable to join now, but please keep in touch with me!

Name _____ Year of Graduation _____
Street _____ Apt _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone Number _____
E-mail Address _____
Spouse _____
Children _____
Current Occupation _____

Make Check payable to *Liberty University Debate* and Mail to:

Liberty University Debate Team
1971 University Boulevard
Lynchburg, VA 24502

☐ Yes, you may make my information available to other debate alumni who would wish to contact me for personal reasons only.

Other alumni I know who would like to receive *Liberty Frontlines:* _____

_____