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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by
Bill Hill

Greetings from your National Council. As we complete the business of the 1995-97 National Council and I conclude my term as President, I would like to offer some observations and reflections upon the past two years.

Over the past two years, Pi Kappa Delta has moved forward as an organization and within the forensics community. We have established a permanent Hall of Fame at Ripon College. PKD leaders worked for many years to make the Hall of Fame a reality, and completion of this project surely makes us a stronger organization by publicly and permanently solidifying the link between our past and our present.

We have implemented a new presidential election process. As a result of this change, members of PKD have more opportunity to discuss and to interact directly with the candidates before voting. The process is both more professional and humane and hopefully will help ensure that PKD chooses the best leaders possible.

At the 1997 convention we also implemented a formal induction ceremony for new chapters and members. This ceremony provides a vital link between our past and future, and will become an important part of the tradition that makes our national convention a truly unique experience within the forensics community.

During the past two years we also worked to revamp our publications process. Through the passage of constitutional amendments at the 1997 convention, we established *The Key* as the official outlet of fraternal information and *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*. We also decreased the number of copies of *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta* distributed to chapters. Making these changes will make our publications process both more economical and better suited to delivering the scholarly and fraternal information that our members need.

Many other important actions have been taken over the past two years. We have implemented needed procedural changes that will enable PKD to reach out more effectively to our alumni. We have implemented a new convention and tournament evaluation procedure that will produce more meaningful and comprehensive feedback from the membership about these critical functions. We have included structured long-term planning within our summer meetings. We have expanded the role of Past Presidents both at the convention and tournament and as members of the National Council. We have initiated dialogue with other organizations to develop cooperative approaches to enhance the forensics community. Certainly such actions provide a valuable service to the forensics community.

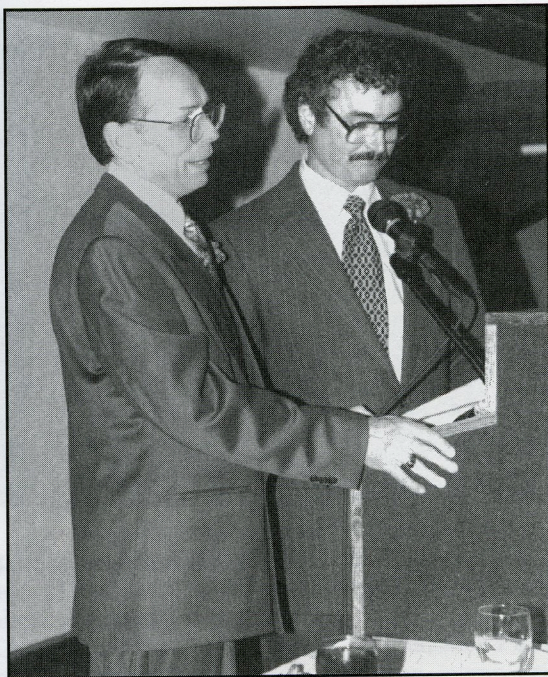
The 1997 convention and tournament were very successful. Many people contributed in untold ways to these events. **Butch Hamm** and **Margaret Greynolds** provided countless time and energy to make local arrangements. **Scott Jensen** did an excellent job coordinating the Developmental Conference and **Glenda Treadaway** was an exemplary Tournament Director. **Doug Bersfeld** coordinated our various election activities professionally and efficiently. **Sally Roden** coordinated meaningful activities for our Past

Presidents and did an outstanding job with **David Ray** in planning and executing our formal induction ceremony. David Ray also reprised his typically outstanding performance as coordinator of the necrology service and the Hall of Fame display. The financial affairs of the convention and tournament were ably and professionally managed by **Robert Littlefield** and **Steve Hunt** kept us abreast of the most important and interesting information through publication of *The Key*. Finally, **Larry** and **Eleanor Norton** made us all a little prouder to be members of Pi Kappa Delta. Many others made important contributions and we are appreciative of the work of all.

Please keep in mind that all PKD members need to do what they can to enable our organization to function smoothly and productively. **Michael Bartanen** (Pacific Lutheran University), the new editor of *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*, needs submissions and book reviews for that publication. Finally, if you are aware of any school in your area which might be interested in joining Pi Kappa Delta or a current Pi Kappa Delta school which needs assistance from the National Office, please take the initiative to contact the school and to notify both **Joel Hefling** (South Dakota State University) and **Robert Littlefield** (National Office-North Dakota State University). Cultivating new chapters and retaining existing chapters are critical to Pi Kappa Delta's future and **ALL** members of our fraternity must work in that effort.

Fraternally Yours,

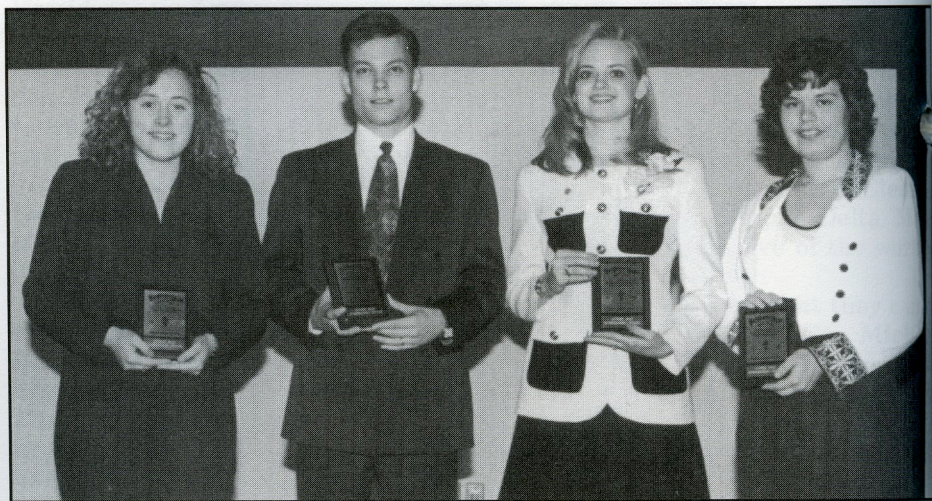
Bill Hill
President



Bill Hill swears in new PKD President Joel Hefling.



New PKD National Council sworn in.

**Extemp #1**

Jennifer Gayvert, Concordia; Scott Hattaway, Southwest Baptist; Amber Slayton, Southwest Baptist; Kate Schroeder, Hastings.

**Extemp #2**

Heather Blair, The Ohio State University; Chris Coovert, Pacific Lutheran University; Joe Black, Hastings.



Prose Interpretation

Back Row: Cydney Rooks, Otterbein; Michael Breathwaite, Pacific; Terry James, Pacific; Ticona Jones, CSU-Hayward; Adam Watkins, N.W. Nazarene; Jeff Derouen, McNeese; Pete Robledo, St. Mary's.

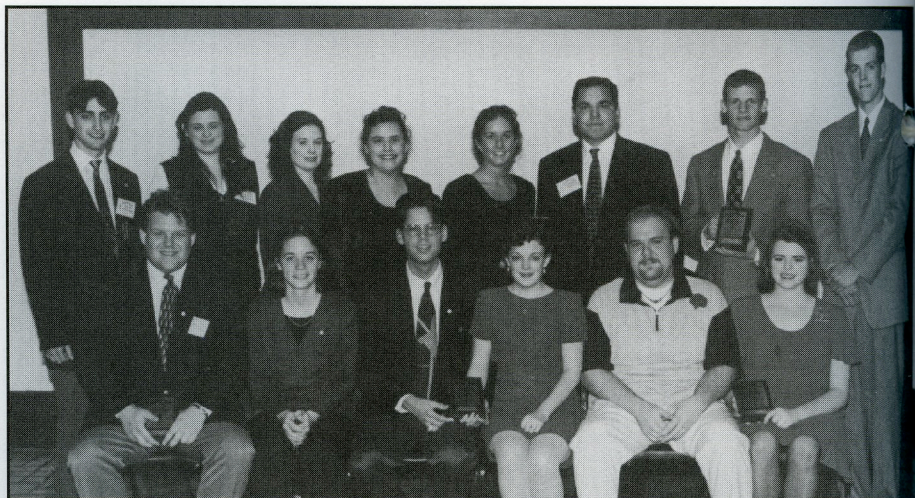
Front Row: Sonya Cole, MTSU; Annie Soldner, Concordia; Rick Purrington, Concordia; Jason Stahl, Georgetown; Amber Wormington, Hastings; Jolynn Friborg, Moorhead.



Informative Speaking

Back Row: Joshua Compton, Southwest Baptist; Aimee Dubois, UWI; Heather Taylor, Marietta.

Front Row: Rachael Peachee, Southwest Baptist; Amy Houston, Central College; Katie Kallstrom, Winona; Tammy Frisby, Concordia.



Duo Interpretation

Back Row: Cory Lamb/Jessi Riffie, Bethel; Mandy Buvia/Maria Foster, Westchester; Betsy Jensen/Tad Hoescher, South Dakota State; Chris Ballard/Cory Scheer, Southwest Baptist.

Front Row: Mike Jeurin/Jane Wheeler, Loras; Dan Smythe/Ashley Booker, U of Arkansas Monticello; Jame Mamblin/Sarah Watterson, Georgetown.



Impromptu Speaking

Back Row: Amy Houston, Central; Michelle Turner, McNeese; Jammie Jackson, Longwood; Kate Schroeder, Hastings; Seth Noll, York College of PA; Angela Hatton, Moorhead.

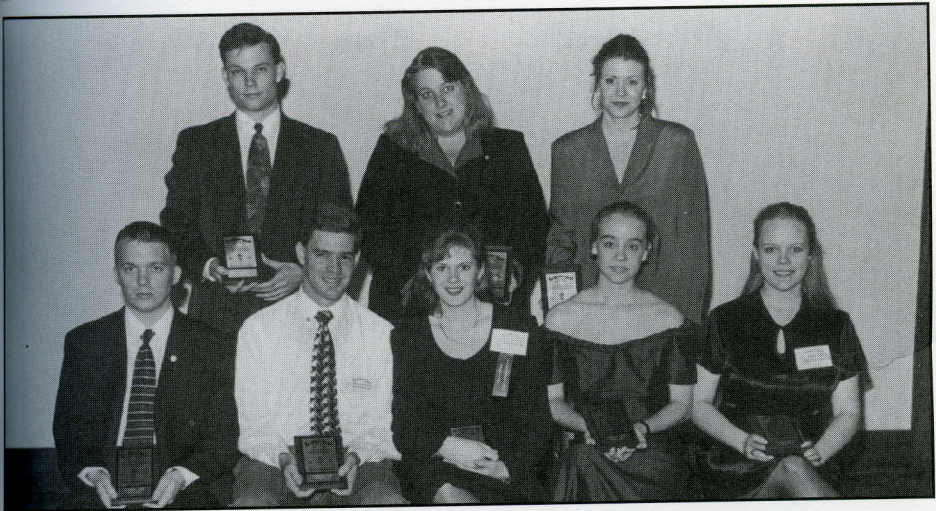
Front Row: John Miller, William Carey; Gabriel Hinkebein, SEMO St.; Joy M. Simpson, Arkansas St.; Jamie Mayrose, Loras; Eric Gustafson, Marietta; Elizabeth Olson, Pacific Lutheran; and Jared Ellis, Lewis & Clark.



Programmed Oral Interp

Back Row: Travis Boerboom, Concordia; Terry James, Pacific; Jimmy Rubio, LSU-Shreveport; Shannon Clark, William Carey.

Front Row: Jeremy L. Casper, Southwest Baptist; Mary Lynn Veden, Lewis & Clark; Amber Slayton, Southwest Baptist; Jeff Derouen, McNeese.



Persuasion

Back Row: Scott Hattaway, Southwest Baptist; Tricia Mehosky, The Ohio State University; Gretchen Winnig, Louisiana Tech.

Front Row: Joshua Compton, Southwest Baptist; Robby Perucca, Boise State; Patricia Moore, Boise State; Candace Cochran, William Carey; Jolynn Friborg, Moorhead.



Communication Analysis

Scott Hattaway, Southwest Baptist; Amber Slayton, Southwest Baptist; Joe Black Hastings; Stacey Strong, Hastings; Sarah Youree, Southwest Baptist.



Dramatic Interp

Back Row: Desi Martinez, Cameron; Terry James, Pacific; Adam Watkins, N. Nazarene; Terrny Hinnenkamp, NDSU.

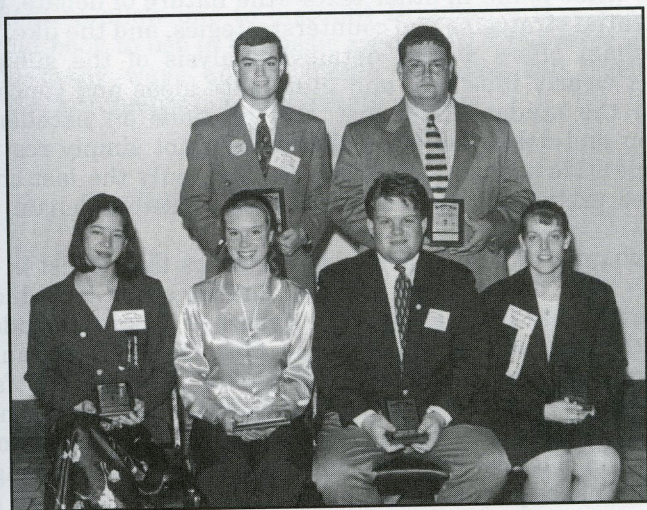
Front Row: Darla Robbins, Southwest Baptist; Jeff Derouen, McNeese; Archie Jackson, Cumberland; Sonya Cole, MTSU; Stephanie Long, Moorhead.



Poetry

Back Row: Amber Slayton, Southwest Baptist; Nicole E. Jones, Concordia; Caroline Wong, Pacific; Michael Braithwaite, Pacific; Jimmy Rubio, LSU-Shreveport; Pete Robledo, St. Mary's.

Front Row: Darla Robbins, Southwest Baptist; Chris McCrackin, Arkansas St.; Jennifer L. Bazil, Westchester; Lisa McDonald, Pacific Lutheran; Vanessa Hwang, The Ohio State University; Jennifer Czarnik, UMSL; Jeff Derouen, McNeese.



ADS

Back Row: Kris Kracht, University of Mary; Brian Lucas, William Carey.

Front Row: Chandra Garrett, Eastern New Mexico; Jenny Guffin, Pacific; Mike Ferrin, Loras; Heather Greene, Heidelberg.

A REVIEW OF *DEBATE AND CRITICAL ANALYSIS: THE HARMONY OF CONFLICT*

By Robert J. Branham

reviewed by Michael W. Shelton
University of Kentucky

Instructors of the undergraduate argumentation course must often choose from among dozens of options in order to select a text that will meet their specific course objectives and that will illuminate the nature and practice of argumentation for their students. Many fine choices exist for these instructors. Most every basic text on argumentation provides an introduction to the process of reasoning and critical thinking and an explication of the nature and practice of debate. Robert J. Branham's *Debate and Critical Analysis: The Harmony of Conflict* does all of those things and goes further to offer much that is not readily available in many basic argumentation texts.

As a preliminary note, it is worth stating that Branham's text is very readable and highly engaging in the way that it develops positions and constructs examples. The text is divided into eight chapters that serve to provide both a useful framework and a guide 'map' of the territory to be covered in an argumentation and debate text. The chapters cover subjects that are similar to those found in other texts—the nature of debate, evidence and research, potential strategies and counterstrategies, and the like. In each case, though, Branham offers a very detailed analysis of the subject and rich examples that clearly illustrate and illuminate ideas and concepts that are introduced to the student. The text also provides an excellent glance at argumentation and debate as general processes not simply restricted to the realm of competitive academic forensics (in fact, only the last chapter of the text is devoted exclusively to a discussion of academic debate formats and techniques).

The first chapter of Branham's text is perhaps the richest in its diversity of information that one will not readily find in other introductory works. Branham offers a clear explication of the nature of debate grounded largely in the work of the philosopher John Stuart Mill. More significant though, is Branham's treatment of the history of debate. He offers a fairly typical discussion of debate as conceptualized in classical Greek and Roman societies, but he does not stop there. Branham offers rich detail of the history of debate beyond its roots in classical Western culture. He provides an engaging account of the role that debate played in ancient India and in East Asian cultures. He also provides a brief account of the role that debate played in medieval universities—a period often ignored even in more advanced texts. These accounts clearly demonstrate for a diverse student audience that debate goes well beyond ancient Greece in its roots, development, and practice.

Throughout the text, Branham offers references and examples that are not easily accessible nor common to most other basic argumentation texts. Branham offers a unique mix of citations and statements from classical, early