

Tennessee High School Speech & Drama League

COMMUNICATOR

November 2005

Sandra Davis Inducted in the Hall of Fame

At the THSSDL Fall conference, Sandra Davis (BGA) was inducted into the THSSDL Hall of Fame. In a moving presentation, students and colleagues expressed their appreciation and admiration for Sandra during the Hall of Fame luncheon. Three former students shared stories and experiences that illuminated how she had impacted their lives. Colleagues told of Sandra's humor and love for forensics and debate. Sandra joins a distinguished group of Tennessee educators.

The Fall conference also featured presentations on Grantwriting by Kim Leavitt from the Tennessee Arts Council, Forensics resources by Glenda Sullivan (Dickson County), and Creative Dramatics by Cindy Putnam (Cookeville). Conferencees enjoyed interesting panels and collegial interactions. Please plan to attend the next conference.

THSSDL thanks Dr. Kathy Ligon for the use of the facilities at Cookeville High School and for the hospitality shown during the conference. Kathy your efforts are greatly appreciated.



Hall of Fame members present at the Fall conference: Lee Ellen Beach, Sandra Davis (inducted 2005), Linda Wilson; Harriet Medlin, Billy Tate, and Glenda Sullivan

Photos from the Fall Conference



Tentative Tournament Schedule 2005-06

OCTOBER

1	Cookeville HS	Cookeville, TN
15	Heritage HS	Maryville, TN
15	TN NFL Congress	TBA
22	Lambuth Univ.Drama	Jackson, TN
22	Sullivan East	Kingsport, TN
29	Henry Co. HS	Paris, TN

NOVEMBER

5	Memphis Overton HS	Memphis, TN
5	Morristown HS	Morristown, TN
11-12	Homewood HS	Birmingham, AL
12	TN Tech	Cookeville, TN
19	Dickson Co. HS	Dickson, TN

DECEMBER

3	McCallie (Middle Schools)	Chattanooga, TN
3	Rossvie HS	Clarksville, TN
3	Science Hill HS	Johnson City, TN
3	White Station HS	Memphis, TN

JANUARY

14	John Overton HS	Nashville, TN
14 or 21	Maryville HS	Maryville, TN
26-28	Emory University	Atlanta, GA
28	Wooddale, HS	Memphis, TN

FEBRUARY

4	Collierville HS	Collierville, TN
11	Farragut HS	Knoxville, TN
10/11	NFL Debate Districts	Franklin (BGA)
23-25	Smoky Mt. Invitational (Carson Newman)	Gatlinburg, TN

MARCH

3-4	NFL IE Districts	Brentwood, TN
10-11	THSSDL District II	Dickson HS
10-11	THSSDL District IV	Heritage HS
31/April 1	THSSDL District I	Cordova HS

APRIL

8	NFL Congress Districts	TBA
28-29	THSSDL State	Morristown, TN

2006 Thespian Conference

The **Tennessee Thespian Conference**, sponsored by the Tennessee Educational Theatre Association, will be held in Memphis, Tennessee, **January 13-14, 2006**. This is the Martin Luther King holiday weekend. The site for the conference is Cordova High School in Memphis, Tennessee.

The Cordova Department of Theatre, under the direction of Chris Luter, will be the host. Frank Bluestein is the Tennessee State Thespian Director and Allison Rogers is the state officer coordinator. Chad Hoy, a senior at Cordova High School, serves as the state student president.

The conference will feature over 180 workshop sessions, two mainstage full-length plays, several one act play selections, and guest artist performances. Over 900 middle and high school theatre students from across the state of Tennessee representing over 40 schools are anticipated to attend this annual event. The guest performer for this year will be Matt Wilson performing *The Great One-Man Commedia Epic*.

Please check the Tennessee Educational Theatre Association Website at TEdTA.org for more information as it becomes available or feel free to call or write Frank Bluestein at 901-755-7775 or efblue@aol.com.

2005 THSSDL State Winners

After Dinner Speaking

- 1st Doyel-Brentwood HS
- 2nd Blakenship-Dickson County HS
- 3rd Shropshire-CHSCCA
- 4th Baker-Dickson County HS
- 5th Furcolowe-Rossvieview HS
- 6th Camfiled-Knoxville West

Extemporaneous Speaking

- 1st Kumbroch-Collierville
- 2nd Masengill-Dickson County HS
- 3rd Powers-Brentwood
- 4th Oxendine-Collierville
- 5th Poteet-Brentwood HS
- 6th Magee-Collierville

Original Oratory

- 1st Courtney-Morristown West
- 2nd Carson-Collierville
- 3rd Miselem-Merrol Hyde Magnet School
- 4th Weller-Brentwood HS
- 5th Bianconi-Knoxville West
- 6th Coates-Rossvieview HS

TV Broadcasting

- 1st Smith-Rossvieview HS
- 2nd Wallace-Collierville
- 3rd Lewis-Knoxville West
- 4th Martin-Dickson County
- 5th Martin-Morristown West
- 6th Barrett-Centennial

Storytelling

- 1st Hickie-Science Hill
- 2nd Wadlington-Morristown West
- 3rd Philips-CHSCCA
- 4th Greer-Ravenwood
- 5th Miller-Science Hill
- 6th Horner-Dickson County

Humorous Interpretation

- 1st Houston-Morristown West
- 2nd Welbourn-Brentwood HS
- 3rd Tudor-Ravenwood
- 4th Tipton-Sullivan East
- 5th Moore-Ridgeway
- 6th Thomason-Rossvieview HS

Dramatic Interpretation

- 1st Herlihy-Ravenwood
- 2nd Wood-Collierville
- 3rd Figlio-St.Cecilia
- 4th Hornberger-Jefferson County
- 5th Hurst-Morristown West
- 6th Birdsong-Ravenwood

Prose Interpretation

- 1st Diroff-Father Ryan
- 2nd Owens-CHSCCA
- 3rd Taylor-Upperman
- 4th Bowem-Ravenwood
- 5th Smith-Dobyns Bennet
- 6th Branch-Knoxville West

Poetry

- 1st Ellison-Henry County
- 2nd Radford-Science Hill
- 3rd Meggs-Knoxville West
- 4th Lutz-Brentwood
- 5th Shepard-CHSCCA
- 6th Shin-Brentwood

Pantomime

- 1st Morrissey-St.Cecilia
- 2nd Kyrza-Dickson County
- 3rd Little-Cordova
- 4th Steele-Oottawah
- 5th England-Dickson County
- 6th Ervin-CHSCCA

Solo Acting

- 1st Feltner-Jefferson County
- 2nd Felts-Farragut
- 3rd Deason-Ravenwood
- 4th Bies-St.Cecilia
- 5th Haith-Overton, Memphis
- 6th Hernandez-Rossvieview HS

Duet Acting

- 1st Miller/Hunt-Ravenwood
- 2nd Feole/Webb-Farragut
- 3rd Meeks/Ford-Oottawah
- 4th Baucke/West-First Assembly Christian School
- 5th Bishop/Williams-Dickson County
- 6th Colvin/Rahimi-St.Cecilia

Duo Interpretation

- 1st Cooper/Fox-Science Hill
- 2nd Davis/Fenn-Morristown West
- 3rd Grimm/Fulghum-CHSCCA
- 4th Bennie/DiGiorgi-Brentwood HS
- 5th Stumpf/Reyland-St.Cecilia
- 6th Holloway/King-Cookeville

Interpreter's Theatre

- 1st Around the World in a Bad Mood-Morristown West
- 2nd Santaland Diaries-Rossvieview HS
- 3rd The Secret Knowledge of Grownups-Dickson
- 4th Growing Up Muppet-Science Hill
- 5th The Frog Princess-Ravenwood
- 6th Tuesday's with Morrie-Upperman

One Act

- 1st Andrea's Got Two Boyfriends-Morristown West
- 2nd The Diviners-Farragut
- 3rd Driving Miss Daisy-Cordova
- 4th Dancing at Lughnasa-Ravenwood
- 5th Defying Gravity-Henry County
- 6th Kindertransport-St.Cecilia

Best Actress: Rachel Nave -Morristown West

Best Actor: Ryan Houston-Morristown West

All-Star Cast

- Nick Carter-Farragut
Jon Wright-Cordova
Shannon King-Cordova
Joseph McCary-Cordova
Andrew Felts-Farragut
Amanda Kaschak-Farragut
Joe Wadlington-Morristown West
Logan Herlihy-Ravenwood

Technical Theatre

- 1st Terry-CCA
- 2nd Tucker-White Station
- 3rd Thurman-Dobyns Bennet
- 4th Ley-Dobyns Bennet
- 5th Martin-Upperman
- 6th Meadows-Upperman

Costume Design

- 1st Gay-West Knoxville High
- 2nd Turner-Overton, Memphis
- 3rd England-Upperman
- 4th Fisher-Upperman
- 5th Puett-Dickson
- 6th Lemassi-Woodale

Novice LD

- 1st Doley-McCallie
 - 2nd Anderson-Science Hill
- Semi-Finalist:
Carter-McCallie
Rush-Science Hill

Varsity LD

- 1st Young-McCallie
 - 2nd Greenwood-McCallie
- Semi-Finalists:
Linville-Battle Ground Academy
Stevens-Battle Ground Academy

Congress

- Senate:* Presiding Officer
Haley Hall-Rossvieview HS
Superior Speaker
Sean Pitt-Baylor
Outstanding Speaker
Lauren Staggs-Rossvieview HS

House: Presiding Officer

- Molly Ellis-Rossvieview HS
Superior Speaker
Erin Marubashi-Ravenwood HS
Outstanding Speaker
Kristen Gwock-Brentwood HS

Public Forum

- 1st Messam-John Overton
- 2nd Manning-Morristown West
- 3rd Short-John Overton
- 4th Wakefield-John Overton
- 5th Ellis-Morristown West

Tennessee Students achieve great success at 2005 NFL Nationals

Congratulations to Tennessee National Award
Winners!

National Co-Champions in Policy Debate: Alex Lamballe & Tripp Rebrovick and Matt Bodnar & Kevin Wieck, Montgomery Bell Academy (first two teams to close out the final round of policy debate at NFL Nationals in the tournament's 75-year history).

National Champion in Expository Speaking: Patrick Bishop, Dickson County High School

National Runner-up in LFG Video Speech Contest: Cassie Mills, Dickson County

Semifinalist in Impromptu Speaking: David Kumbroch, Collierville

Semifinalist in Extemp Commentary: Noah Pittman, Collierville

Semifinalist in Expository Speaking: Caren Carson, Collierville

Quarterfinalist in Original Oratory: Nick Courtney, Morristown West

Quarterfinalist in International Extemp: David Kumbroch, Collierville

Quarterfinalist in Humorous Interpretation: Ryan Houston, Morristown West

Octofinalist in Dramatic Interpretation: Taylor Wood, Collierville

Octofinalist in International Extemp: Jonathan Ray, Montgomery Bell Academy

Octofinalist in Duo Interpretation: Gordon Burt & Rachel Rogers, Brentwood Academy

Octofinalist in Duo Interpretation: Samantha Stewart & Logan Allen, Brentwood Academy

Octofinalist in Humorous Interpretation: Rachel Nave, Morristown West High School

Octofinalist in Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Evan Mayo, Battle Ground Academy

THSSDL is proud of each of you.

Valuable Resources

Glenda Sullivan, Dickson County High School

There are several ways you can use the National Forensic League to help you and your students.

We'll begin with the Tennessee resources: First, there is a website. I provide this address to my students, parents, and principal. It helps promote a greater understanding of the activity and allows students and their parents a chance to learn about the activity and to see results: www.tnnflonline.netfirms.com (the TN NFL website).

On the site, you can find information on upcoming NFL events (Congresses and qualifiers) including dates, locations, costs, rules, and directions. Current legislation for the Congress is online and available. You can also find points of contact, Congress bills, a primer on how to write legislation, and results.

If you have identified other websites that would be beneficial to other coaches, please send the site to Mike Gotcher at gotcher@apsu.edu.

THSSDL SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to **Cassie Mills** from Dickson County HS, **Jessica Holloway** from Cookeville HS, and **Sarah Welbourn** from Brentwood HS. They each received \$500 scholarships from THSSDL to pursue their college career. Please encourage qualified seniors from your program to apply for this wonderful opportunity.

An application form is attached (copies can be made). Scholarship applications must be postmarked by **February 1, 2006.**



Important THSSDL Changes for 2005-06

In the fall of 2005, THSSDL members approved important changes to the THSSDL constitution. The most important changes concern redistricting and qualifications for the state tournament. Members approved redistricting changes that reduced the number of THSSDL districts from 7 to 5. Please consult the table below for information concerning the new district alignments. Redistricting should facilitate increased competition and reduced travel expenses. If your county is not represented in the table, please contact Mike Gotcher (gotcher@apsu.edu).

Redistricting impacts the state tournament by changing the number of eligible competitors. For the 2006 State Tournament, the top 4 competitors in Individual Events qualify for the state tournament. For Interp. Theatre and One-Act play, redistricting did **not** change the number of qualifiers from each district.

Pictured is the 2005-06 THSSDL Board of Directors get to know your District Director and District Representative. They represent your interests. They are committed to improving THSSDL activities. Share your ideas concerning the future of THSSDL. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Mike Gotcher at gotcher@apsu.edu.

In the next few days, you will be receiving through email an updated Constitution and Tournament Manual, replace your existing manual with the revised Constitution and Manual.

New Districts for 2005-06

District I: McNairy, Shelby, Tipton

District II: Cheatham, Dickson, Henderson, Henry, Madison, Montgomery, Robertson, Sumner

District III: Davidson, Lawrence, Putnam, Rutherford, Williamson

District IV: Blount, Bradley, Coffee, Franklin, Hamilton, Knox

District V: Hamblen, Jefferson, Johnson, Sevier, Sullivan, Washington



2005-06 Board of Directors

Mark Collins--District 1, Mike Gotcher--Executive Director, Leslie Capozzoli--District 4, Kathy Ligon--District 3, Pollyanna Parker--State Chair, Amy Jackson--District 2, Lee Ellen Beach--District 2, Suzanne Terry--District 5, Louise Bennett--District 1, and Byran McCampbell--District 5. Not pictured: Jane Brown--District 4

Special Recognition

Congratulations to Cathie C. Stamps, chairwoman for St. Cecilia's fine arts department. Cathie (former THSSDL State Chair 2003-05) was presented with the Governor's School Outstanding Teacher award for Theater.

If you know of other members of our organization that have been recognized for outstanding accomplishments, please send the information to Mike Gotcher (gotcher@apsu.edu).

Technical Theatre Plays and Public Forum Debate for 2006

The Board of Directors recommended Technical Theatre be continued at the State Tournament for 2006. Plays for Technical Theatre for 2006: *The Taming of the Shrew, Harvey, and Oklahoma.*

Please inform your students and prepare for a competitive State and/or District tournament.

Additionally, the Board voted to continue Public Forum Debate for 2006. The State tournament topic will be the April topic found on the NFL website.
