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UK Debaters Qualify For National Meet

University of Kentucky debaters qualified for the National Tournament of Champions while competing in an invitational debate tournament at Vanderbilt University over the weekend.

Jim Flegle of Bardwell and Jeff Lankford, Louisville, won third place at the meet in competition with teams from 32 universities and colleges.

The pair qualified for the national tournament to be held March 26-27 at Eastern Illinois University at Champaign.

Dr. J. W. Patterson, UK director of forensics, said that only teams that reach the semifinals at 15 selected regional meets are eligible to compete in the Tournament of Champions.

Flegle and Lankford completed the six preliminary rounds with a perfect record of six wins and no losses, making them the only undefeated team.

In addition, Lankford emerged as winner of one of the top individual-debater trophies.

The UK team victories were over the following schools: Pennsylvania, Ohio State, Vermont, Alabama, Wake Forest and Bellarmine. In the quarter-final round UK defeated Wayne State but lost a 2-1 decision to West Georgia in the semifinal round.