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Westhill High School Debate Team Wins State Championship

Westhill High School's Debate Team won the Connecticut Debate Association (CDA) State Finals Debate Tournament at Wilton High School on Saturday, March 27. Twenty schools and close to two hundred students participated in this year's culminating event. Westhill sophomores **Skyler Ross** and **Joanna Koczuk** helped clinch the title for their team.

Each participating student at State Finals had to qualify at a previous CDA event throughout the year. The resolution of the tournament was centered on a recent, controversial Supreme Court decision. Students had to debate whether the United States should significantly limit corporate spending in federal elections. After the first three rounds, the top two Varsity teams squared off in front of a packed auditorium to decide the state title. Westhill teammates Skyler Ross and Joanna Koczuk took on a pair of Wilton debaters in the final round. Westhill debated the negative view point that corporate spending should not be limited and won a 3-2 decision by the judges. Skyler Ross also won a trophy for 2nd place Varsity Speaker.

This is Westhill's first State Title in debate, which capped a fantastic year of growth and success for the team. A Westhill school record of 18 students qualified for State Finals. All but three of the qualifiers are underclassmen. The Debate Team boasts over 45 members from diverse backgrounds and ages. The future looks bright for the debate team, as they continue to show the rest of the state that Westhill High School has some of the best and brightest students around.

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