



A Forum for Student Opinions

The EAGLE'S EYE

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We The People

What's left in the past and in their future

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While December's We the People competition may not have ended in Trumbull's favor for the second year in a row, that does not mean that advisor Mike Margonis will be any less determined in the coming years. "I'm going to keep doing what I've always done, I've had success in the past and I'm hoping it works in the future."

This year's We the People Debate ended in the second consecutive win for rival Greenwich High School. Trumbull placed second by a margin of 8.5 points.

Despite the loss, Mr. Margonis, as well as the team, was pleased with the overall presentations and follow-up involved in the competition. "It was the best performance at States I've had as a coach in four years," Margonis said of the team's work.

Now that the competition has ended, Dr. Tremaglio is looking into ways to make the program fairer for schools that generally have a reputation preceding them. Dr. Tremaglio has met with Julie Jaquish, the state coordinator for the Center for Civic Education, to make suggestions on possibly making the competition less biased. His main suggestion was for teams to be anonymous during judging, being referred to as Team A, Team B, and so forth.

Margonis has also suggested using more college professors, lawyers, and state representatives for judges, as opposed to the high school teachers that make up the majority. This would prevent a school bias as well provide more in-depth analysis of presentations. "The student papers and follow up are really at a level in which you need those types of people judging," says Margonis.

As for the team itself, the end of the competition does not mean they have any less on their plate in the months ahead. The 8th Period class is currently hard at work designing and running their own mock government. This entails the writing and passing of bills in a mock Senate, as well as a Presidential Election with the students of Mrs. Bastien's AP U.S. History class acting as voters. When asked about the competition, the students remained positive. "Of course we were disappointed with the results, but the experience made it all worth it," says Andrew Freeburg, Senior and member of Unit One.

As for Greenwich, the bar has been set very high. According to Margonis, Greenwich needs to come home from D.C. with some kind of award. "If they don't, it will be clear in my mind that Trumbull should have been the team to represent Connecticut. This team would have come home with laurels."