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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Speech Team Returns with National Championship

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Cedarville University’s forensic speech team won the Division II national championship in speech at the 2014 National Christian College Invitational in California. The tournament took place from March 8-10 with 26 universities competing.

During the tournament, teams were awarded points at the conclusion of each round based on their ranking. At the end of the competition, each teams’ points were calculated with Cedarville coming in first with a total of 178 points. Southern California universities Biola University finished second with 146 points, and Vanguard University placed third with 129 points.

Excellence was a theme for the Cedarville team throughout the competition. According to Derrick Green, assistant professor of communications and forensics coach, “Cedarville’s emphasis on excellence in all areas including academics prepared this team to represent the university well.”

At the beginning of the competition, the team committed to give its best in every round regardless of the outcome. Senior theater major, Doug Malcolm said, “Our goal as a team was to glorify God through excellence in effort.”

In addition to the title of Division II national champions, each member of the team received individual awards. The five freshmen on the team competed in the novice category and won a total of ten awards. The award winners include:

Abby Clark, from Culpeper, Va., was the national champion in dramatic interpretation, fourth place in prose interpretation, sixth place in novice individual events sweepstakes and ninth place in novice individual tournament sweepstakes (best overall novice competitor).

Rebecca Adams, from Wadsworth, Ohio, placed third in dramatic interpretation and fifth in prose interpretation.

Raven Simmons, from Middletown, Ohio, won fourth place in after dinner speaking and sixth place in dramatic interpretation.

Morgan Bergoon, from Cary, N.C., placed third in persuasive speaking.

Rae McKee, from Nemo, S.D., was a semi-finalist in extemporaneous speaking.

The two seniors, competing in the varsity category, won five awards.

Doug Malcolm, from Canton, Mich., placed second in prose interpretation, fifth in faith literature, fourth in dramatic interpretation and seventh in open individual events sweepstakes (best varsity competitor only competing in speech).

Crysta Hutchinson, from Xenia, Ohio, won sixth place in programmed oral interpretation of literature.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University attracts 3,400 undergraduate, graduate and online students to more than 100 areas of study. Inspiring greatness for over 125 years, Cedarville is a Christ-centered learning community recognized nationally for rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. Visit the University online at www.cedarville.edu.