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## **USNA Crowe Warken Debate Tournament hosted by the United States Naval Academy**

**Arnold, MD** – The United States Naval Academy hosted the USNA Crowe Warken Debate Tournament on the weekend of January 18-21, 2025. The tournament was attended by 48 teams across Novice, Junior Varsity, and Open.

Debaters from across the country were asked to debate both sides of the [season-long resolution](#) about decarbonization. The full wording of the topic is “Resolved: The United States Federal Government should adopt a clean energy policy for decarbonization in the United States, including a market-based instrument.”

Students participating at the tournament debate half of their preliminary debates in favor of the resolution and half of their preliminary debates in opposition to the resolution.

At the conclusion of the preliminary debates, the tournament seeded teams in all divisions based on their win-loss record and speaker points. Elimination debates were single-elimination for the top 17 teams in Open, 3 teams in Junior Varsity, and 5 teams in Novice.

The Novice division features students who are in their first year of competitive debate. The Junior Varsity division showcases students competing in their first two academic years of intercollegiate debate beyond the novice level.

In the Novice division quarterfinals, teams from Cornell University and Liberty University competed. Three teams from Liberty University and one team from Cornell University advanced to semifinals, and one team from Liberty University advanced over another team from the same school without debating. In the final round, Hunter Etienne and Elijah Tooley from Liberty University bested April Vorontsova and Zhiyang Jim Wang from Cornell University.

In the Junior Varsity division, teams from Southern Nazarene University and George Mason University reached semifinals and one team from George Mason University advanced over another team from the same school without debating. In the final round, Ian Horton and Thomas Cruzan from Southern Nazarene University bested Federico Corvalan and Hiba Haroon from George Mason University.

In the Open division, teams from Dartmouth College, Emory University, George Mason University, James Madison University, the University of Kentucky, Liberty University, Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, the United States Naval Academy, the

University of Texas – Austin, and Western Kentucky University reached the double octafinals. Teams from Emory University, George Mason University, James Madison University, the University of Kentucky, Liberty University, Michigan State University, and Western Kentucky University ended the tournament as octafinalists.

In the quarterfinals, teams from the University of Kentucky, Michigan State University, and the University of Texas – Austin were victorious and advanced to semifinals. In the final round, Tony Miklovis and Blaine Montford from Michigan State University bested Ralph Anderson and Lindsay Jade Feinstein from the University of Texas – Austin.

Debaters participating also receive speaker points for each of their preliminary debates. In the Novice division, Elijah Tooley from Liberty University was named top speaker. Ian Horton from Southern Nazarene University was named top speaker in the Junior Varsity division and Blaine Montford from Michigan State University was named top speaker in the Open division.

The USNA Crowe Warken Debates is the sixth ADA tournament of the new season. The next ADA tournament will be hosted by Weber State University.

#### **About the American Debate Association**

The American Debate Association began in 1985 as an intercollegiate debate association. It uses the resolution selected by the Cross Examination Debate Association and the National Debate Tournament. Currently they have 44 member schools. The ADA's mission is increasing participation, maintaining a balance between education and competition, and ensuring an equitable and fair activity for all programs, regardless of their size or experience.

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