A team that may not be a team, but they bring national attention to this school each year. It’s the debate team.

The work, however, pays off. This year the team of Artherson and Wes Latz ended the tournament ranked second, second to a university team has received during the duo’s four-year career.

We basically had a most tournaments. I promise that’s the Sweet 16, third, although the

A prize does not come without hard work. Artherson estimates that members of the team spend 45 hours per week researching for future debates and pull two or three all-nighters the week before a debate.

We basically had a most tournaments. The team as a whole also shows up to the finals of one of the tournaments. "The team is pretty good finish in the tournament," Artherson said. As a future looks bright, the young sophomores that is the northwest."
On the top floor of Carswell Hall, Jarrod Atchison and Wes Lotz prepare for their next debate tournament. Atchison and Lotz, debating as a team, made it to nationals this year.
Wesley Lotz and Jarrod Atchison formed Wake Forest's strongest debating duo. Lotz and Atchison finished the regular season with a 56-5 record, winning 92% of their matches. Allan Louden, the Director of Debate said, "A record this good is unheard of, clearly the top in the nation." Of the twelve major national competitions, Lotz and Atchison won three and placed second in three others.

The duo earned the top seed for the National Debate Tournament, a first for the Wake Forest Debate program. In the tournament they defeated all of the top teams during the preliminary rounds, but failed to advance to the finals. At the NDT, Lotz was named the number two speaker in the nation, while Atchison earned the number three spot.

Atchison will remain at the university to attend graduate school in the Communication Department and act as an assistant coach to the debate team. Lotz plans to attend law school, with the help of scholarships awarded for his outstanding debate skills.

-Cassie Rich