

BCC debate teams best in the nation

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Broward Community College debate teams take back seats to no one in the state and in the nation.

During a recent five-day speech tournament in Washington, D.C., BCC, competing against 607 students representing 86 junior colleges, captured first and fifth place for debate.

Jeff Postal and Robert Mainguy are the nation's first place winners. Jennifer Reem and Robert Durfee are fifth. Bob Pedrazas, a graduate of BCC

and Southwest Missouri State University, coaches the local group.

In Orlando recently, BCC swept the field taking first and second place with a team comprised of Reem, Durfee, Diana Olsen and Jeff Jordan. In this competition, Reem was named top speaker for the state.

"All of these students are products of Broward County schools," Pedrazas said. "In past years when

we have won, many team members had been imported from other states

because of their ability. It makes you feel good to know that we can work with local students and bring them into the winner's circle."

During the 12 years community college debate teams have competed in Florida, BCC has taken first place in the nation three times including 1974 and 1975.