



**Qwest Communications continues their support of urban education in
Denver with the Second Annual Qwest Debate Classic at Montbello High
School**

**Montbello's new debate program provides transformative academic opportunities for
students**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Jessica Clark, Executive Director, Denver Urban Debate League,
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Denver, Colorado – The Denver Urban Debate League (DUDL) Advisory Board and Denver Public Schools (DPS) are proud to announce the **Qwest Debate Classic 2010**. The competition will be held at **Montbello High School on Friday and Saturday, February 19–20**. Competition will take place from **3:30 PM – 10:00 PM on Friday and 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Saturday (detailed schedule on page 3)**. The debates are open to the public. At least 50 students are expected to compete in two divisions: Novice and Varsity. The high schools participating in the Qwest Debate Classic include **Academy of Urban Learning, Denver School of Science and Technology, Manual, Martin Luther King, Jr. Early College, Montbello, Thomas Jefferson, and West**.

Montbello High School joined the DUDL in 2009 and under the leadership of coaches Tawrence White and Suzanne Meyer the Montbello Warriors have dominated the novice division. At the Holland & Hart King Legacy Debates in January, Montbello senior **Shaneice Steward was awarded first place overall speaker in the novice division. When asked what the debate team has added to Montbello Shaneice stated, "Debate has opened up new opportunities for many in the Montbello community. One hundred percent of the debaters on our team had never debated before this team was created. Debate is not just arguing about a point to us. It is giving us an outlet."** Her teammate DeMarquell Lanier added, "Debate at Montbello gives me a chance to clear my mind and make new friends. The debate team has given our students a new outlook on what is going on in our government as well as social issues. We are informed about things we did not realize were problems prior to debate."

**Denver Urban Debate League
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This is the second annual Qwest Debate Classic sponsored by Qwest Communications in conjunction with DUDL. **Nearly twenty volunteers from Qwest will be serving as mentors at the tournament. Qwest's partnership with DUDL represents its serious commitment to promoting inclusiveness in the business and legal community, and its passion for diversity.** This meaningful relationship has led to valuable interactions between Qwest employees and DUDL students.

DUDL is working closely with Denver Public Schools to use debate as tool to improve urban education. DUDL's programming promotes inclusiveness and education equity, striving to make debate opportunities available to more students in the Denver area in an effort to ensure their future success. **Qwest Communications'** sponsorship of the event ensures that DUDL students can take part in the competition at no cost to their families or schools.

The UDL teams will debate the 2009–10 National High School Policy Debate Resolution: **Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase social services for persons living in poverty in the United States.** Debaters will take part in five to six debate rounds, before breaking to semi finals in both divisions. During the tournament students will be arguing both the affirmative and negative side of the resolution. **The tournament will conclude with an awards ceremony, featuring Montbello's Drumline, at 8:00 PM.**

For more information about the Denver Urban Debate League, please contact Jessica Clark by calling 720.878.2776, or e-mail Jessica at JessicaClark@urbandebate.org. Also visit www.urbandebate.org and www.denverdebate.org and visit our fan page on Facebook.

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QWEST DEBATE CLASSIC 2010
MONTBELLO HIGH SCHOOL (500 CROWN BOULEVARD)
Anthony Smith, Principal

Tawrence White & Suzanne Meyer, Debate Coaches

Friday, February 10, 2010

2:00 PM–2:30 PM Participant and Judge Registration
3:30 PM–5:30 PM Round One
5:30 PM–6:30 PM Dinner and New Judge Orientation and Career Panel
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Round Two
8:30 PM –10:00 PM Round Three

Saturday, February 20, 2010

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM Check-In and Breakfast
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM Round Four and New Judge Orientation
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Round Five
12:30 PM –1:30 PM Opportunities in the Law Luncheon sponsored by Law School Admissions
Council
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM Varsity Quarterfinals/Novice Semi-Finals
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Varsity Semi-Finals/Novice Finals
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Varsity Finals

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8:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Awards Ceremony featuring Montbello Warrior's Drumline

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