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Mock trial team proceeds to nationals

Abigail Holmes

Guest Writer

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Despite only being in its second year of competition, the Wheaton College mock trial team has advanced to the National Championship Tournament. Out of a total of 650 teams in the country, only 48 teams nationally qualified for the Championship.

The National Tournament is the third phase of three levels of competition — that is, a team must progress through the Regional Tournament and the Opening Round Championship Series (ORCS) before reaching Nationals.

The ORCS, which Wheaton's team attended, took place on March 8-10 in Waukegan, Ill. Wheaton placed second out of 24 teams, which allowed the team to advance to the National Tournament.

"Our team is very excited to have qualified for Nationals, especially considering how relatively new our mock trial program is compared to the other qualifying schools," team member and junior Jason Chapman said.

Chapman won an Outstanding Witness Award, and freshman Jasmine Stein won an Outstanding Attorney Award at ORCS.

"The coaches and I are extremely proud of the team," team

captain and junior Trenton Van Oss said. "We are excited for the team's potential and eager to face the increased competition in Washington, D.C."

Volunteer coaches and practicing attorneys Diane Michalak, Brooks Locke and Eric Pierce lead the mock trial team. The team's success has hinged on the hard work and commitment that the coaches have contributed

The mock trial members are Van Oss, Stein, junior McNair Nichols, freshman Dylan Andres, junior Lauren Carini, sophomore Abby Canfield, junior Jason Chapman, freshman Kelly Farley, junior John Patrick and sophomore Margaret Winchell.

The team's success this school year has seen them to the National Championship, which will be held on April 12-14 in Washington, D.C.

After the lights have dimmed

Amanda Morris Assistant News Editor

It all began in Chicago on March 23 as Kids These Days got on stage at the College Improv Tournament Nationals and asked for a suggestion. The first word that the troupe received was "angst," and for the next 20 minutes, the team proceeded to improvise through a variety of stories relating to subjects such as writer's block and time spent in purgatory.

Although the troupe did not make it to the final four teams, senior troupe member Amanda Gregornik