

Mock trial competes in second year

Abigail Holmes
Staff Writer

The Wheaton College mock trial team competed in the Tenth Annual ISU Invitational in Normal, Ill. last Friday and Saturday. The team finished with a 4-2-2 record after competing in four trials — two defense trials and two prosecution trials. The team came in eighth place out of 30 teams overall.

The 30 teams that arrived at the McLean County Law and Justice Center to compete in the invitational came from all over the Midwest — Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. The only losses for the Wheaton College team resulted from competing against Miami University (Ohio) in the final round. Miami University came in second place overall, and Wheaton lost to them by just four and two points. Wheaton beat Lewis University, who ended up scoring third place overall.

Coach Brooks Locke is impressed with the team this year.

“The team really stepped up their performance against higher quality competition,” Locke said. The mock trial team, which was started last year, is making tremendous strides. They finished



The mock trial team placed in their second competition this year and will compete again in March.

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ahead of Michigan State and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign at the invitational. The team also received the “Spirit of the American Mock Trial Association Award” for their team spirit. The award is given to the team that exhibits the “ideals of honesty, civility, and fair play” before, during and after the trials.

No individuals won any awards, although sophomore Trenton Van Oss was the team’s highest ranked attorney and freshman Abby Canfield was the team’s highest ranked witness. Sophomore McNair Nichols, sophomore Desmond Cato, Van Oss and sophomore Andrew Bayer played attorney roles. The roles of witnesses

were assumed by Canfield, Bayer, sophomore Jason Chapman and sophomore John Patrick.

The team will compete next at Loras College on Jan. 28 and 29.