

Mock Trial Matters



NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Calendar

- **April 1**—National criminal case release date; 2013 Bid proposal deadline
- **April 5**—Deadline for Hotel Reservations
- **April 15**—deadline to request tournament schedule adjustment
- **April 16**—Deadline to register a team & order event tickets; postmark registration fee; postmark ticket payment; submit video request form for courthouse
- **April 19**—Deadline to submit state champion song for contest
- **April 23**—Case/Rules question deadline
- **April 26**—Final Q&A posting & clean case material posting
- **May 5-6**—Practice rooms available at hotel
- **May 6**—State Coordinator's Mtg; State Coordinator's "Round Table"; Timekeeper Orientation; Tournament Orientation; Opening Team Reception & Pin Exchange (Students/Coaches Only)
- **May 7**—Rounds 1 & 2; Constitution Center Event; Judging Panel Reception
- **May 8**—Rounds 3 & 4; National Championship Rd; Awards Banquet & Dance
- **May 9**—Ballots available to State Coordinators for pick-up; Happy Mother's Day!

Unite or Die: Pennsylvania Awaits National High School Mock Trial Champions

By David Trevaskis

Maddox Hale and the COL are getting antsy waiting for Mother's Day weekend and the National High School Mock Trial Championship...

The **Pennsylvania Bar Association**, with fundraising partner **Pennsylvania Bar Foundation**, is the proud host of the 2010 national tournament in historic Philadelphia May 5-9, 2010. National mock trial lead sponsor **Drexel University** joins the PBA and PBF in welcoming everyone involved in the 27th Nationals to the birthplace of American freedom, Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love (and Sisterly Affection). Volunteers are being signed up, final touches are being made, and mock trial fever is spiking!

Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge and PA **First Lady Marjorie "Midge" Rendell** is the head of the Honorary Advisory Board for the 2010 Nationals and she is looking forward to seeing the top mock trial teams from around the nation and the world compete in Philadelphia using a problem that will be unveiled on April 1st (no kidding!). A champion of civic education, Judge Rendell's **PennCORD** (Pennsylvania Coalition for Representative Democracy) initiative has designated Mock Trial, from elementary fairy tales to the National Championship, a **Keystone Civics Project**. But even more important for the Judge, perhaps, is the song contest (see the ad inside)! As a classically trained

singer, Judge Rendell cannot wait to hear the submissions for the mock trial song contest. Joining the Judge in picking the top entry will be **Bill Jolly**, Philadelphia's own three time Emmy Award winning composer/ arranger/ musical director and keyboardist. The Philadelphia sound is the stuff of legend and music, from **Dick Clark** to **Circa Survive**, there is a vibrant feel to the city that the mock trial song contest will only enhance.

Mock trial guests in Philadelphia will also hear the **Eagles Pep Band**, **Mummers** and a **Fife and Drum Corps** during their stay!

Philadelphia has had a record winter and spring is being greeted with great cheer despite a lot of rain. Spring in Philadelphia means wonderful weather for walking through William Penn's city, with high temperatures averaging in the low 70s (okay, Philadelphia did once have a high of 97 and a low of 28, but those are record temperatures, and, though it does rain lightly about a third of the time, it is sunny just as much). *Cont. on p. 2...*



National High School
Mock Trial Championship
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2010

Unite or Die: Pennsylvania Awaits... Continued...

(Cont. from p. 1...) There is great entertainment from home **Phillies** games (they play the Cardinals Monday through Thursday and the Braves Friday through Sunday during the mock trial competition week of May 3-9) to incredible history to explore firsthand. Take a Duck and ride both the streets and the river in exploring the city. You can always walk, and that might help you burn off the calories of soft pretzels, cheesesteaks and scrapple. Great food is the reason Philadelphians seem a little bigger than life at times. Just down the block from the competition hotel is the renowned **Reading Terminal Market**, the oldest and one of the best public farmers markets in America, with scores of vendors serving every type of delicious food imaginable—in one location, you can hit every Philly food group.

From Thursday night's "Champions of the Commonwealth" pin exchange through Friday night at the **National Constitution Center** (students) and **City Hall** (judges, lawyers, board members and other adult tournament volunteers) to the Awards Banquet at the Marriott Saturday evening, the Pennsylvania Bar Association has lined up a tremendous National High School Mock Trial Competition in Philadelphia and looks forward to seeing you enjoying the festivities while competing at the highest level.

2010 organizers are keeping things as green as possible and are making all communications electronic unless special circumstances dictate otherwise. All information is available on the www.2010nationalmocktrial.com website; please bookmark the site and get in the habit of checking things out! If there are any questions, please contact **David Trevaskis** at david.trevaskis@pabar.org.

The Philadelphia HSMT Program and Its Influence on My Career

By Bill Higgins, Jr.
Bedford County (Pennsylvania) District Attorney



I am the District Attorney of Bedford County, a rural county in Central Pennsylvania. But I owe a large part of my career to the high school mock trial program held every year in Philadelphia under the auspices of the Philadelphia Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. At a time when pitches to help out the local, state and national mock trials are flying over the internet, my story may help others see attorney involvement in mock trial as an important form of public service. Every attorney, at some point in their career, is asked some variation of the question: "What inspired you to become a lawyer?" It's a question that I have been asked many times, and one I am all too happy to answer.

I owe much of my inspiration to practice law, as well as my success as a lawyer, to the John S. Bradway Philadelphia High School Mock Trial Competition, the local branch of the Pennsylvania High School Mock Trial program. As a freshman in High School, at the urging of my father, I tried out for Cardinal Dougherty High School's Basketball team. I made the freshmen team, although that was certainly more attributable to my dad's friendship with the coach than it was to my skill as a basketball player, which I will admit was somewhat lacking. It didn't take me long to realize that a career in basketball was not in my future.

When sophomore year rolled around, I decided I would pursue an extracurricular activity that didn't require as much athletic ability, and Mock Trial seemed to fit the bill. At that time, due to a dedicated teacher coach, Margaret Recupido, Cardinal Dougherty had won the Mock Trial City Championship for seven consecutive years. To Ms. Recupido, Mock Trial was just short of a full contact sport, and I wanted to be a part of it. Sophomores couldn't just walk onto the team and jump into a role, so during my sophomore year I worked with the team but did not compete. (Back when I was in school [CD class of 1992], only one team per school was allowed to participate in the competition. One of the changes I helped implement as a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, which runs the statewide mock trial program, was to allow schools to field second teams in the competition so more students get the experience I had later in high school.)

I made the trial team my junior year and competed in the role of a witness, "Jamie Bench," on a team that finished 3rd in the State. Although it was exciting to be an active member of a state finalist team, my real high school mock trial glory came my senior year when I was given the opportunity to serve as one of the attorneys. In the statewide mock trial competition, each team has two witnesses and three attorneys and must be able to present both sides of the case. I proudly led Cardinal Dougherty to another City Championship (it was our 10th of what would be 11 in a row) defeating Martin Luther King High School in a hard fought city finals trial. My family was not a family of lawyers and, like many kids at Cardinal Dougherty High School, I grew up needing to work—as I did at the local Seven-Eleven. (cont. on p. 3)

The Philadelphia HSMT Program... Cont.

(Cont. from p. 2...) Because of the mock trial program, the prospect of me becoming a lawyer became more of a reality.

It was through mock trial that I was given my first public speaking experience. It was through mock trial that I learned how to conduct a thorough cross examination. It was through Mock Trial that I first learned proper courtroom decorum. It was through mock trial that I learned the benefits of preparation and hard work. It was through mock trial that I learned the joy of victory and the agony of defeat. And it was through mock trial that I began to learn the leadership skills that have shaped my career.

Mock Trial also allowed me to network with professionals for the first time. In just the few years I spent on the CDHS Mock Trial team, I met countless people who would have a great influence on my career, starting with my attorney coaches Jacci Vigilante and Fred Bader. Vigilante would go on to be Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar YLD, a role in which I would follow her, when I served as PBA-YLD Chair for 2007-08. I also met my mentor PBA Pro Bono Coordinator and Mock Trial guru David Trevaskis and Temple-LEAP's Roberta West who now runs the city event through the Philadelphia mock trials.

Trevaskis was a lawyer working for Temple-LEAP when I first met him and he recruited me my senior year to be on a citywide all-star mock trial team that did a special presentation for the Jewish Law Society, Tau Epsilon Rho. Trevaskis then booked us for a Saturday presentation at the statewide Students Against Drunk Driving Conference in Boalsburg, a four hour drive from Philadelphia requiring us to leave at 7 a.m. I was the only "all-star" to show up that early in the morning on a weekend but we scrambled together a judge and a witness from neighborhood kids and I pulled in a then freshman member of the CDHS team, Brendan Boyle, and off we went to Boalsburg where I won my first conviction—albeit mock—in a drunk driving case. Maybe it helps that I was dating the Judge! I did not end up marrying that judge, but my beautiful wife Amy and my two lovely daughters know how much mock trial means to me, and they often travel with me to participate in mock trial events. David continues to be a positive influence on my career and life, and Boyle remains a friend across party lines.

Boyle, like the majority of my mock trial teammates, has gone on to a very successful career, serving the 170th legislative district as State Representative since 2008. There is a long history of mock trial participants going on to careers in law as I have, or other forms of service as Representative Boyle has done. Tobey Oxholm, the longtime Philadelphia lawyer now heading Drexel's new campus in California, said it best when Drexel decided to become the leadership sponsor for the National High School Mock Trial Competition which comes to Philadelphia in May: "The skills that colleges, graduate schools, and employers are hoping to find in their students and their employees are exactly the skills that the mock trial competition develops."

Since my High School years, I have participated in the Mock Trial program in every conceivable role: judge, juror, timekeeper, statewide coordinator, national Board member and now, team coach. From 2005 through 2008, I served as Statewide mock trial coordinator, and in 2007, while serving as Chair of the YLD, I was instrumental in putting together the successful bid to bring the National Mock Trial Competition to Pennsylvania in 2010. This year, I have proudly undertaken the responsibility of serving as an attorney advisor to the defending 2009 State Champion Central High School of Martinsburg, PA.

I look forward to the mock trial season each year the way that some people anticipate the NCAA tournament. In March of each year, the term "Final Four" has had a far different meaning to me than it has for most others. For the last ten years, I have been at the State Finals helping to select the four teams that would advance to the semi-finals, and ultimately help crown the Pennsylvania State Champion who would then move on to represent Pennsylvania at the National Competition.

I have watched students perform in hundreds of Mock Trial competitions. I am not the least bit embarrassed to admit that I have "borrowed" tactics, strategies, and techniques from students I have observed, and successfully used them in criminal prosecutions. As the adage goes, "you are never too old to learn something new." I have a standing offer from Roberta West to serve as a scorer at the Philadelphia championships in mid-March, something I have done several times in the past. I enjoy making the cross state drive to judge the city finals and seeing the students from my hometown compete, but this year I was unable to do so since the team I was coaching was still competing and I was barred under our State's no scouting rules from seeing the Philadelphia finals. Although my team has now been eliminated, I will be at nationals, joining the more than five hundred volunteers needed to pull off the nearly 100 trials that will take place May 7th and 8th in Philadelphia.

If you have ever participated in any fashion in the High School Mock Trial program, I am confident that you understand my passion for the program. If you have not, I would encourage you to get involved. I am confident that your State program is always looking for volunteers to serve as judges and jurors. Next year, consider coaching—it is a lot of time but what an impact you can have on a student's life. Whether you can give of your time and energy for that event, if you have been touched by the High School Mock Trial program in anyway, I would also strongly encourage you to consider making a tax deductible financial contribution to the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation in support of the 2010 National Mock Trial Competition.

Go to www.2010nationalmocktrial.com if you would like to contribute.

Where to Find it in Philadelphia

This list does not constitute a recommendation for any of the businesses listed below. **Caveat emptor**. Call ahead in order to find out hours of operation, seating capacity, directions, menu choices, reservation or appointment requirements and other pertinent information. Most of these businesses are well within walking distance of the hotel and/or courthouse.

Transportation Information

- SEPTA Transit System—www.septa.org—High speed rail service is available from the Philadelphia International Airport to downtown Philadelphia. Take any train line that stops at the Market East Station to reach the Marriott. From this station, use the skywalk to cross the street to the Marriott. The trip will take approximately 30 minutes and cost less than \$10/ passenger.
- Airport Shuttle Service—Tropiana Transportation provides regularly scheduled shuttle service from the airport to downtown hotels. Upon arrival at the airport, proceed to the Ground Transportation Desk to arrange a shuttle pick-up. The trip will take about 20 minutes (not including the wait time for the shuttle bus at the airport) and will cost approximately \$13/ passenger.
- Taxi Service—Taxis may be hailed at the airport. The estimated taxi fare from the airport to the Marriott is \$30.

Restaurants in the Marriott Downtown Philadelphia—1201 Market Street; (215) 625-2900

- Circ—contemporary, casual cuisine; open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- 13—American inspired cuisine; open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Starbuck's—coffee shop; open for breakfast, lunch and dinner

Food Choices in the Reading Terminal Market—51 North 12th Street; (215) 922-2317

- 12th Street Cantina
- Basif Four Vegetarian Snack Bar
- Beck's Cajun Café
- By George: Pizza, Pasta and Cheesesteaks
- Carmen's Famous Italian Hoagies and Cheesesteaks
- Coastal Cave
- Delilah's at the Terminal
- Dienner's Bar-B-Q
- Down Home Diner
- Dutch Eating Place
- Franks A-Lot
- Golden Bowl
- Hatville Deli
- Kamal's Middle Eastern Specialties
- Little Thai Market
- Mezze
- Nanee's Kitchen
- Olympic Gyro
- Pearl's Oyster Bar
- Profi's Creperie
- Rib Stand
- Salumeria
- Sang Kee Peking Duck
- Shanghai Gourmet
- Spataro's Cheesesteaks
- The Original Turkey
- Tokyo Sushi Bar
- Tootsie's Salad Express Hot and cold Buffet
- Wan's Seafood



Restaurants Near Hotel/Courthouse

- Melting Pot Restaurant: 1219 Filbert Street; (215) 922-7002
- Maggiano’s Little Italy: 1201 Filbert Street; (215) 567-2020
- Hard Rock Café: 1131 Market Street; (215) 238-1000
- Solefood: 1200 Market Street; (215) 231-7300
- Field House: 1150 Filbert Street; (215) 629-1520

Copy Center In Hotel

- FedEx (215) 923-2520

Copy Centers/Office Supply Stores Near Hotel

- Kinkos: 1202 Market Street; (215) 625-2900
- Staples: 1044 Market Street (215) 923-0109

Food Stores/Pharmacies Near Hotel

- 7-Eleven: 1215 Filbert Street; (215) 923-2044
- CVS: 1046 Market Street; (215) 592-1453
- Walgreens: NEC of 9th and Market (901 Market Street); (215) 922-0890
- Rite Aid: 1000 Market Street; (215) 351-5314

Stopwatch Vendors Near Hotel

- Modell’s: 934 Market Street; (215) 629-0900
- City Sports: 1608 Walnut Street; (215) 985-5860

Nearby Medical Facilities

Should an emergency arise, call 911.

- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital: 132 South 10th Street; (215) 955-6840
- Concentra Urgent Care Clinic (Philadelphia Airport): 7000 Holstein Avenue; (215) 365-7510



**Philadelphia Phillies
Home Games on
May 4, 5 and 6**

Tuesday, 5/4 Home against St. Louis
(7:05 PM)

Wednesday, 5/5 Home against St. Louis
(7:05 PM)

Thursday, 5/6 Home against St. Louis
(1:05 PM)

Ticket prices range from \$20-\$60.
Tickets may be pre-ordered online at
www.philadelphia.phillies.mlb.com

**Has your team submitted a
SONG for the “Best State Champion
Team Song” contest yet?**

If not, we’re looking forward to receiving your team’s
composition electronically very soon!!



**The deadline to
email submission is
Monday, 19 April.**

*Details about the contest
are on the Philadelphia
tournament
website.*

2010 Spring Board Election



A scheduled election will be held during the State Coordinators' meeting in Philadelphia. There are **four (4) at-large** Board positions up for election this year. According to the by-laws, interested candidates were to submit their letter of intent to run to the Board Chair (John Wheeler) no later than March 15, 2010. If this deadline is missed, but a person still wishes to be nominated for one of the Board positions, that individual must communicate this intention to the Board Chair by the end of the May Coordinators' meeting. This communication must be accompanied by a nominating petition signed by at least three State Coordinators. Additionally, nominations may be made from the floor during the State Coordinators' meeting in May. (See NHTMTC, Inc. By-Laws Article IV, Section 2).

There are eight candidates who have indicated their intention to run for these four positions, as of the publication date of this newsletter, and they are: **Hon. George Carley** (GA), **Don Christensen** (NV), **Rando Hicks** (AR), **Bill Higgins** (PA), **Pete Jones** (DE), **Emily Reilly** (MN), **Susan Roberts** (IN) and **Hon. Richard Sievers** (NE). Statements from each of the candidates will be sent to all state coordinators via email this month. In addition, each candidate will have an opportunity to address coordinators at the annual State Coordinators Meeting in Philadelphia.

Updated Rules of Evidence and Rules/Case Questions

The Rules of Evidence for the 2010 National High School Mock Trial Championship have been updated to reflect changes/updates made to the Federal Rules of Evidence over the past few years. These updated rules are posted to the website and are available in the case materials, as well.

All case and rules questions must be submitted by a state coordinator (or his/her official designee) in writing via email to the David Trevaskis by **Friday, April 23rd**. A running list of answers to these questions will be posted each week under the Case Updates section of the Philadelphia tournament website (see website for details). The final posting of the Q&A and release of the clean, updated, corrected case materials will be **Monday, April 26th**.



Great River Technologies: Offering an Outstanding Web Resource



The **National Mock Trial Practicum web site** provides an exceptional opportunity for coaches to supplement the mock trial resources available to teams participating in mock trial programs throughout the nation. It is a general information, interactive website whose purpose is to enhance the Mock Trial experience for students, teachers, coaches, and judges, to provide an interactive area that will help students better understand how to give a statement, ask questions, control a difficult witness, and make timely objections. It also allows coaches to run a strong Mock Trial program even if they are new to the activity, don't have access to an attorney coach, or would just like to better understand the process and involvement. The National High School Mock Trial Championship Board of Directors fully supports this site and recommends its use to individual teams and statewide mock trial programs, alike.

Great River Technologies Mock Trial Practicum Website

Access may be purchased for **\$100**, which provides a team with 8 access codes (+ a master coach code). Access codes for additional students may be purchased for \$10 each. Purchasing information may be obtained from:

Stacy Beyer Raap at Great River Technologies:
(563) 589-1270 or Sraap@greatrivertech.net
4050 Westmark Drive; Dubuque, IA 52002

Feedback from users is welcome and appreciated.
Contact Stacy for information on serving on the website's national advisory committee.

A Word From Our Chair

Now is the time for all good mockers to come to the aid of their organization! (With apologies to Patrick Henry!)

The National High School Mock Trial Championship continues to flourish and grow! We expect teams from more than 44 states, territories and foreign entities to participate in the upcoming Philadelphia competition. Additional interest has been received from another half dozen countries and from states that either have not historically participated in the national competition or from who we have not had a team in quite some years. This is great news!

However, we must make plans now to accommodate future growth. First, we must secure partnerships with host organizations to ensure that future championships are on solid ground. We are very fortunate to have had some fantastic partners in our past and pleased to be working with great organizations in Pennsylvania (2010), Arizona (2011) and New Mexico (2012). We must fully examine how the national organization can both recruit and support host organizations beyond 2012. To that end, we seek your input on how best to attract and support potential future hosts.

Second, we must broaden the mission of the National High School Mock Trial Championship beyond the competition itself. Currently we serve as an informal clearinghouse of information on all things mock trial at the high school level. We must strive however to enhance services and offerings in this area. How best can we continue to support existing state organizations and encourage new state and local programs? If the goal is to make the NHSMTC “one stop shopping” for mock trial at the middle school and high school levels, what services need to be developed or enhanced?

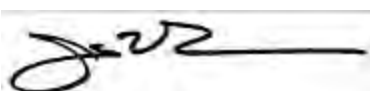
Third, we must examine fully the growth of mock trial beyond the territorial borders of the United States. We have had great success with South Korea and some fledgling success elsewhere. To what extent do we encourage growth and expansion internationally. Moreover, should this internationalization be incorporated into the existing national championship structure or should there be an alternate venue for worldwide competition?

These are all important questions that need to be addressed in a thoughtful way. To that end, our Long Range Planning Committee, ably chaired by Minnesota state coordinator Emily Reilly, has planned a Summer Board retreat to focus on these issues and others related to the immediate and longer range future of this organization. In preparation for this meeting, I would love to hear your thoughts, ideas, reflections, observations about the future of the NHSMTC.

I hope that we can begin this conversation at the State Coordinators Roundtable in Philadelphia. But I also encourage you to start the conversation now with me and with others – on the Board of Directors, in your state, and with others attuned to academic competitions and organizations wherever they may be.

Please feel free to contact me by email (jwheeler@iowabar.org) or by phone (515/697-7992) with your thoughts, ideas and suggestions. I look forward to continuing the conversation in Philadelphia in May!

Happy Trials!



**John Wheeler has served as
Chair of the National Board of
Directors since 2005.
He is the Director of the Iowa
Center for Law and Civic
Education in Des Moines**

Phoenix, Arizona Tournament Update (2011)



The mercury has crept up to the high 70s and low 80s in the Valley of the Sun—which means two things: first, we’re about to enjoy our magnificent Spring weather; and second, we’re in the middle of mock trial season. As the staff and volunteers of the **Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education** are preparing to crown the team that will represent Arizona at this year’s National Championship in Philadelphia, they also are preparing to host the 2011 National

Championship right here in Phoenix. It is so hard to believe that the 2011 National Championship is just over a year away.

Although the economy has impacted our fundraising efforts, we are working hard to stage a quality event that will provide lasting memories for the students and their friends and families. The festivities will kick-off on Thursday, May 5 with the traditional pin exchange **Cinco de Mayo** style. We look forward to hosting the judge’s reception during the evening of Friday, May 6, at the **Heard Museum**. The Heard is a world-class museum that provides visitors with a distinctive perspective about the art and cultures of Native people, especially those from the Southwest. We still are making plans for the Friday night activity for the teams and their guests.

The four preliminary rounds of competition will be held on Friday and Saturday in the **Maricopa County Superior Courthouse** in downtown Phoenix. The Courthouse is within walking distance of the **Hyatt Regency Hotel**, where all of the teams will be staying. The Championship Round will be held in the **Special Proceedings Courtroom** in the **Sandra Day O’Connor United States District Courthouse**, which is a few blocks away from the Superior Court. The event will culminate with the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, followed by a dance for the students.

We hope that those who travel to Phoenix for the 2011 National Championship will take advantage of their time in Phoenix to explore the Desert Southwest. The weather in early May ranges from an average low of the mid 60s to an average high in the low 90s. It should be beautiful for an early morning (before it gets too warm) hike or mountain bike ride on one of the many trails in the several nearby mountain preserves. If you prefer strolling through shopping malls rather than hiking on mountain trails, we have plenty of options in Phoenix, Tempe and Scottsdale. For those who want to explore the Southwest outside of the Valley, the beautiful Red Rocks of Sedona (which you can explore by jeep tour) are only two hours north of Phoenix, and the breath-taking Grand Canyon is only a four hour drive from Phoenix.

The Foundation will be tapping volunteers from all parts of Arizona to host the 2011 National Championship. We also will be counting on volunteers from the mock trial community across the nation. Look for more information on how to volunteer for the 2011 National Championship in Phoenix as we get closer to the 2010 Championship in Philadelphia. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the 2011 National Championship, and join current sponsors such as the **Phoenix School of Law** and the **United States District Court for the District of Arizona**, you may make the contribution payable to the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education with the notation “2011 Mock Trial”, and send it to Lara Slifko, Resource Development Director, Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education, 4201 North 24th Street, Suite 210, Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6288. We greatly appreciate everyone’s support, and look forward to seeing everyone in Phoenix in May 2011!

Mock Trial Case Library

If you have not yet submitted the mock trial case used during your state competition this season, and you would like to do so, please send the case in an electronic format (PDF preferred) to **Pete Jones** at pjones@morrisjames.com before the national tournament in Philadelphia. So far, cases have been received from **AZ, CO, DE, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MO, NE, NV, NM, CNMI, OK, OR, PA, TX, UT** and **WY**. (Thanks to all those who have already submitted their 2010 state case!) Summaries of all 2010 cases submitted will be forwarded to state coordinators via email in a few weeks.



If you adapted your 2010 case from a case created by another state, be sure to acknowledge your own team of adaptors, the original writers of the case and, if applicable, the writers of the version from which you adapted your competition materials. We want to make sure that all credit is given where that credit is due. Help us acknowledge the time and effort these dedicated case writers spend creating outstanding case materials for students nationwide.

News and Notes From Around the Nation and Across the Globe



Alabama—*Sam Adams, State Coordinator*—Alabama will host it's first ever **YMCA Collegiate Judicial Program** this April. The YMCA began it's a Youth Judicial Program for High School students in 1979 with the assistance of then **Alabama Supreme Court Justice Hugh Maddox**. The YMCA has been operating a High School Youth Legislature program since 1949 and a Collegiate Legislature program since 1995. YMCA Youth in Government leaders were approached by two college students in the fall about starting this program to give college students in the state a unique experience to explore the legal profession. Judges and attorneys will serve as presiding and scoring judges for the competition. The opening Ceremony and the Final Trial between the top two teams will be held in the Supreme Court Chamber in the Alabama Judicial Building. For more information please visit the website www.alyig.org/cjudicial or contact Sam Adams (sam@alyig.org or 334-229-0039).

Georgia—*Stacy Rieke, State Coordinator*—This spring the Georgia mock trial program is excited to partner with **State Bar of Georgia's Diversity Program** to promote the Diversity Program's **2010 Pipeline Project**. This project is a summer program that targets high school students and has two primary objectives: to improve students' skills in grammar, writing and speech to assist them in college and law school; and to provide mentoring sessions with members of the judiciary and attorneys who can inspire, educate and motivate students to consider law as a career. Although training future lawyers is not the main focus of the Georgia mock trial program, we feel that this program will assist our team members in building basic skills that will assist them in the future, no matter what career path they choose. This spring we also announced our 12th State Champion in the **Craig Harding Memorial Court Artist Contest, Amanda Bell** from **Union Grove High School** in McDonough. Amanda will accompany the Georgia State Champion team from **Grady High School** in Atlanta to the national tournament this spring. And finally, on March 13th, during our state tournament, the Georgia HSMT Committee, in partnership with the **Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism** awarded the **2010 Professionalism Award** to the mock trial team from **Milton High School** in Alpharetta. We continue to look forward to exploring new and exciting partnerships to promote law-related education and the mock trial experience in our state.

Indiana—*Susan Roberts, State Coordinator*—Our State Competition was held on March 6th and 7th. The crowned State Champions, and representing Indiana at the National Competition for the 10th year in a row, was **John Adams High School** from South Bend, Indiana. This year, the students worked on a murder case. Did the defendant, an outcast at an elite school, seek revenge on the president of an exclusive club at the school after being ridiculed and hazed? Or did the victim die of alcohol overdose? The natural burial of the victim and rapid deterioration has made it difficult for the medical examiners to agree on the cause of death. We're continuing to develop our middle school program, and this year have been working on a how-to DVD for mock trial start-up teams, with the gracious assistance of Georgia.

Minnesota—*Emily Reilly, State Coordinator*—On March 10, 2010 **Breck School** defeated **Buffalo High School** in the State Championship Trial in Minneapolis, MN. The trial was presided over by **Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, Paul Anderson**; joining Justice Anderson on the scoring panel was (among others) **NHSMTC Judges Jim Dehn & Pete Cahill**. This is Breck's first state championship, although not their first time in the championship trial. Last year, they finished second to the eventual 2009 NHSMTC Runner-Up **Lakeville North High School** in the final round. This ends the 24th year of the **MSBA High School Mock Trial Championship**. To start off the 25th Anniversary year of MSBA sponsored Mock Trial the first annual summer mock trial camp will be offered to 30 students in August. Students will have the unique opportunity to work with lawyers and judges throughout this 1.5 day session. Sessions will focus on argument preparation, case theme development, witness examination and witness presentation. Students will apply their new skills in presenting a simplified mock trial.



2010 Minnesota State Champs from the Breck School

News and Notes.... Cont.



Nebraska—*Doris Huffman, State Coordinator*—The **Skutt Catholic High School** team from Omaha, Nebraska, is preparing for the 2010 National Championship. Skutt's Attorney Coach **Patrick Borchers** recently received the Outstanding Legal Educator Award from the **Nebraska State Bar Foundation**. He was recognized for his accomplishments as **Dean of Creighton University School of Law** as well as for his volunteering with the Mock Trial Project. Borchers and his wife Judy have served as the team's attorney coaches since 2003. The team is the recipient of a gift given by the **Nebraska Council of School Attorneys** to defray the cost of traveling to Philadelphia for the national competition.

Nevada—*Kathleen Dickinson, State Coordinator*—**Bishop Gorman High School** placed first in the Nevada State Mock Trial finals and they will be attending the National Mock Trial Competition May 6th to 9th in Philadelphia. **Faith Lutheran High School** came in a very close second. **Galena High School** from Reno came in third. **Foothills High School** teacher, **Karen Vaughn**, chair of the Mock Trial Committee, received the **Cheryl Kosewicz Award**. This Award is in honor of the late Cheryl Kosewicz who was invaluable to the introduction of Mock Trials in Nevada. Attorney **Andrew Craner** received a plaque for his outstanding contribution to Mock Trials in Nevada. Parents thanked the **State Bar of Nevada** for coordinating the Mock Trial program. They said "students come back year after year and point to their Mock Trial experience as the most important thing they did in high school. It builds confidence, poise, quick thinking and provides career direction."



2010 Nevada State Champs from Bishop Gorman HS



2010 Ohio State Champs from Indian Hills HS

Ohio—*Addie Natalie, State Coordinator*—The 27th annual Ohio High School Mock Trial competition began on February 5 with 357 teams from 205 schools competing at 30 different district sites and ended on March 13 at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus when **Indian Hill High School** won the competition for the second year in a row by defeating **Sylvania Southview** after each won eight straight trials playing both Plaintiff and Defense at the district, regional and state competition levels. The **Ohio Channel** broadcast the final trial live on TV and on the web and viewers can still access the Championship Round anytime on the web by going to www.ocltre.org and following the link for the rebroadcast of the High School Mock Trial Championship Round. Additionally, the **Ohio Center for Law-Related Education** is now on **Facebook**, become a fan!

South Carolina—*Cynthia Cothran, State Coordinator*—South Carolina just completed its 29th Mock Trial Season with 45 teams competing in the High School Mock Trial program and 42 teams competing in the Middle School Mock Trial program. South Carolina is on a roll with an original criminal case drafted for 2010 and two more original cases with great twists and turns are being drafted for middle and high school for the 2010-11 mock trial season. South Carolina welcomes ideas on how to increase team participation at both levels and ways to make the competition better overall. Please share your ideas when we meet in Philly. See you soon!

Bookmark the Pennsylvania Tournament Website Now!!

www.2010nationalmocktrial.com

NHSMTC Committee News



The National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc. is an all-volunteer organization. There are no paid staff members who coordinate the activities of the NHSMTC.

The governing body of the NHSMTC, Inc. is the Board of Directors of the NHSMTC. The 2009-2010 Chair of the Board is John Wheeler (IA), the Vice Chair is Stacy Rieke (GA), the Treasurer is Dewain Fox (AZ) and the Secretary is Susan Roberts (IN). This Board is charged with the following responsibilities:

- Establish policy.
- Develop guidelines and requirements for host states.
- Establish and maintain standards for the hosting of the National Championship.
- Build and maintain a working relationship with the mock trial coordinators of each state having a mock trial program.
- Promote mock trials through marketing and promotions.
- Assist host states in holding the National Championships.
- Provide assistance and guidance to state mock trial organizations as appropriate.
- Provide assistance and guidance to Host Directors as appropriate.

The NHSMTC Board relies on a host organization in an individual state to coordinate the logistics of the national tournament each year and a group of standing committees to accomplish other important work for the organization. **Non-board members are welcome to serve on all NHSMTC committees, with the exception of the Case and Nominating Committees.** Anyone interested in serving on a committee should contact **John Wheeler** to volunteer. The Committees of the NHSMTC, Inc. are as follows:

Articles & By-Laws Committee—This committee reviews and develops the by-laws governing the NHSMTC, Inc. It meets as needed and currently Jane Meyer (PA) serves as chair. There is currently no pending business before this committee and the chair does not anticipate bringing any new business before the Board of Directors for review this spring.

Awards Committee—This committee Solicits and considers nominations for the Golden Gavel Award and also makes recommendation to the Board for the recipient of the Golden Gavel Award. Past recipients of the Golden Gavel award are automatic members of this committee. This committee meets as needed and currently Justice George Carley (GA) serves as chair. Currently this committee is considering the 2010 Golden Gavel nominee(s) and will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors regarding the recipient of the award this year before the May meeting.

Case Committee—This committee has the authority to give final approval to a host committee's case materials. The committee reviews drafts of case materials to ensure suitability and compliance with National policies, rules and guidelines. The committee has also been tasked with preparing and having ready in reserve one problem for use at the NHSMTC, in the event the case prepared by the host committee is deemed unusable or in the event no host state is identified in a given year. This committee meets as needed and currently Dewain Fox (AZ) serves as chair. Committee membership is restricted to non-coach Board members. The committee has completed its collaboration with the Pennsylvania case writers, is continuing collaboration with the Arizona case writers and will approve the topic for the 2012 NHSMTC as soon as a host agreement for that tournament has been formalized.

Long Range Planning Committee—This committee focuses on the institutional advancement of the NHSMTC, Inc. and recommends actions and strategies to grow the program. This committee meets as needed and currently Emily Reilly (MN) serves as chair. Since last spring, committee members have done research to determine the feasibility of the NHSMTC Board hosting a national championship on its own. Much work has also been done around the need to develop a long-term vision for this organization and how to accomplish those goals. The Committee will be proposing two significant pieces to the full board in May: 1) that team registration fees are increased for the NHSMTC in 2011 and 2) that an NHSMTC Board retreat to review/set long-term goals happen in June 2010.

Continued on page 12

NHSMTC Committee News, Cont.



Newsletter Committee—This committee gathers news and articles of interest regarding HS mock trial and produces two editions of the newsletter, *Mock Trial Matters*, annually. The newsletter is emailed to the state coordinators in the spring and fall and posted on the NHSMTC website. This committee meets as needed and currently Stacy Rieke (GA) serves as chair. This committee will recommend during the May meeting that the Board consider offering advertising space for sale to some law and HSMT-related organizations beginning with the fall 2010 edition of the newsletter.

Nominating Committee—This committee is responsible for encouraging submission of nominations for Board membership. It is also responsible for the training and education of new Board members. The membership of this committee is restricted to Board members, meets as needed and is comprised of Board officers. Currently Susan Roberts (IN), Board secretary, serves as chair.

Policy Committee—This committee sets policies regarding the conduct of NHSMTC business and the role of Board members and member organizations. This committee meets as needed and currently Michael White (AK) serves as chair. There is currently no pending business before this committee and the chair does not anticipate bringing any new business before the Board of Directors for review this spring.

Publicity Committee—This committee develops brochures and other informational pieces promoting mock trial and encouraging greater involvement. This committee meets as needed and currently Bob Noel (LA) serves as chair. This committee was tasked by the Board in October 2009 to create a general information press packet.

Rules Committee—This committee reviews the current competition rules and the modified Rules of Evidence used in the NHSMTC and makes recommendations for modification. This committee meets as needed and currently Pete Jones (DE) serves as chair. This is one of the most active committees of the NHSMTC. In 2010, the Rules of Evidence have been updated to reflect changes made to the Federal Rules of Evidence over the past several years. There is currently no pending business before this committee and the chair does not anticipate bringing any new business before the Board of Directors for review this spring.

Site Selection Committee—This committee works with prospective host organizations to put together bid packages. The committee reviews host proposals and makes recommendations to the full Board of Directors about those proposals. This committee meets as needed and currently Dee Runaas (IL) serves as chair.

There is one ad hoc committee currently active: the **Ad-Hoc Curriculum Committee**, chaired by John Wheeler (IA).

Ad-Hoc Curriculum Committee—This committee was created in 2007 to work with Great River Technologies and collaborate on the creation of an interactive mock trial preparation website that would assist teams without access to attorney coaches. Additionally this committee reviews and recommends other mock trial preparation materials that may be helpful to teams/programs nationwide. This committee meets as needed and there is currently no pending business before this committee.

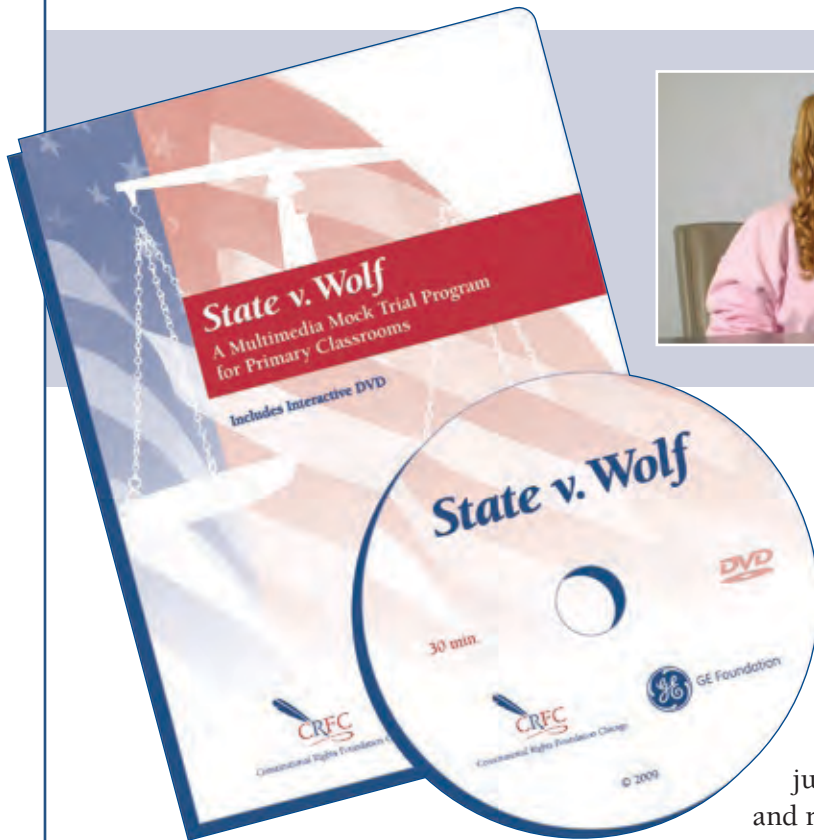
There is one ad-hoc committee that recently completed its assigned task: the **Ad-Hoc Scoring Committee**, chaired by Larry Bakko (WI) from May 2008 until October 2009.

Ad-Hoc Scoring Committee—This committee was created in 2008 to review the scoring and ranking system for the NHSMTC. It was tasked, specifically, with reviewing the scoring procedures as they were implemented in 2008, investigating possible alternatives to those procedures, and developing recommendations related to scoring/power-matching for Board consideration in May 2009. Recommendations were made by the committee to amend Rule 5.6, paragraph 3, adjusting the procedure for team power matches after Round 1. The recommendations were adopted by the Board during the meeting in Atlanta and were successfully implemented during the 2009 tournament.

The **Special Committee on Accommodation Issues**, chaired by Judge Richard Sievers (NE), was constituted in May 2009 and completed its work in October 2009. The Board's current policy on religious accommodations was recommended by this committee. A copy of this policy may be found on the NHSMTC website.

State v. Wolf

An Interactive Multimedia Mock Trial Program



Grades 2-4

Based on the children's story of *The Three Little Pigs*, this multimedia mock trial program allows students to participate in a vital process of democratic government – *the jury system*. A thirty-minute DVD presents the trial of *State v. Wolf* to students and asks them to serve as jurors, weighing all of the evidence they've seen and rendering a verdict. The teacher's guide provides instructions and student handouts for activities to be completed before, during, and after viewing of the DVD. A follow up activity on a *bench trial* - meant to be completed with the help of an **attorney volunteer** – is also provided. Throughout the entire program, students are given opportunities to practice important critical reading, listening, thinking, and deliberating skills.

For more information on the program, or to obtain a copy of the *State v. Wolf* Multimedia Mock Trial program, contact Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago at 312-663-9057 or 800-801-9933 or visit our website at www.crfc.org.



Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago



GE Foundation

State v. Wolf is a product of the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago (CRFC) with major funding provided by the GE Foundation. Additional support for *State v. Wolf* was provided by Commonwealth Edison Company, Foley & Lardner LLP, and Sidley Austin LLP. Activities in this program make the perfect lesson to complete on **September 17 – Constitution Day**.

State v. Wolf

An Interactive Multimedia Mock Trial Program



Grades 2-4

Based on the children's story of *The Three Little Pigs*, this multimedia mock trial program allows students to participate in a vital process of democratic government – *the jury system*.

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(includes shipping & handling)

\$15.00 per set,
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407 S. Dearborn, Suite 1700
Chicago, IL 60605-1119
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Website: www.crfc.org

A joint effort of:



Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago



GE Foundation

For more information contact Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago
at 312-663-9057 or 800-801-9933 or visit our website at www.crfc.org.

National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc.

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We're on the Web!

www.nationalmocktrial.org

Mock Trial Matters Newsletter

To submit items contact
Stacy Rieke

(404) 527-8779; mocktrial@gabar.org

2010 Board of Directors

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Dewain D. Fox (Co-Host Director—Arizona)
Aric Fujii (Hawaii)
Pete Jones (Co-Host Director—Delaware)
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John Wheeler (Iowa)
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Scoring Comm.*; Michelle Giger (NM),
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Comm.*; Billy Stover (KY), *Ad Hoc Scoring
Comm.*; Kathy Vick-Martini (WI)
Awards Comm.; Ann Marie Waldron (IN),
Ad Hoc Scoring Comm.

For a complete list of Committee assignments, visit
our website. To volunteer for Committee service,
contact John Wheeler.



The National High School Mock Trial Championship is committed to the study, understanding and appreciation of the American justice system. The mock trial format presents a hypothetical legal case to teams of students who play the roles of witnesses and attorneys. Students participating in mock trials gain an understanding of our society's approach to dispute resolution and justice in general with a hands-on experiential approach. Critical thinking, formulation of ideas and opinions, oral presentation, effective advocacy and even value definition are all required skills to successfully argue a case.

**Judging Panel Volunteers Needed
for the 2010 National Tournament
in Philadelphia!**

The volunteer form is available online at
www.2010nationalmocktrial.com

For more information on judging panel service, contact
Maria Engles at maria.engles@pabar.org or
(800) 932-0311, ext. 2223
Fax: (717) 238-7128

Required Tournament Meetings

Don't forget to attend the required meetings at this year's tournament!

Thursday, May 6—**State Coordinators' Meeting**
(1-3 PM, Franklin Hall 13—4th floor)
Thursday, May 6—**Timekeeper Orientation**
(3-4 PM, Franklin Hall 1 & 2—4th floor)

The optional State Coordinators' "Round Table" meeting will be held
Thursday 5/6 at 3-4 PM in Franklin Hall 13.
We strongly suggest that all teams send at least 1 coach to the
Tournament Orientation meeting (Thurs. 5/6 at 3-4 PM, Franklin Hall
3—4th Floor). State Coordinators may attend this meeting, as well.
This meeting will cover a number of important tournament details.