

Tension mounts as race narrows for 'Mock Trial' honors

Darwin High School, Casuarina Secondary College and St Philips College have come up trumps after Round 1 of the 1994 Inter-School Mock Trial Competition earlier this month.

Louise Whalan was charged with a contravention of the Criminal Code — threatening to injure or cause detriment to John Tyler by trying to prevent him from driving his vehicle.

All four Darwin cases were awarded to the defendant, while in Alice Springs Louise Whalan was found guilty in a tight trial involving a mere one-point winning margin.

Darwin High 1, Darwin 2, Darwin 3 and Casuarina have all progressed to Round 2 by defeating St Johns College 2, St Johns 1, Dripstone High School and Taminmin High School respectively.

St Philips 1 defeated Centralian College 2 in the closely fought Alice Springs round, with St Philips 2 winning automatically after the forfeit of Centralian 1.

Team coaches — all volunteer practitioners and articled clerks — attended Darwin Magistrates Court and the Alice Springs Courthouse to offer moral support to the students before the 6pm start.

The Round 1 Mock Trial magistrates — also volunteer practitioners — included Darwin's Chief Magistrate Ian Gray, Trevor Riley QC, Jon Tippett, Duncan Maclean and Murray Preston. Darwin is run as a knockout competition, while the Alice

Springs competition is in round robin format, so each of the four Alice Springs teams will contest each round. The winning point margins will determine the winner.

Round 2, concerning a traffic accident, is a civil matter being pursued under the Small Claims Act. It is due to be held in the local courthouses late this month.

Qantas Australian Airlines, Angus & Robertson — The Bookshop and the Commonwealth Bank are the sponsors of this year's competition.

The Society is pleased to acknowledge the continued support of team coaches for this year's competition.

(The list of all coaches appeared in Balance in March).

Those coaches progressing with their teams to the second round include:

Stephen Walsh, Elston & Gilchrist (Darwin High 1);

Ben O'Loughlin, of Police Prosecutions and Therese Austin, Department of Law (Darwin 2);

Janet Trier and Margaret Michaels, Philip & Mitaros (Darwin 3);

Erin Padarin, Philip & Mitaros and Peter Maley, of Police Prosecutions (Casuarina);

Michael Prowse, Dittons (Centralian College 1);

John Royle, Turner & Deane (Centralian 2);

Peter Murphy, Director of Public Prosecutions (St Philips College 1);

Chris Roberts, Director of Public Prosecutions (St Philips 2).

Link expands its services

Lawyer's Information Network Link has a new manager.

Link operates as a comprehensive online information service to the legal profession in Victoria.

The service is now managed by CITEC (Centre for Information Technology and Communications), a business unit of the Administrative Services Department, Queensland Government, which has provided services to Link clients since 1991.

Other services provided by CITEC include a 24-hour computing environment, telecommunications networks (voice and data), consulting services, applications development, support, the maintenance and management of a range of facilities from PC networks to mainframe systems.

Link was established by The Law Institute of Victoria in 1988 to provide lawyers with access to government databases, legal data and electronic mail services.

Under its new management Link will continue to provide access to its range of electronic services such as Landata, Titles Office, ASC, States' business names, the Australian Legal Literature Index and electronic mail. For details call Ian Spencer or Fiona Porteous toll free on 008 334608.

New brochure on Remote Allowance

The Department of Social Security has produced a new leaflet regarding the Remote Area Allowance (RAA).

It includes important information on eligibility, payment, temporary absences, payment for children and taxation.

All previous leaflets on RAA are now outdated and should be destroyed.

For any copies contact the Department of Social Security or Dot Daby at the Outreach and Information Unit on 43 0252.