

BALANCE

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Turning up the heat in the Mock Trials Contest

The Inter-School Mock Trial Competition is on again, with more than 20 practitioners volunteering their time as coaches or judges for the nine Territory schools involved.

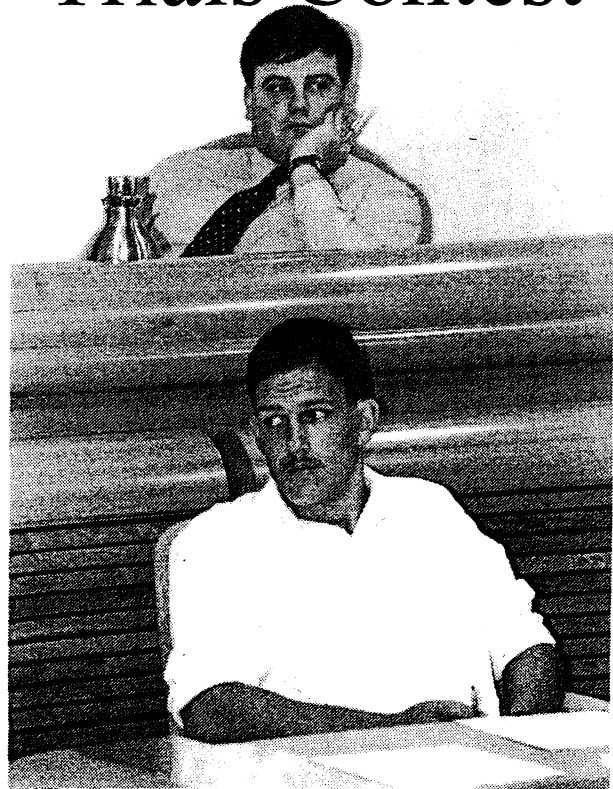
After the preliminary non-scoring round, the 11 teams contested Round 1. Rotund Italian chef Paul Scaloppini was accused of assaulting his proud French colleague Pierre Eclair by holding his hand over a gas jet in the steamy kitchens of the Pink Flamingo Hotel in the fictitious criminal case.

Darwin Magistrates Courts and the Alice Springs Court-house were the venues for the round. When the court-rooms were cleared, Kormilda College (prosecution), Nightcliff High School (prosecution) and St John's College Team 1 and 2 (both defence) progressed to Round 2 in the northern division's knockout contest. They defeated Darwin High School, Driver High School, Marrara Christian School and Sanderson High School respectively.

In Alice Springs, St Philips College (prosecution) won a closely fought trial against Centralian College 2. Centralian College 1 had a bye. The Mock Trials Competition is run as a round robin in Alice Springs, with the winner to be decided by winning point margins.

The full list of team coaches is: Michael Prowse of Dittons (Centralian 1); John Royle of Turner and Deane (Centralian 2); Dennis Norman of Dennis Norman and Associates (Darwin High); Sue Porter of De Silva Hebron (coached Dripstone High School until their withdrawal after the Preliminary Round. Sue is now coaching St John's Team 2); Carmen Hodges and Angela Smith of Ward Keller (Driver High); Cris Cureton and Andrew Farr of Philip & Mitaros (Marrara School); Nardin Davidson (Nightcliff High) and George Georgiou of the NT Legal Aid Commission (St Philip's Team 2, which forfeited after the Preliminary Round); Erin Padarin of Philip & Mitaros and Peter Maley of the Department of Law (Sanderson High); Duncan McConnel of Morgan Buckley (St John's Team 1) and Chris Roberts of the Director of Public Prosecutions (St Philips).

Mock Trial Magistrates to date include: Duncan



Mock Trial Magistrate Duncan Maclean (Cridlands) and Magistrate's Clerk Stephen Gallagher (Nightcliff High School) look distracted by proceedings when Darwin High School faced Nightcliff in the Preliminary Round.

Maclean and Karen Christopher (Cridlands); Samantha Miles (Philip & Mitaros); Brian Cassells (William Forster Chambers); Stephen Walsh (Elston & Gilchrist); Tony Crane; Bill Priestley (Walters James McCormack); Murray Preston (Turner and Deane); and Peter Murphy (Director of Public Prosecutions in Alice Springs).

Round 2 of the three-round contest will be held on Wednesday, April 26. Sponsors include The Law Society Public Purposes Trust, Qantas Australian Airlines and Angus & Robertson — The Bookshop.