

Illinois Trial Team

January 2013

The Premier Undergraduate Mock Trial Team at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

TRIAL TEAM ILLINOIS

January Updates

This month, the Trial Team did their best to keep warm in the polar vortex conditions in Illinois! Many teams met over break in preparation for our tournaments in Las Vegas, NV where Blue took 5th place, and Nashville, TN where Orange and Silver had a great showing. Some of our members also job shadowed with trial team alumni in Chicago, and attended a happy hour networking event in Chicago. This month the teams are working hard to prepare for next month's regionals!

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Note from the Vice-President External

The Illinois Trial Team has been busy networking with Trial Team Alumni. Over winter break, many members of our team were given the opportunity to shadow alumni in the Chicagoland area. This informative day of shadowing was followed by a networking event downtown, in which members were given a chance to create lasting contacts and resources. The Trial Team would like to thank all of our alumni, especially **Whitney Hutchinson, Reena Bajowala, Jim Davis, John Amberg, and Ari Fisz** for allowing members to shadow them. We hope to stay in touch with our alumni and plan on having many events like this in the future!

-- Amyna Visram

Mocker of the Month

Congratulations to **Sam Holt** for being named January's Mocker of the Month!

Sam is truly one of the finest witnesses that I have seen perform in a courtroom. Having her in both the invitational and regular season, I have seen that along with her natural wit, Sam's deep understanding of the rules of evidence (knowledge that dwarfs many of our team's attorneys) creates unique witness portrayals that have helped propel our team to the next level. Portraying three witnesses is a challenge that not many people can undertake, but Sam does it with ease and is someone that I can absolutely rely on to give a stellar performance. While her personality shines on direct, Sam's real charm, for me, is on cross-examination. Whereas many witnesses lose their character or break the proverbial fourth wall, Sam is able to easily counter attorney's cross questions with clever tactics ranging from unique phrasings to her tone of voice. I am very excited to see Sam progress on the team further.



-Alex Berk

Upcoming Dates

February 8-9th - Regionals!! (Silver)

February 22nd-23rd - Regionals!! (Blue and Orange)

Special Mentions from January Tournaments

Outstanding Witnesses

Brandon Black (Blue - Rebel Trojan)

Karim Popatia (Orange - Commodore Classic)

Outstanding Attorney

Ian Vitalis (Blue - Rebel Trojan)