

**20 YEARS OF
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
MOCK TRIAL**

Founding the Program

- In 1985, Drake Law School sponsored the first intercollegiate mock trial competition.
- In 1987, Political Science Professor Tom Eimermann and ISU alumnus Judge James Knecht organized and trained ISU's first mock trial team.



Judge James Knecht Attorney Coach	Dr. Tom Eimermann Educator Coach
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Growth of Mock Trial Competition

- When ISU participated in its first national tournament in 1988, there were only 47 other colleges and universities that participated in intercollegiate mock trial competition.
- Today there are more than 280 schools participating in American Mock Trial Association sanctioned competitions.

1987-88

First ISU team to compete in intercollegiate mock trial competition.

Case: *State of Midlands v. McCool*

A murder case stemming from a bar fight.

Defendant was a part-time security guard who claims to have shot the victim in self-defense.

Team members: Brenda Beadle, John Emerson Jr., Michael Hall, Robin Hicks, Bridget Hughes, Gary Scott Pyles, and Charles Sisler.

1988-89

Case: *Baxter v. Cress*

A will contest raising issues of the competence and undue influence.

Team members: Melanie Baker, Jill Broderick, Joe Borsberry, Kim Chamberlain, Staci Evans, Beth Fawver, Michael Hall, Ed Kristof, Gina Maus, Julie McCann, Alex Moskovic, Herb Reichelt, Homer Thomas, Tia Thomas, Deborah Traylor, Jennifer Wilson, and Mike Wray.

1989-90

Case: *State of New Columbia v. Badger*

Defendant is charged with murder and keeping a dangerous animal after a 13 year old boy is killed by his dog.

Team members: Judith Abbott, Rob Bennett, Joe Borsberry, Kim Chamberlain, Melanie David, Martha Dethrow, Staci Evans, Ann Field, Staphanie Masters, Gina Maus, Julie McCann, Eric Miskell, Gina Maus, Laura Raspiller, Michele Therrien, Deborah Traylor, Susanne Warp, Mike Warren, Daniel Wilkins, Jennifer Wilson, and Mike Wray.

1990-91

David Butler takes over as Attorney Coach.

Case: *Shores v. Clarion College*

Case involved an invasion of privacy suit against a college newspaper for publication of articles claiming that a college gymnast had AIDS.

Team members: Lynn Boehle, Kathy Caisse, Chris Casidy, Melanie David, Charles Erickson, Rachel Hess, Sheila Joyce, Lydia Lombardo, Julie McCann, Lisa Rosiak, Julie Waddell, Mike Warren, Tracy Wegman, Daniel Wilkins, and Mike Wray.

1991-92

- *Tom Brown takes over as Attorney Coach*
- *American Mock Trial Association begins using regional qualifying tournaments*



1991-92

Case: *State of Midlands v. Ryan*

Case involved charges of criminal abuse and neglect of a dependant adult by their caregiver.

Team members: Lisa Ashton, Todd Bresney, Kathy Caisse, Sean Coleman, Ken Gordon, Kari Harris, Zachary Hoffman, Sheila Joyce, John Kauffman, Tim Kreissler, Loquetta Leonard, Tyra Lewis, Lydia Lombardo, Laura Nelson, Susanne Warp, and Mike Wray.

1992-93

Case:

Roberts v. Hawkeye County

A sexual harassment suit in which a female assistant prosecutor claims the county failed to take appropriate actions to prevent a male assistant prosecutor from creating a hostile work environment, and that she was fired for having filed charges with the EEOC.

1992-93

ISU takes first place at regional tournament and goes on to compete in national tournament in Des Moines.



Front Row (*left to rt.*): John Kauffman, Tyra Lewis, Sheila Joyce, and. Matt Hoppock. Back Row (*left to rt.*): Coach Eimermann, Matt Voss, Sean Byrne, Kyle Sennott, and Coach Brown.

1993-94

ISU team qualified for the national championship tournament, but snowstorm prevented the team from traveling to Des Moines, IA.

Case: *State of Midlands v. Pat Bobson*

The leader of a religious “fringe group” is charged with Criminal Mischief in the First Degree on the basis of statements he made which allegedly motivated members of his group to commit acts of arson against people deemed to be “foreigners.”

Team members: Sean Byrne, Twanna Hines, Eric Holdridge, Matt Hoppock, Tyra Lewis, Danielle Pascucci, Keenan Saulter, and Karina Siharat.

1994-95

ISU team qualified for the Silver Flight National Tournament in St. Paul, MN.

Case: *Thompkins v. Erie Railroad Company*

A person injured in railroad crossing accident sues railroad claiming that RR crossing signals were not working and the train was not blowing its whistle as it approached the crossing and that it was traveling in excess of its proper speed.

Team members: Anthony Adekoya, Austin, Joshua Bell, Nicole Besse, Bousson, David Fish, Twana Hines, Lie, Tyra Lewis, Keenan Saulter, Karina Siharat, and Swanson.

1995-96

ISU team finished second at the regional and went on to compete in the National Championship tournament in Des Moines, IA.

Case: *State of Midlands v. Corky Robson*

A policeman is charged with murder, manslaughter and negligent homicide following an incident in which someone he struck with his nightstick died from a brain injury.

Team members: Anthony Adekoya, Joshua Bell, Nicole Besse, Amanda Byassee, David Fish, Amy Hoch, Autumn Leigh, and Keenan Saulter.

1996-97

Case: *Daniel v. Chuggie's Sports Bar*

College soccer player sues sports bar after being injured playing game called "Human Darts."



Team members: *Front row (left to right):* Tiffany Brand, Amy Hoch, Rachael Milliman, and Autumn Leigh, *Back row (left to right):* Coach Eimermann, Coach Brown, Keenan Saulter, and Roger Gustafson. *Not pictured:* Anthony Adekoya, Louis Raymond, and Karen Reiner.

1997-98

Case: *State of Midlands v.. Lee Darnell*

A high profile news anchor claims self-defense when tried for killing her teenage son.

Team members: Robin Bourgeois, Tiffany Brand, Steve Bransted, Mary Collins, Roger Gustafson, Amy Hoch, Autumn Leigh, Nicole Maggio, Jamie Mosser, Louis Raymond, Matthew Schueman, and Jason Yonan

1998-99

Case: *The Estate of Staci Griswald v. United Gauges of America*

When a professional architect is killed in a plane crash, the family sues the manufacturer of an allegedly faulty fuel gauge which allegedly caused the plane to crash.

Team members: Courtney Bersano, Steve Bransted, Roger Gustafson, Douglas Kotlarczyk, Autumn Leigh, Mark Lynch, Jamie Mosser, Louis Raymond, Christine Santoro, Matthew Schueman, Linda Watson, and Jason Yonan

1999-2000

Mick Hall, a member of ISU's 87-88 and 88-89 teams, takes over as new Attorney Coach.



Mick as Team Member



Mick as Coach

1999-2000

Case: State of Midlands v. Ruel Ellis

Several months after finding the body, defendant is charged with murder. Defendant admits being with victim that night but reports that victim was alive and well when he last saw him.



Front row (left to right)- Doug Kotlarczyk, Ian Garrett, Tamara Paul, and Kelly Price.

Middle row (left to right) - Erin Berry, Luis Magana, Lisa Plaza, Pamela Gamble, Bradley Beatty, and Christine Santoro.

Back row (left to right) Rianne Norris, Jesse Raczynski, Shawn Modersohn, Mike Pekara, and Justin Vaughn

2000-01

Case: *Gilbertson v. Everest Experience*

Surviving spouse is suing a mountain climbing guide service after husband/wife was died of acute mountain sickness trying to reach the top of Mt. Everest.

2000-01

TEAM 980



Left to right)- Erin Berry, Erin Krone, Luis Magana, Mike Chalcraft, Shawn Modersohn, and Derek Hilst

2000-01

TEAM 981



Front row (left to right)- Bethany Jackson, Jennifer Kindred, Carrie Thomas, and Adam Martin. Back row (left to right) - Jeremy Kelley, Scott Kording, Bob Neiner, and Aaron Fannon.

2001-02

- *Both ISU teams qualified to go on to compete in the American Intercollegiate Mock Trial Tournament, in St. Petersburg, Florida.*
- *Team 980 finished 2nd and 981 finished 7th.*

Case: *State of Midlands v. Ashley Thornhill*

Based on circumstantial evidence, an advertising executive is accused of murdering a co-worker in the agency offices after normal working hours.

2001-02

TEAM 980



Left to right: Adam Martin, Simon Patry, Derek Hilst, Jeremy Kelley, Carrie Thomas, Scott Kording, and la'Rufus Mitchell.

2001-02

TEAM 981



Left to right: John Butler, Carol Shegog, Shalonda Jones, Steve Whitmore, Heidi Emmett, Jen Calanca, Erin Krone, and Ryan Allen

2002-03

- *The first Illinois State University Invitational Mock Trial Tournament takes place at the McLean County Law & Justice Center.*
- *Team 980 wins the 2003 National Tournament of the American Mock Trial Association in St. Paul, Minnesota. After taking first place in the Paul Anderson division, ISU went on to defeat a team from Gonzaga University (Spokane, Washington) in the Championship Round.*

Case: *Lee and Andi Smith v. J.J. Thompson*

Parent of seven year old boy are suing the alleged driver of the auto that struck and killed their son. Defendant denies having driven the car that hit their son.

2002-03



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Home

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AMTA Rules-Policies

Bid Reservation Forms

Mock Trial Winners

Old Cases

Board Of Directors

Regional Tournaments

Regional Results

Invitational Tournaments

Invitational Results

Breaking News:

**Congratulations to the 2003 National
Tournament Winner:
Illinois State University, Normal, IL**

Runner-Up: Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA

**Other teams qualifying to Des Moines out of St. Paul:
Yale University and St. Louis University.**

2002-03

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



Front Row (left to right)- Adam Ghrist, Ryan Allen, Lavita Scott, Mike Chalcraft, Heidi Emmett, and Jen Calanca. Back Row (left to right)- Coach Eimmermann, Coach Hall, Barry Tolchin, and Chrissy Henk

2002-03

ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS



(Left to rt.): Coach Eimmermann, Kevin Streit, Shara Netterstrom, Chauntelle Biagi, Brandi Figari, Matthew Patchak, Lavita Scott, Chrissy Henk, Ashleigh McKeigue, and Coach Hall. Not pictured: Angie Baird.

2003-04

- *Second Annual Illinois State University Invitational Mock Trial Tournament takes place at the McLean County Law & Justice Center.*
- *Team 980 finished 2nd in regionals and went on to compete in the National Championship Tournament in Des Moines, Iowa. Team 981 qualified to go on to national tournament in Tampa, Florida.*

Case: State of Midlands v. Michael Harmon

Professional ice hockey player is charged with murder for striking an opposing player with his hockey stick and causing that player to hit his head on the ice. The victim had been having an affair with the defendant's wife and had just received a lucrative contract which the defendant had hoped to get for himself.

This national case was written by ISU Attorney Coach Mick Hall and ISU MT Alumnus Doug Kotlarczyk.

2003-04

Team 980



Front Row (left to right)- Shara Netterstrom, Chrissy Henk, and Abisola Adekoya. *Back Row (left to right)-* Adam Ghrist, Josh Rinker, Ryan Meister, and Barry Tolchin. *Not pictured:* Maggi Lograsso.

2003-04

TEAM 981



Front Row (left to right)-Brandi Figari, Becca Secord, and Jordan Erickson. Back Row (left to right)- Will Smith, Kevin O'Laughlin, Chauntelle Biagi, Eric Teske, and Kevin Streit.

2004-05

- *For third straight year, ISU sends a team to the National Championship Tournament in Des Moines, IA*
- *Third Annual Illinois State University Invitational Mock Trial Tournament takes place at the McLean County Law & Justice Center.*

Case: Kissner v. Polk Hospital

Victim of a physical assault sues private mental hospital for allegedly having released a patient who was still a danger to the community.

2004-05

Team 980



Front Row (left to right)- Jennifer Cox, Abosola Adekoya, Morghan Gleason, and Jordon Erickson. Back row (left to right)- Josh Rinker, Kevin O'Laughlin, and Katy Fehl.

2004-05

TEAM 981



Front Row (left to right)- Jason Grieves, Christina Morrison, Ben Brockschmidt, and Marie Guillo. Back row (left to right)- Jon Mikrut, Becky Lovitt, and Becca Secord.

2005-06

Fourth Annual Illinois State University Invitational Mock Trial Tournament takes place at the McLean County Law & Justice Center.

Case: *Kissner v. Polk Hospital*

Victim of a physical assault sues private mental hospital for allegedly having released a patient who was still a danger to the community.

2005-06



Front Row (left to right):
Abisola Adekoya,
Jeannie La Barbara,
Tess Green, and Marie
Guillo.

Back Row (left to right): Jon
Midrut, Josh Rinker, Jake
Beier, Jenny Cox, and
Kristi Radusewicz.

Not pictured

Benjamin Brockschmidt,
Dusty Everndan, Dana
Fogarty, Jason Grieves,
Rebecca Lovitt, Christina
Morrison, and Melissa
Parker.

2006-07

Fifth Annual Illinois State University Invitational Mock Trial Tournament takes place at the McLean County Law & Justice Center.

Case: *Jeffries v. Polk County Police Dept.*

Parents of teen age gang banger sued a municipality after a police officer shot their son. At issue was whether the department violated the teenager's constitutional rights by creating an environment that condoned the use of excessive force.

2006-07

Team 980



(left to rt.): Jeannie LaBarbara, Abisola Adekoya, Tess Green, Jon Mikrut, Marie Guillo, Jenny Cox, Katie Bettendorf, and Matt Schmidt.

2006-07

TEAM 981



(from left to right) Tom Ponce, Kristi Radusewicz, Stefanie Pipis, Brandon Kelsey, Nate Kappes, Lauren Peterson, Melissa Parker, and Kristin Aumann.

2007-08

Sixth Annual Illinois State University Invitational Mock Trial Tournament takes place at the McLean County Law & Justice Center.

Case: *State of Midlands v. Bobbi Campbell*

This case involves an incident in which a child protective services worker was stabbed with a needle infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The defendant has entered into an open guilty plea on the single charge of Assault in the Second Degree and the competition involves the penalty phase of the case.

2007-08

TEAM MEMBERS:

Melissa Parker

Tom Ponce

Kristi Radusewicz

Torey Gaines

Mysa Wagdy

Megan Helleson

Alex Turner

Jennifer Zang

Kristin Aumann

Stefanie Pipis

Nate Kappes

Laura Smith

Brandon Kelsey

Andrew Parkinson

Michael White

Mock Trial Memories



Traveling in University Vans

Mock Trial Memories



First Class Sleeping Accommodations

Mock Trial Memories



Spring Party at Dr. E's House

Mock Trial Memories



Fun with Friends

Mock Trial Memories



Fun with Friends

Mock Trial Memories



Fun with Friends

Mock Trial Memories



Directing Witnesses

Mock Trial Memories



Pride of Accomplishment

Mock Trial Memories



Pride of Accomplishment

Mock Trial Memories



Pride of Accomplishment

MOCK TRIAL MEMORIES

Pride of
Accomplishment

