

# Mock Trial team competes in Portland

The Sisters High School mock trial competed in the state mock trial competition, held at Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse in Portland March 13-14. The team was comprised of eleven upper-classmen. Emily Christen, Shea Krevi, Caylyn Sheldon, Jackson Morgan, Jake Sahlberg, Hannah Stuwe, Emily Hartford, Sianna Flowers, Kyle Martin, Patrick Krevi and Sam Patton.

The team performed well, with stirring openings, brutal cross-examinations, and even a tear or two. They did not place high enough to continue on, but no one was disappointed. Teams at a state level are extraordinarily devoted to mock trial, some practicing year-round with personal attorneys. SHS isn't equipped for that much work, with only one trimester of mock trial class and two very devoted coaches. Nevertheless, the Outlaws team has gone to state more years than it hasn't.

Competing in a federal courthouse and exploring an exciting city like Portland was a great wrap-up for a

great trimester, according to students. Students were able to experience the wonders of Portland, such as riding in a streetcar and exploring Powell's City of Books. The competition also gave students one last opportunity to connect with coaches and each other. Senior captains Shea Krevi and Emily Christen, both returning students, were very proud of the way the team grew and pulled together for the last hurrah.

With the last objection made and stuffy courtrooms in the past for another year, students reflected on what they learned in mock trial. One Classroom Law Project (CLP) coordinator expressed the goal of CLP to the students on the first day of competition: It is not to turn kids into lawyers, but to equip them with the skills to be confident, quick thinkers.

The students at SHS did indeed come away with these traits. As junior Emily Hartford put it, "I've been able to tap into [the] skills [I learned in mock trial] every day, like thinking on my feet, being

sure of myself, sticking to my beliefs, and doing my best to prove a worthwhile point ... the true lesson I began learning through these competitions is to be confident even when I'm shaking and nervous as hell."

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— Emily Hartford

Mock trial gives students a unique opportunity to develop important strengths. None of their success would be possible without the support of teacher Paul Patton and attorney coaches Darryl Doke and Jerry Hanford. Jerry and Darryl, affectionately dubbed "Jerryl" by students, are community members who spend the entire trimester teaching the kids. Every student is grateful for their dedication and knows that they truly believe in each student's success.

It's good to be king...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Mr. SHS 2015 Seth Roy escorted by Riley Warburton.

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If you have any questions, please call Jan Terhaar at 541-595-1283 or email [jterhaar@blackbutteranch.com](mailto:jterhaar@blackbutteranch.com).

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