

HIGHLIGHTS AT ORATORY

Mock Trial: Back On Top As Union County Champs

"It all started on a fall day in October," said Nick Luther '10, "when a bunch of guys from various grades gathered in room 204 to hear about the Mock Trial Team." At that meeting there were veterans of the program as well as some new faces. With Head Coach Bill Martin back at the helm and attorney adviser and alumni parent Robert Scirocco helping them, they all had high hopes for the team.

This year's civil case of illegal downloading of music combined with identity theft was extremely difficult to litigate. Due to the lack of evidence and the vagueness of the case facts, the 20-man team was able to win five of its six trials. After winning its first round of trials on Monday, February 2nd, to clinch a spot in the county

quarterfinals, the team was scheduled to face cross-town rival Oak Knoll the next day. On that snowy day when the rest of the school went home due to a half day, the Mock Trial team stayed the extra five hours and traveled to the courthouse for the trial. All that waiting and anxiety was for nothing because Oak Knoll never showed up due to the snow.

The next day the team returned to the county courthouse in Elizabeth to face Cranford. When they got to the courthouse, it was decided that their defense side would go against Cranford's plaintiff. As the trial proceeded, the teams were equally matched. Bill Martin felt the lawyers and witnesses were great and in the end, Oratory's hard work of

Sunday afternoon practices and late weeknight sessions paid off. Mr. Martin said, "The judges could see the results of the hundreds of hours spent preparing by the team in the witness performances of Chester Baker '09, Wyatt Craig '11 and Sean Doddy '10 and attorney performances of Taylor Rosenbauer '10 and Chris Kraft '11."

After a one-year hiatus, Oratory reached the top of the pack again and was named Union County Champions. This meant a spot in the Central Region Championship; and although they lost in the second round, they hold their heads high with the title of county champs.



Mock Trial Team – Union County Champs