NATIONAL MOOT COURT TRY-OUTS

THE NATIONAL MOOT COURT TEAM IS A TWO OR THREE-PERSON TEAM THAT COMPETES IN ONE OF THE LARGEST APPELLATE ADVOCACY COMPETITIONS IN THE NATION. THE PROBLEM WILL ARRIVE IN MID-SEPTEMBER. STUDENTS ON THE TEAM MUST WRITE THE BRIEF, WHICH IS DUE IN MID-OCTOBER, WITHOUT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE. THE TEAM WILL THEN PRACTICE INTENSIVELY IN PREPARATION FOR THE REGIONAL COMPETITION, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN MID-NOVEMBER, PROBABLY IN BIRMINGHAM. THE TOP TWO TEAMS IN THE REGION ADVANCE TO THE NATIONAL FINALS, WHICH ARE HELD IN NEW YORK CITY IN EARLY FEBRUARY.

Participation on the national team requires a substantial time commitment and dedication to the highest standards of written and oral advocacy.

Team members receive two hours of course credit.

Students interested in trying out for the team must

Submit the following to Coach Kritchevsky by noon on Wednesday September 3: 1) a writing sample (preferably something that shows advocacy skills – the Legal Methods Motion for Summary Judgment is good), 2) a one or two page statement explaining your qualifications and reasons for wishing to be a member of a team, and 3) a resume. Please submit both a hard copy and electronic copy of the try-out materials.

Contact Coach Kritchevsky (bkrtchvs@memphis.edu) to set up a time for a try out. (Contact her as soon as possible, but no later than noon September 3).

TRY-OUTS WILL BE WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3-5.

TRY-OUTS: The try-outs consist of an argument and an interview. Applicants may argue any issue they wish (most give the argument they gave in the last in-school competition). Applicants should be prepared for questions. The judging panel will stop the argument after approximately ten minutes. The interview will follow the argument.

Numerous factors go into selecting a team. The writing sample is very important because the brief is a crucial part of the competition. The interview, argument, and statement of interest are also important. Other relevant factors include prior work and writing experience, experience as a member of a team, and success in law school and previous competitions. We are seeking a well-balanced team and are likely to select individuals with different strengths and backgrounds.

Membership on the team is a substantial time commitment, but many people have successfully competed on national teams and been members of law review and the moot court board. Please contact Coach Kritchevsky with any questions.