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### UM moot court team in national quarter finals

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# University of Montana

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## MEDIA RELEASE

law/ceh/mmm  
1/18/82  
state + h.t.

### UM MOOT COURT TEAM IN NATIONAL QUARTER FINALS

MISSOULA--

The three-member moot court team from the University of Montana School of Law won preliminary rounds last week and were ranked among the top eight teams of the National Moot Court Competition in New York City.

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, the team won the first round against Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle, Pa., and on the following day won the second round against South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas. Like the Montana team, both of these schools were the regional winners of their respective areas for the moot court competition.

These two early wins placed the UM team in the octo-finals against the Franklin T. Backus Law School of the Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, on Thursday, Jan. 14.

Again the UM team won, judged as one of the top eight law school moot court teams in the nation and advanced to the quarter finals. There UM was defeated by Texas Tech University School of Law, Lubbock, Texas, which had been the national champion two years ago.

Last Year the UM team captured the national award.

Members of the nationally ranked team from Montana were Robert C. Brown, Nashua; Margaret C. Gilliam, Helena; and Gary L. Walston, Livingston. All are third-year students in the UM law school. The team's faculty adviser was Bari Burke, visiting assistant law professor at UM.

(over)

UM MOOT COURT TEAM-- add one

The competition is designed to encourage appellate advocacy and to provide a meeting ground for judges, lawyers, faculty and students. All teams research extensively and prepare briefs on one topic and must be prepared to argue both sides of the topic before a panel of judges.

This year's topic was a first amendment problem concerning a case of the alleged right of a non-profit organization to use publicly a likeness of a Vietnam war hero who had already sold his publicity rights to another corporation.

In its 32nd year, the National Moot Court Competition is sponsored by the Young Lawyers Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

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